


RECORD OF EXERCISE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY OFFICER

<u>SUBJECT OF DECISION</u> To increase Non-Resident Burial Fees	
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u> DO37/2019(PR)	<u>SOURCE OF AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE</u> (i.e. Committee/ Constitution/Minute No. etc. Delegated Authority Part 3 – para 3D.2 f)
<u>DATE OF DECISION</u> 1 st May 2019	<u>DECISION MAKER</u> (Name and Job Title)  Philip Richardson –Director – Arts, Leisure & Democracy
<u>RECORD OF THE DECISION</u> a) The issue There continues to be a differential between the expenditure in relation to the cemetery service and the income generated from the services we provide. This is circa £35,000 for this financial year. Increasing the fees for non-resident burials will assist in the reduction of this differential, working towards ensuring the service becomes cost neutral. A comparison of NBBC charging compared to that of our nearest neighbour(especially Coventry) has identified that the current 2 1/2 times charge for an out of area funeral is still less than that charged within Coventry. This may place a burden on the Council's availability of burial plots unless addressed. Analysis has shown that by increasing the burial charges for non-resident burials to 3 x the in-Borough resident charge will ensure that the rates are comparable and therefore make it less attractive to those living out of the borough. This will contribute to both protecting our land base as well as assisting with moving towards full cost recovery of the service. b) The Decision That cemetery fees for non-resident burials be increased to 3 times the in borough resident burial charge, to both protect land availability for those living in the borough and reduce the differential between the cost of the service and the income raised.	

REASON FOR THE DECISION

To increase the fees to both protect land availability for those living in the borough and reduce the differential between the cost of the service and the income raised.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED IN MAKING THE DECISION

Do nothing - rejected as this would not impact on the requirement to reduce the significant differential between the overall cost of the service and income from services provided.

WARD RELEVANCE

None

FINANCIAL AND BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Increase the cemetery charges for non-resident burials from 2.5x to 3x the "in Borough" resident burial charge.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN WITH MEMBERS/OFFICERS

The implications have been fully discussed with and agreed by the portfolio holder – Arts, Leisure & Economic Development

ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARED BY ANY EXECUTIVE MEMBER CONSULTED

None

IN RESPECT OF ANY DECLARED CONFLICT, ANY DISPENSATION GIVEN BY THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE

None

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

None

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

None

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Increase cemetery charges to reduce the overall cost of the service provided.

HEALTH EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

None

SECTION 17 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

None

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

None

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

ANY OTHER COMMENTS

None

**RETURN TO DIRECTOR – ARTS, LEISURE & DEMOCRACY AS SOON AS A
DECISION IS MADE OR AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE THEREAFTER**