Agenda Item 7

Committee: MERTON AND SUTTON JOINT CEMETERY BOARD Date: 25 June 2019

Wards; Borough Wide Merton and Sutton Subject: Contractor Report

1. That Members review the information and note the content of the report.

1. Purpose of the Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report to the Board reviews the activity from February 2019 to June 2019 and discuss work activity for this period. It is intended that a report is presented to each meeting of the Board covering key areas of activity.
- 1.2 The report will cover the following areas.
- 1.2.1 Key performance activity
- 1.2.2 Complaints and compliments
- 1.2.3 Income

2. Details

2.1 Key Performance Activity February 2019 to June 2019

2.1.1 Grounds Maintenance

Scheduled works continued through the winter and spring months with a focus on critical tasks such as grass cutting and topping up of graves especially after heavy rain.

Hedge cutting operations should not be undertaken during the bird nesting or breeding season, which is considered to be from 1 March to 31 July. However, depending on seasonal temperatures, some birds continue breeding into August and September.

For families that pay for the planting and upkeep service, Begonia dragon wings are being trialled this year. These grow larger than germaniums previously used giving a more pleasing result. The plants have now arrived and are being planted.

There are many new graves that are overlooking the cemetery regulations regarding garden space sizes. Information is readily available on Merton's web site, the cemetery notice board and the cemetery brochure which is posted along with the deed to the grave to the grave owner. Letters will be sent to the grave owner asking them to rectify the garden space to the regulation size.

At present the team is busy undertaking burials, grass cutting, undertaking the planting and upkeep service, rectifying garden spaces and empting bins.

Litter Bins

The Cemetery Registrar is to discuss this matter further with the Merton Client Side Officer. It is the view of the local idverde management team that the current bins are not appropriate and actually lead to waste being dumped in the vicinity of the bins having a negative impact upon the appearance of the site. Sutton Cemeteries and Lambeth Cemeteries use 1100 litre wheelie bins, both cemetery services find these types of bins are ideal for cemeteries and visitors prefer them as the rubbish is contained within the bins. The bins can be black or green to blend in with the surrounding. Veolia could be contracted to empty the bins twice per week.

Burial numbers

See appendix 1 for Burial numbers for 1st Jan 2019 to 31st May 2019

2.2 Complaints and Compliments

2.2.1 Complaints of detailed

Number	Reason
	None to report
	Total 0

2.2.2 Summary of Compliment

Number	Reason
	Message of thanks for helping a family arrange a Muslim burial
	Total 1

2.3 Income

2.3.1 See Appendix 3: income figures to 31st May 2019.

4. Consultation undertaken or proposed

4.1 None for the purposes of this report.

5. Timetable

5.1 None for the purposes of this report.

6. Financial, resource and property implications

6.1 As contained in the body of the report.

7. Legal and statutory implications

7.1 None for the purposes of this report.

8. Human rights, equalities and community cohesion implications

8.1 None for the purposes of this report.

9. Risk management and health and safety implications

- 9.1 Considered within the Client Side Report.
- 10. Appendices

Appendices	1.Burial numbers for 1 January 2019 to 31	May 2019	
	2. Income to May 31 st 2019		

Appendix 1

June 2019 Agenda item: Wards: Borough Wide Merton and Sutton Subject: INTERMENTS Lead officer: Mark Robinson

Details of interment statistics are provided below

DETAILS

1.1 Burial numbers for the period 1^{st} January 2019 to 31 May 2019

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
January	25	21	23	22	25
February	13	26	16	25	21
March	13	26	22	20	22
April	15	23	14	18	25
May	28	21	27	21	20
June		17	23	26	20
July		15	19	12	35
August		25	18	15	23
September		21	24	15	7
October		22	18	26	27
November		21	18	19	19
December		18	14	24	19
TOTAL	95	256	236	243	263

2. <u>FINANCIAL, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, PERSONNEL AND LEGAL</u> <u>IMPLICATIONS</u>

2.1. None for the purposes of this report.

Contact Officer:

Mark Robinson, Registrar: 020 3876 8806

MERTON & SUTTON	Oct-18 Nov-18		Dec-18	
Purchase & Interments	45,161.10	47,807.00	68,936.00	
Memorials permits	3,347.00	2,790.00	3,853.00	
Transfer of ownership	300.00	1,000.00	100.00	
Planting and Upkeep	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL:	£48,808.10	£51,597.00	£72,889.00	

Merton & Sutton Joint Cemetery Income 1st October 2018 to 31st December 2018

Merton & Sutton Joint Cemetery Income 1st January 2019 to 31st May 2019

MERTON & SUTTON	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19
Purchase &					
Interments	56,522.00	36,611.00	22,521.00	42,090.00	65,692.00
Memorials permits	1,958.00	3,353.00	2,625.00	3,243.00	1,958.00
Transfer of					
ownership	500.00	700.00	900.00	100.00	500.00
Planting and					
Upkeep	0.00	9,500.00	9,600.00	1,200.00	612.50
TOTAL:	£58,980.00	£50,164.00	£35,646.00	£46,633.00	£68,762.50

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Appendix 2

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