

North Devon Crematorium Joint Committee

Report Date: 1st November 2024

Topic: Crematorium Performance Monitoring Qtr 2 2024/2025

Report by: Treasurer

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This report presents the financial performance information for April to September 2024/25.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. It is recommended that the performance for April to September 2024/2025 be noted.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. To inform Members of the financial performance for April to September 2024/2025.

4. REPORT

4.1. A summary of the revenue expenditure and income for the period April to September is shown below together with the original and profiled budgets. Also shown is the projected outturn and projected outturn variance.

	Original Budget 2024/25	Profiled Budget (Apr-Sep)	Actual Apr- Sept	Variance (Under) / over	Projected Outturn	Projected Outturn Variance
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Premises	286,520	143,260	169,457	26,197	304,035	17,515
Transport	500	250	164	(86)	327	(173)
Supplies and Services	234,080	117,040	131,330	14,290	251,971	17,891
Support & Employees	406,300	203,150	197,999	(5,151)	400,306	(5,994)
Total Expenditure	927,400	463,700	498,950	35,250	956,639	29,239
Fees & Charges	1,335,050	667,525	628,629	(38,896)	1,320,654	(14,396)
Sales	79,680	39,840	47,632	7,792	87,472	7,792
Interest	26,400	13,200	12,425	(775)	24,850	(1,550)
CAMEO*	2,500	1,250	0	(1,250)	2,500	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Income	1,443,630	721,815	688,686	(33,129)	1,435,476	(8,154)
Cont Equip Replace Res	100,000	50,000	50,000	0	100,000	0
Applied Equip Replace Res	0	0	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)
Distribution NDC	249,740	124,870	124,870	0	249,740	0
Distribution TDC	166,490	83,245	83,245	0	166,490	0
Surplus/(Deficit)	0	0	(18,379)	(18,379)	12,607	12,607

*Crematoria Abatement of Mercury Emissions Organisation

- 4.2. Qtr 2 is showing expenditure £35,250 over the profiled budget and income is £33,129 lower than profiled budget, £50,000 is to be utilised from the Equipment Replacement Reserve to cover additional equipment costs giving a total net variance of £18,379 deficit. The projections for the year are predicting expenditure £29,239 over budget and income £8,154 lower than budget, also £50,000 is being utilised from the Equipment Replacement Reserve, producing a net variance of £12,607 surplus.
- 4.3. **Premises** – Spend in Qtr 2 and the projection for the year are both over budget. The overspend relates primarily to additional costs that have been necessary for repairs to the abatement equipment. This has been partly reduced by the gas invoices being lower than anticipated. The additional plant costs will be funded from the Equipment Replacement Reserve.
- 4.4. **Supplies and Services** – The overspend relates to higher music system costs and non recoverable VAT on the additional plant repairs.
- 4.5. **Central Support / Employees** – The underspend relates to a member of staff reducing to part time.
- 4.6. **Income** – Fees and charges are lower than budget due to the lower number of services in Qtr 2, although we expect this to recover somewhat during the remaining quarters. Memorial sales are higher than budget.
- 4.7. The receipt from CAMEO has not yet been received for 2024/25 but it is anticipated that the budgeted £2,500 will be received.
- 4.8. If the projected outturn does materialise there will be a small surplus of £12,607.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Reserves & Balances. The current amounts held by the Joint Crematorium Committee and projected balances are:

	Capital Funding Reserve	Equipment Replacement Reserve	Budget Management Reserve	General Reserve
	£	£	£	£
Opening Balance 1 st April 24	7,411	864,712	102,461	146,000
Contribution in year	0	100,000	0	0
Applied from Reserve 2024/25	0	(50,000)	0	0
Closing Balance 31st March 25	7,411	914,712	102,461	146,000

5.2. The Capital Funding Reserve was set up to accumulate funds for capital projects at the Crematorium. £7,411 is the residual balance from the Phase B project (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, cremator re-lining and major repairs 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 in 2021/22 and the funds are available to help mitigate any increased costs in 2024/25.

The Working Balance will remain at £146,000. This is at a suitable level taking into account the financial risks associated with operating the Crematorium.

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 2024/2025 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 14th October 2024