

Policy Committee – 22 March 2016

Burial and Cremation Fees 2016/17



Report of the Director of Services

Ward(s) affected: All

1. **Purpose of Report** –

To request Members approval for amendments to the fees and charges for burial and cremation fees commencing 1st April 2016.

2. **Recommendation** – Members are recommended to:

Approve the amendments to the fees and charges set out in table 1 at paragraph 3.2 and table 2 at paragraph 3.3 with effect from the 1st April 2016.

3. **The Council Approach to Charging**

3.1 The fees and charges were presented for Members approval at the Policy Committee held on the 26th January 2016. Members approved varying increases in burial and cremation fees between the range 2% to 6%. Unfortunately the percentage increases stated in Appendix A had not been applied correctly to five charges.

3.2 For clarification therefore Members are requested to confirm the charges for burial and cremation fees in these five instances to be those set out in table 1 below.

Description of charge.	% Increase	New Fee £
Cremation Hold Over	4%	640.00
Cremation Same Day	4%	656.00
Late afternoon Service charge	4%	74.00
Consent to Place Inscription on stone plaque	2%	99.00
Consent to place vase with Inscription	2%	99.00

Table 1

3.3 In addition a new charge for strewing of cremated remains from the Council's own crematoria on weekend and evenings to recover the additional costs encountered for provided this service was omitted from the Appendix attached to the report. The three charges for the strewing or cremated remains are set out in table 2 below for Members approval.

Description of charges (changes)		Fee
Strewing Cremated Remains from another Crematoria Monday to Friday		101.00
Strewing from Council's own crematorium Monday to Friday		0.00
Strewing from own or another Crematorium for weekends and evenings (after 4.30pm)	New Charge	202.00

Table 2

4. **Implications**

4.1 **Financial Implications**

The proposed charges have been benchmarked against other neighbouring crematoriums and Craven remains competitive in its pricing.

4.2 **Legal Implications**

Legislative powers in relation to charging for discretionary services are contained within the Local Government Act 2003.

4.3 **Contribution to Corporate Priorities** – Income generation contributes to a cost-effective Council and assists the Council in the delivery of its priorities notably Financial Resilience.

4.4 **Risk Management** – There is a risk to the budget to 2016/17 revenue budget if the proposed amend fees are not approved. In that event further savings will have to be identified to balance the budget.

5. **Consultations with Others** – Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) Service Managers

6. **Access to Information : Background Documents** – None

7 **Author of the Report** – Michael Brown, Bereavement Service Manager; telephone 01756 796118 e-mail: mbrown@cravenc.gov.uk

Note : Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.