

## DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	12 JANUARY 2021	7

### LYTHAM PARK CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM

#### PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to bring to members attention a recent change to the council's Constitution which transfers responsibility of Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium from the terms of reference of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee to the Operational Management Committee. The report also gives members some background information on current service performance and activity and seeks a decision to reconstitute a working group of members to look into the medium and longer term strategy and investment issues at Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

##### The Committee are requested to:

1. Note the amendment to the council's constitution that has transferred the responsibility of the cemetery and crematorium from the terms of reference of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee to the Operational Management Committee.
2. Note the current service performance and activity of Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium.
3. Agree the title, scope and purpose of the Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium working group and confirm the membership of the working group.

#### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

##### Council - 7 December 2020

Constitution Amendment – Terms of Reference - Committees

It was RESOLVED to approve the recommended proposed amendments to the terms of reference of the committees (Part 2 and Part 3 of the Council's Constitution – Responsibility for Functions), as reported by Councillor Singleton.

##### Audit and Standards – 26 November 2020

Constitution Amendment – Terms of Reference – Committees

It was RESOLVED to recommend the proposed amendments to the terms of reference of the committees (Part 2 and Part 3 of the Council's Constitution – Responsibility for Functions), as they appear at Appendix A, to Council.

## CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	√
Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	√
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	

### REPORT

1. The Audit and Standards Committee at its meeting on 26 November considered a report and made recommendations on amendments to the terms of reference of the committees. These amendments were agreed by Council on 7 December.
2. These agreed amendments included moving responsibility of the cemetery and crematorium from the terms of reference of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee to the Operational Management Committee.
3. Lytham Park Cemetery was consecrated and opened for burials in 1958. The Crematorium was built and opened at the same time. Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium is managed by the council's Bereavement Services team, which is part of the Cultural Services division within the Development Services directorate.
4. Local authorities do not have to provide a cemetery or crematorium. It is a discretionary service, although many councils chose to provide one and/or the other.
5. A summary of current service activity at Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium is shown in table 1 below:

Service activity	Average annual number (2015-19)		
	Fylde Borough resident	Non-Fylde Borough resident	Total
New grave purchase	57	47	104
Adult Interment	64	46	110
Cremated remains interment	37	40	77
Cremations	743	982	1,725

**Table 1 Current service activity at Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium**

6. The current member working group agreed by the Environment, Health and Housing Committee on 1 September 2020 is shown below in table 2.

Environment, Health and Housing Committee– Working group			
Working group	Role/purpose	Notes	Current representation
Crematorium	Look at long term issues regarding the crematorium including, but not limited to, capacity in light of housing developments in the borough.	Current	Noreen Griffiths & Will Harris

**Table 2 Current Crematorium working group**

7. The Crematorium working group has not met for some time but was particularly active a couple of years ago in contributing to the drainage infrastructure works and the commissioning of the canopy. One unresolved issue that had been previously raised by members was the future burial capacity of the cemetery and at the

time members asked officers to explore opportunities to acquire some adjacent land for this purpose. This matter needs consideration soon if plans for additional burial capacity are to be progressed.

8. It is suggested that the working group be reconstituted under the Operational Management Committee with the following title and purpose as shown in table 3.

Operational Management Committee– Working group			
Working group	Role/purpose	Notes	Current representation
Lytham Park Cemetery and Crematorium	Look at medium and longer term strategy and investment issues regarding the cemetery and crematorium.		To be appointed

**Table 3 Proposed reformed Current Crematorium working group**

9. The working group would report back to the committee periodically with any recommendations it felt were necessary to ensure the proper medium and longer term management of the cemetery and crematorium.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	There are no implications
Legal	There are no implications
Community Safety	There are no implications
Human Rights and Equalities	There are no implications
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	There are no implications
Health & Safety and Risk Management	There are no implications

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Document name		Council office or web address