

**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –  
19 SEPTEMBER 2011**

**REPORT BY: THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR,  
IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CLERK**

**PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM MERCURY ABATEMENT PROJECT –  
PROJECT UPDATE**

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update summary on the current progress of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Members are asked to receive and note the report.**

**Meetings of the Project Board**

2. The Project Board met on the 20 June 2011, prior to the Joint Committee meeting that day, and again on the 19 July and 23 August. The Project Board is also scheduled to meet immediately prior to the Joint Committee meeting on 19 September.

**Appointment of Specialist Abatement Contractor**

3. In July our consultants Parker Torrington (PT) met with both Facultatieve Technologies (FT) and Speltham Contracts (our preferred contractors), the purpose of which was to ensure that both contractors fully understood their mutual contractual obligations and also to ensure that so far as is practicable all the programming and “buildability” issues have been resolved. The meeting achieved its objective inasmuch as it was possible to agree dates for the commencement of the contracts and for the various interrelated phases.
4. The Project Board has also been kept fully advised of FT’s current thinking to provide greater flexibility in facilitating installation of the abatement equipment and future maintenance. This has necessitated a further structural check and, as a consequence, a further modification to the supporting steelwork is now necessary. This has been designed and the cost of the works can be accommodated within the overall project estimate.

**Building Contractor Works**

5. Further preliminary works involving widening the existing north driveway, relocating the heather bank and replacing a tree has been substantially completed, although replanting will be undertaken at a more advantageous time.

6. Preparatory works to enable the installation of the new electrical supply has been completed. A safe working area has been established for the main building works including the provision of a temporary covered way which will enable part of the cloisters to be taken out of service.

### **Preparatory Building Works**

7. The Joint Committee's term building works contractor has substantially completed preliminary building works that involve alterations to the existing messing facilities.

### **Electricity Sub-station**

8. An easement route across Fareham BC land between the location for the new sub-station and a high voltage cable supply in Upper Cornaway Lane has been identified. This is the preferred alternative to the original intention by Scottish and Southern Electricity (SSE) to take a supply from Dore Avenue which would have involved some land not in local authority ownership. It is now envisaged that the new electrical supply could be operational by early October 2011.

### **Contracts**

9. Both companies have now signed their respective contracts.

### **Programme**

10. The current programme now indicates a completion date of January 2013 with full abatement scheduled for December 2012. It is expected that 50% abatement will be achieved in the autumn of 2012.

### **Risk Register**

11. Each of the risks on the register is being re-evaluated in the light of current progress to reflect changed circumstances.

### **Public relations**

12. The public information leaflet has been produced and copies placed in the waiting rooms together with indicative plans. The plans together with notices apologising for any inconvenience caused by the works have also been placed on the hoardings around the site.
13. PT has written to the immediate neighbours advising them of the works currently under way.

*Terry Garvey*  
Engineer and Surveyor