

## Service Delivery Committee

# Tuesday, 10 October 2017

Matter for Information

Title: Capacity and Lifespan of Oadby Cemetery

Author(s): Margaret Smith (Facilities and Administration Team Leader)

#### 1. Introduction

This report updates Members on the capacity and lifespan at Oadby Cemetery.

### 2. Recommendation(s)

That Members note the information in the report.

### 3. Information

- 3.1. There are currently 14 new burial plots remaining at Oadby Cemetery which, at the current rate of use gives a lifespan for burials into new plots of just under two years.
- 3.2. There are currently 31 new ash casket plots remaining in the Garden of Remembrance which at the current rate of use gives a lifespan for interment of ashes of just over one year.
- 3.3. There is no further space available within the boundaries of the existing cemetery where additional new burial space can be created.
- 3.4. There is space to create further ash casket plots within the Garden of Remembrance. A further 25 spaces (one row) could be created in this location thereby extending the lifespan for ash caskets by a further year.
- 3.5. A capital bid will be submitted for 2018-19 to fund extending the Garden of Remembrance as detailed above.
- 3.6. The former scout hut land adjacent to Oadby Cemetery (owned by the Council) could be brought into use as a burial area; it is difficult to estimate how many plots could be created here as the land would need to be cleared, measured and an allowance made for roads and paths. A 'guestimate' would be that 60 to 80 plots could be created giving an additional lifespan at the current burial rate of 7 to 10 years. Officers are currently identifying options such as this for future burial provision within the Borough which will be reported to Members in due course.
- 3.7. The above timescales are approximate as there are many variables which affect the timescales such as the death rate and trends in burial and cremation.
- 3.8. Due to the lack of space within Oadby Cemetery, Members agreed some time ago to stop the sale of grave spaces in advance of death at Oadby Cemetery; 'purchase in advance' remains available at Wigston Cemetery.
- 3.9. Burial plots are dug for two interments and six caskets and ash plots are dug for two caskets. Therefore plots that have already been opened for an interment in the past can continue to be used for interments with the agreement of the deed holder until

such time as the plot is full.

## **Background Documents:**

None.

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Implications   Capacity and Lifespan of Oadby Cemetery	
Finance	Any extensions to the current facilities will have significant ongoing revenue implications.
Chris Raymakers (Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits)	
Legal	There is no statutory duty on the Council to provide burial facilities but if they are provided the management is governed by the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order.
Anne Court (Director of Services / Monitoring Officer)	
Corporate Risk(s) (CR)	No Corporate Risk(s) Identified
Margaret Smith (Facilities and Admin Team Leader)	
Corporate Priorities (CP)	□ Effective Service Provision (CP2)
Margaret Smith (Facilities and Admin Team Leader)	
Vision & Values (V)	□ Customer Focus (V5)
Margaret Smith (Facilities and Admin Team Leader)	
Equalities & Equality Assessment(s) (EA)	No significant equalities implications.
Margaret Smith (Facilities and Admin Team Leader)	Not Applicable (EA)