

North Devon Crematorium Joint Committee

Report Date: 9th June 2023

Topic: Crematorium Outturn 2022/2023

Report by: Treasurer

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This report presents the Outturn figures for the financial year 2022/23.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. It is recommended that the Outturn Report 2022/2023 be noted.

2.2. It is recommended that the Reserves and Balances contained in 5.1 be approved.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. To inform Members of the actual financial performance for 2022/23.

4. REPORT

4.1. A summary of the revenue expenditure and income for the year is shown below together with the original budget and forecast as at 31st December.

The actual for 2021/22 is also shown for information.

	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Original Budget	2022/23 Forecast as at 31 st December	2022/23 Actual
Premises	183,384	188,370	249,206	234,120
Transport	221	750	171	166
Supplies and Services	182,839	215,500	214,956	205,159
Support & Employees	308,286	332,130	326,047	316,985
Total Expenditure	674,730	736,750	790,380	756,430
Fees & Charges	1,151,906	1,163,150	1,219,254	1,348,546
Sales	74,495	85,680	74,647	76,537
Interest	225	650	2,838	5,511
CAMEO*	4,202	3,500	3,883	3,883
Miscellaneous	2,593	0	0	0
Total Income	1,233,421	1,252,980	1,300,622	1,434,477
Cont Equip Replace Res	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Distribution NDC	249,740	249,740	249,740	249,740
Distribution TDC	166,490	166,490	166,490	166,490
Surplus/(Deficit)	42,461	0	(5,988)	161,817

*Crematoria Abatement of Mercury Emissions Organisation

4.2. Expenditure is £20k higher than the original budget but £34k lower than projected at Qtr 3. Income is £181k higher than original budget and £134k higher than projected at Qtr 3. The reasons for higher expenditure costs relate to increased utility costs and have been reported previously on the quarterly budget monitoring reports. The reason for the lower expenditure costs than reported at Qtr 3 is due to some works not being completed prior to the end of March as anticipated and some budget underspends. Income was significantly higher than the original budget and the Qtr 3 projections, this was due to the exceptionally high number of services in Qtr 4, this follows the increase in the national death rate during this period. The budget allowed for 1,525 cremations for the year which equates to 127 per month. However, the figures for January, February and March were 179, 178 and 171 respectively.

The outturn position is a surplus of £161,817. This surplus has been transferred to the Capital Funding Reserve £115,817 and the General Reserve £46,000. This should leave sufficient in the Capital Funding Reserve to fund the Phase B project and also increase the General Reserve which has not been increased for several years.

4.3. During 2022/23 there has been some preliminary capital spend for the Phase B scheme (demolition of the garages etc) totalling £16.5k.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Reserves & Balances are detailed in the table below.

The Capital Funding Reserve was set up to accumulate funds for capital projects at the Crematorium. The balance will be available for Phase B (Garage/Memorial Hall).

The Equipment Replacement Reserve was set up to build up funds to replace the cremators and filtration equipment at the end of their useful life, and also to provide the funding for hearth replacements and cremator re-lining when required. It is anticipated that there will be sufficient funds available when required but this will be continually monitored.

The Budget Management Reserve was created last year to help mitigate some of the increased fuel costs in 2022/23. The 2022/23 budget was set early in the year before the full impacts of inflation, energy costs etc were

known and not factored into the budget. However, due to the increase in the number of services and the delay in some of the costs these funds have not been required in 2022/23. It is recommended to retain the funds in this reserve for the time being to help to mitigate any increased costs that may arise, including the delay in the introduction of the revised medical referee scheme.

The Working Balance has been increased to £146,000, which should be sufficient taking into account of the financial risks associated with operating the Crematorium.

	Capital Funding Reserve	Equipment Replacement Reserve	Budget Management Reserve	General Reserve
Opening Balance 1 st April 22	384,267	595,480	42,461	100,000
Contribution in year	0	100,000	0	0
Capital Spend 2022/23	(16,591)	0	0	0
2022/23 Revenue Surplus	115,816	0	0	46,000
Closing Balance 31st March 23	483,492	695,480	42,461	146,000

6. EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT

6.1. There are no equality implications anticipated as a result of this report. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

7.1. There are not any environmental implications as a result of this report, as the purpose of this report is to update members of the financial activity of the North Devon Crematorium Joint Committee for the 2022/2023 financial year.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

8.1. The North Devon Council and Torrige District Council Joint Crematorium Committee Agreement.

9. STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This report contains no confidential information or exempt information under the provisions of Schedule 12A of 1972 Act.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.



11. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The North Devon Council and Torrige District Council Corporate Priorities have been considered in the drafting of the report.

12. STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

The author (below) confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and Officers: Author Mark Knight Crematorium Accountant; Date 19th May 2023