

**TITLE: Bereavement Centre Project progress update**

Committee: Finance & Assets Committee

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## **1. Issue**

1.1. To update on the Bereavement Centre Project progress.

## **2. Recommendations**

2.1 Members are requested to:

- Note the progress towards completion of the Bereavement Centre.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1. As requested by Members, a report providing an update on the current capital build project of Lake View Bereavement Centre and Crematorium.
- 3.2. This report details activity from January to 10 March 2026 and programmed works until the next Finance & Assets Committee in June 2026. The overall programme remains on track.

## **4. Arguments/Conclusions**

### **Project Progress**

4.1 The following milestones have been achieved since January:

- a) Main Structure: The main chapel, offices and crematory structures are weatherproof, with curtain walling and external doors now installed. Externally, the cladding mounting brackets, backing boards are progressing. The 'Pretty Plastics' and timber fins are due to begin end of March with a 3 week installation period, the building will begin to reflect the finished appearance. Internally, the internal walls are up and the first fix of services nearing completion. The building will be watertight by end of March.
- b) Tribute Terrace/Flower Court: The foundation bases have been cast in preparation for the timber structure to be installed beginning of April 2026.
- c) Landscaping and Habitats: The view from the chapel window has been reprofiled under the supervision of the Ecology Clerk of Works. Planting of the mixed species hedge along the front elevation will take place w/c 16 March 2026.
- d) Groundworks: Completion to tarmac level of the staff car parking area and service area. Works to the main car park are progressing, with curbs laid to Zone 1, with

Zone 2 underway. The final zone 3 curbing is programmed and then the completion of tarmac level will be completed for all 3 zones. Paving is beginning to be installed on the roadway to the wake facility.

- e) Utilities: Installation of the substation to allow the site to be electrified the first week of April 2026.
- f) Modular Function Room: The modular function room is in the process of being installed. The timber decking to be installed in parallel with the Tribute Terrace decking.
- g) Procurement: The cremator and ancillary are due for delivery May/June 2026 following manufacturing and shipment from the Netherlands. Completion of the client provided refrigeration has been completed and Kier are in discussions to programme installation. No further client side procurement updates available currently, however audio-visual systems, furniture, and line of business programme is underway and on schedule.
- h) Highways: Section 278 works application is in the final stages of design and costing before the formal application is submitted for approval. Kier are in dialogue with Cambridgeshire Highways throughout the design process. An update on the physical works progress will be provided at the next update report.
- i) Topsoil Management: Topsoil sourced from the Littleport depot has successfully been transported to site. The further donor site has programmed the transportation to site before the end of March following resurveying of site deficit requirements.

### **Risk Management**

4.2 All risks are being managed through the project team and recorded in line with project governance requirements.

4.3 Two new emerging risks to the programme have been identified.

- a) The first relates to the delivery and installation of the cremator from the Netherlands. It had originally been expected on site end of May 2026, however, due to production line clashes we are now expecting delivery at the end of June. The project team are currently working to mitigate the impact of the delay and reprogramming some of the landscaping requirements to ensure there are no abortive works. At this stage this does not have an impact on the opening of the facility to the public but is a risk that needs close management. We are awaiting confirmation whether there will be any cost impacts, as this is a direct client purchase.
- b) The second relates to the S278 works, which have an impact on cost due to the works in the highway now having to be completed out of hours. We are awaiting finalisation of costs, but it is likely these will need to be met from the additional risk contingency agreed at Council in February 2026.

## 5. Implications and Impacts

<b>Financial Implications</b> NO	<b>Legal Implications</b> NO	<b>Human Resources (HR) Implications</b> NO
<b>Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)</b> NO	<b>Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA)</b> NO	<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)</b> NO

## 6 Background documents

Finance and Assets Committee - Asset update reports 25 September 2025, 7 November 2025

Finance and Assets Committee – 29 January 2026

