

Future Cemetery Provision For Derby

SUMMARY

- 1.1 In order to continue to provide burial provision in Derby past 2025, when it is estimated that Nottingham Road Cemetery will no longer be able to provide new graves, the need for a new cemetery has been identified as a medium to long term priority.
- 1.2 The report outlines the progress towards achieving this objective.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To request officers to bring forward more detailed proposals for a new cemetery in Derby by 30 September 2015.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To provide greater focus and timescale for the development of plans for a new cemetery.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 Future burial provision, by providing new graves, has been secured at Nottingham Road Cemetery for the next decade. This has been achieved by the completion of a project to provide internal road, paths, parking and enhanced visitor facilities to previously unused areas of the cemetery.

4.2 Now that this short term priority has been achieved, the focus can turn to securing a site and developing proposals for a new cemetery.

4.3 The key criteria for a good cemetery site include the following:

- Ownership of the land – ideally DCC
- Good road network
- Reasonable access to public transport
- No previous industrial use- ideally arable land
- Topography
- Geology
- Neighbour profile
- Adjacent water courses
- Not close to water courses or wells and susceptible to flooding
- Site of sufficient size to warrant the investment

4.4 Based on these criteria officers are assessing the initial viability of a number of sites across the city. An early consideration that Overview and Scrutiny Board are invited to comment on, are the relative merits of developing a number of small 'pocket' cemeteries as opposed to one large strategically placed cemetery.

4.5 Once a site or sites have been identified the next stage will be a Tier 1 Groundwater Assessment as required by the Groundwater Regulation 1998. This involves scrutiny and research of groundwater vulnerability maps, topographical, geological and hydro geological records. If there is any indication of susceptibility for flooding, then a further 2 tiers of more detailed evaluation may be required, including a 12-month assessment of bore holes.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s)	
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Other(s)	Sheena Ratcliffe Christine Durrant, Acting Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods
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For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Gary Marshall 07717875686 gary.marshall@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications
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IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 It is proposed that bid for funding from the 2065/7 Capital Programme will be made.

Legal

- 2.1 In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, Sections 214(3) and 266 (2), Derby City Council is defined as a Burial Authority and as such is required to ensure facilities for the dignified disposal of the dead.
- 2.2 In the detailed design of the cemetery, the need to comply with the requirements of the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977 will be taken into account.

Personnel

- 3.1 It is anticipated that during the transitional period, as the new facilities comes into use and burial provision gradually switches from Nottingham Road Cemetery, the logistics of providing burial provision at multiple sites, may require additional resources that at this time are difficult to predict.

IT

- 4.1 No Implications.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 During the detailed design stage for a new cemetery all the relevant issues of equity of provision and access will be addressed, including carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment.

Health and Safety

- 6.1 Any site specific health and safety issues will be addressed by carrying out Risk Assessments.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 In the designs for the cemetery and specifications for civil works, issues of Environmental Sustainability will be addressed.

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 The provision of a new cemetery will become a strategic asset and be managed accordingly. It is not yet decided whether the design will include the building of property.

Risk Management

9.1 No Implications

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 The provision of a dignified final resting place for Derby's residents underpins all the high level aspirations for the city