

**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –
18 JUNE 2012**

**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 5 March 2012 (prior to the Joint Committee meeting that day) and again on the 17 April 2012. Since the inception of the project in September 2008 there have been 35 meetings of the Project Board. The Project Board is also scheduled to meet immediately prior to the Joint Committee meeting on 18 June.

Specialist Abatement and Building Contractor Works

3. Speltham, the building works contractor, has now completed all the work it was required to undertake involving work within and on the roof area to complete the extension into which the abatement equipment has now been positioned. FT, the specialist abatement contractor, is now undertaking detailed installation work. The 'lion's share' of hardware for all 6 cremators has been completed. Speltham will be returning to the site to carry out a small extent of building work upon completion of FT's installation work.
4. Scaffolding has now been removed and there is little outward appearance to the public (apart from the works compound) that work is taking place.

Electricity Sub-station and easement

5. The new sub-station became operational on the 8 February. The Joint Committee approved a report at the meeting on 5 March in respect of an easement required in respect of both the sub-station and the route from it to the crematorium, which also involves completing a deed of variation of the current crematorium lease. This deed has been drafted and is currently being progressed with the 4 constituent authorities.

Programme

6. The project is currently slightly ahead of programme, and further progress will be dependent upon FT's commissioning team who will be undertaking its work on each pair of cremators in turn. Crematorium staff have already received some training in respect of the new equipment and further training will be given as works proceed.
7. As previously reported, the indications are that it is possible the entire project could now be completed in 2012. It is expected that 50% abatement will be achieved in the autumn of 2012.

Risk Register

8. Each risk on the register continues to be re-evaluated in the light of current progress to reflect changed circumstances. There are no matters that require the Joint Committee's attention.

Financial and Related Matters

9. There are no matters requiring attention. As a result of work being ahead of schedule there has been an impact on the cash flow (and VAT) but this can be accommodated within the overall project budget.

Public Relations

10. There are no matters requiring attention. The Project Board will be discussing arrangements for a handover/opening event and relevant publicity.

Terry Garvey
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