

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts & Communities Committee - 28 June 2010

REPORT ON: Proposed Extension to Birkhill Cemetery

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 240- 2010

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update the Committee on the site investigations in respect of the proposed area for the extension to Birkhill Cemetery and seek a remit to progress the extension by inviting tenders for various elements including the extension to the road and other works within the cemetery.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 a remit is given for the City Engineer to bring back a tender report for the extension of the existing cemetery including the roadway and associated works within Birkhill Cemetery,

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The capital cost associated with infrastructure improvements will be reported at a subsequent committee when tenders are submitted for approval.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Reference is made to the Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee of 12 January 2009 which noted the limited provision of the remaining and existing cemeteries in Dundee. It was noted that in terms of the supply of new lairs there was an estimated capacity of 5 years currently remaining at Birkhill

- 4.2 In order to ensure a seamless transition to new cemetery ground at Birkhill, it is proposed that on the basis of the findings from the site investigations undertaken by the City Engineer, an extension to the cemetery outlined in Appendix 1 is progressed with the first interments programmed for 2014-2015. In order to deliver the project within this timescale, a number of tasks including an extension of the existing road within the site along with suitable landscaping and boundary treatment are required.

- 4.3 Based on the current interment numbers, it is estimated that the proposed extension will provide an additional 20 years on the cemetery site.

- 4.4 Following a review of previous site investigations which extended across the whole of the existing site, and more recent trial hole investigation completed within the northern area, the findings confirm that the northern extension is suitable for the proposed use.

The main conclusions and recommendations from the review and physical site investigations confirm that the ground within the proposed northern extension is similar to the existing southern site. The investigations suggest that within the

extension area, initial excavations to interment depth in undisturbed ground are unlikely to encounter groundwater. However, water is likely to pond in any surface depression and accumulate within the more porous backfilled excavations and this will take some time to dissipate naturally. In order to alleviate this, it is recommended that a suitable field drainage system designed to direct surface water away from lairs is incorporated within the infrastructure design for the extension.

- 4.5 It is also recommended that Leisure & Communities continues the current programme of ongoing monitoring of the Gelly Burn as it leaves the site.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management

No issues have been identified.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Assistant Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of City Development and the City Engineer have all been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

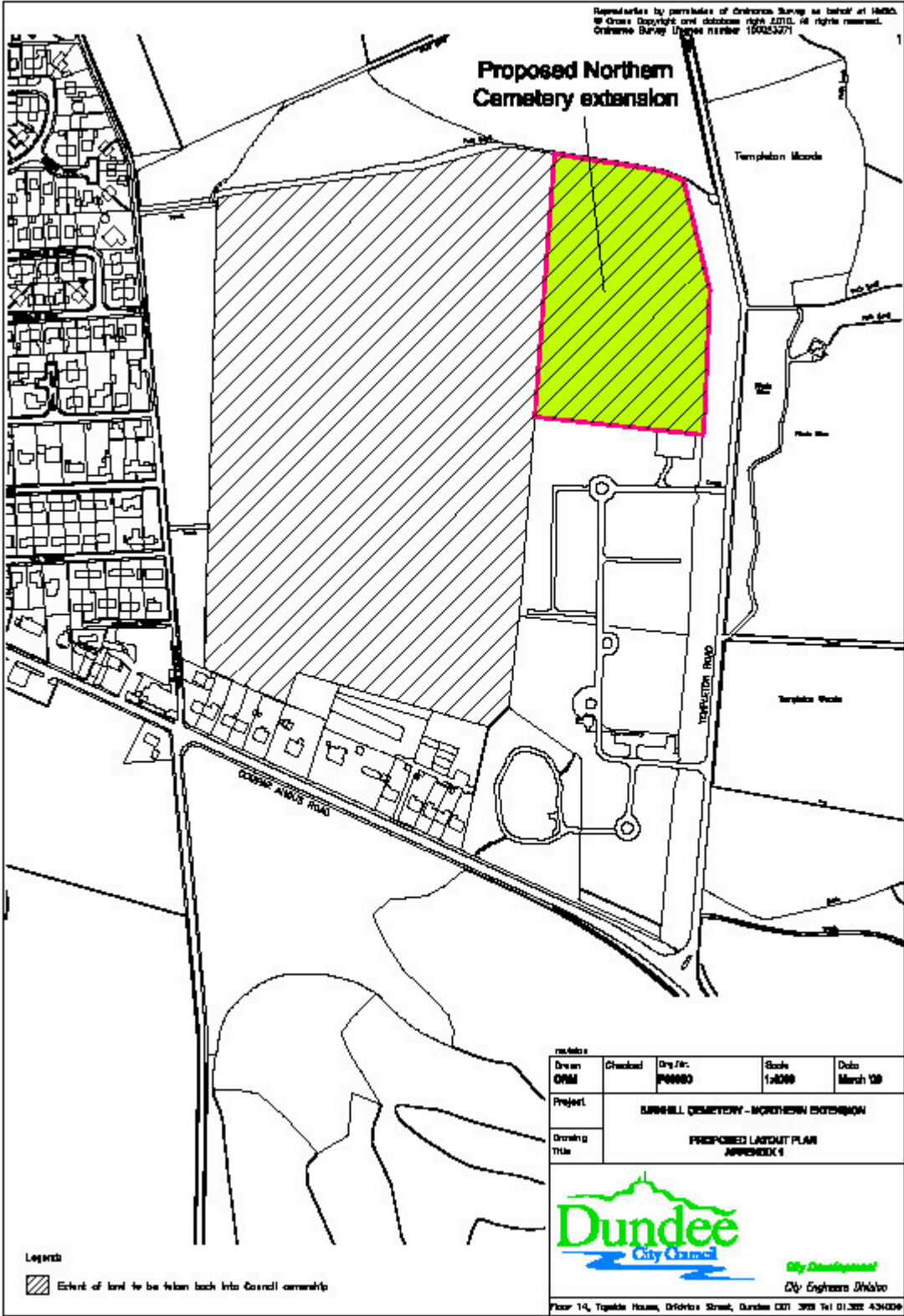
- 7.1 The following background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report:

Planning and Transport Committee and Leisure, Arts & Communities Committee 12 January 2009, Future Cemetery Provision Preliminary Assessment Report No 5 2009.

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE & COMMUNITIES
21 JUNE 2010

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Proposed Northern Cemetery extension



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|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|----------|
| Drawn | Checked | Dwg No. | Scale | Date |
| OMM | | 00000 | 1:2000 | March 10 |
| Project | DUNDEE CEMETERY - NORTHERN EXTENSION | | | |
| Drawing Title | PROPOSED LAYOUT PLAN APPENDIX 1 | | | |



City Development
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Legend
 [Hatched Box] Extent of land to be taken back into Council ownership