

## APPENDIX 1

### Extract of Executive Board Sub Committee Minutes Relevant to the Safer Halton Policy and Performance Board

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2006

##### EXB189 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Corporate and Policy setting out a revised Corporate Risk Register for review.

It was noted that the Council's Strategic Risk Management Framework required the Board to review the Register on a regular basis. It had therefore been considered by Management Team and the revised register attached to the report contained the comments of the responsible officers. There was no proposal to add any new risks to the register at the present time.

The Board noted that the figures relating to employee well-being, risk number 10 on the register, had been transposed under the column "Assessment of Residual Risk with Control Measures Implemented" and should in fact read 3 and 2 respectively.

RESOLVED: That the revised Corporate Risks Register, with the amendment outlined above, be approved.

Strategic  
Director –  
Corporate  
and Policy

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2006

##### ES4 WIDNES CREMATORIUM – CREMATIONS AND MERCURY ABATEMENT

The Board considered a report on the issue of cremations and mercury abatement and how the Council proposed to contribute to the national requirement for the abatement of 50% of cremations nationally by 2013.

By 1<sup>st</sup> June 2006 the Council must notify the individual regulator (the local environmental health service) as to how

Halton intends to implement the mercury abatement requirements. These requirements may be implemented by installing the necessary mercury abatement equipment by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012, or by agreeing to cost share post-2012. Alternatively, the Council could decide to close the crematorium operation. Whilst this last alternative was not thought to be an option that the Council would wish to pursue, it was included in the report for completeness.

Full details of the four main options the Council may consider with regard to the existing crematorium were as follows:

- (i) install the necessary mercury abatement equipment to one of the existing cremators;
- (ii) install the necessary mercury abatement equipment together with a new cremator;
- (iii) continue to operate the crematorium without installing the necessary mercury abatement equipment via an industry-wide cost sharing scheme; and
- (iv) close the cremation operation.

Option 3, joining a cost sharing scheme would provide the most sustainable solution to maintaining a crematorium operation in the Borough, to serve families that had used the facility since it opened in 1959. It had been recognised that smaller crematoria with relatively low throughput, such as Widnes Crematorium, could well find it financially prohibitive to install the expensive mercury abatement equipment.

Although the Board's decision would inform the Council's policy on the medium to longer term operation of the Widnes Crematorium, the decision would not commit the Council to a particular course of action. It was an indication of the Council's plans for 2013 given the information available.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Council notifies the individual regulator (the local environmental health service) that it plans to contribute to a national cremation burden sharing (i.e. cost sharing) scheme from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013 and has no immediate plans to install mercury abatement equipment, though this position remains under review; and

Strategic  
Director  
Health &

- (2) an agenda item along the lines of this item be submitted to the next meeting of the Safer Halton PPB so that the policy issues may be given on-going consideration.

Community