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Briefing Note

Additional Plots in 'S' area

For Finance, Governance and Estates Committee 16 April 2026

Introduction

This briefing note outlines a proposal to bring into use additional burial plots within the 'S mound' area of the cemetery. The cemetery currently has only three burial plots remaining, creating an urgent need to increase available capacity.

Following the previously approved Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey, the area identified as the 'S mound' has been assessed as suitable for further use. The Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey identified no underground obstructions, and ground conditions have been confirmed as appropriate for burials. The identified area is proposed to accommodate six additional burial plots, located as two plots at the end of each row within the 'S' area.

A marked cemetery map and supporting photographs have been prepared to illustrate the location of these proposed plots. Please see over page.

Works Required

The identified area is clear and ready for use, and no physical groundworks are required. The following administrative actions are needed:

- Allocate and number the six new burial plots;
- Update the cemetery database;
- Record the plots in the burial registers and cemetery maps.

Once completed, the plots will be available for immediate use.

Justification

While there are longer-term plans to add plots in other areas of the cemetery following the Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey, these will require further investigation and preparation. The six plots identified represent a quick and practical solution, as they:

- Require no groundworks;
- Can be made immediately available for purchase and use;
- Help ensure continuity of burial provision in the short term.

Each new burial plot will generate £500 in income, with additional revenue potential from:

- Double-depth interments – £250 (second interment)
- Ashes interments – £125 per set
- Memorial permits – £185 per application

This provides an immediate increase in capacity, while longer-term plans are progressed.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee agree the six additional plots in the 'S area' and recommend to Council that they are authorised to be recorded and made available for immediate use.

Cemetery map with location of additional 6 plots:

S1		S18		S35	
S2		S19		S36	
S3		S20		S37	
S4		S21		S38	
S5		S22		S39	
S6		S23		S40	
S7		S24		S41	
S8		S25		S42	
S9		S26		S43	
S10		S27		S44	
S11		S28		S45	
S12		S29		S46	
S13		S30		S47	
S14		S31		S48	
S15		S32		S49	
S16		S33		S50	
S17		S34		S51	
2		2		2	

Space for two at the end of each of the three rows:

