Sandwell Registration Services
Bereavement Register Office Coroner
Registration Services

• The environment
• The sector
• Our response
• Questions
Environment

• 5 years of austerity
• Budget reductions
• ‘salami’ slicing
• Reduced expenditure
• Increased income
• 5 years of austerity to come
• ‘salami’ slicing no longer an option
The Sector

• Rise of the private sector
• The ‘predatory crematorium’
• Diversification
  - Funerals
  - Memorials
  - Cremations
  - Burials
• Future proofing markets – pre payment
The Sector

Under consideration 43 sites

2004
- Private: 56, 22%
- Public: 193, 78%

2014
- Private: 78, 29%
- Public: 194, 71%

Private  Public
The Sector

- Rise of the private sector
- The ‘predatory crematorium’
- Diversification
  - Funerals
  - Memorials
  - Cremations
  - Burials
- Future proofing markets – Pre payment
Dilemma

To deliver more income with less expenditure, within an increasingly competitive market

‘The greatest danger in times of turbulence is not the turbulence; it is to act with yesterday’s logic’

Peter Drucker
Sandwell Response Foundations

• The role of the authority must remain focused on serving the community
• Shift mind set of organisation - profits to support member aspirations
• Risk aware not risk averse
• A council cannot be like a business, but there is no reason why a council should not run businesses
• Be clear what can and cannot be run as a business
Sandwell Response – Key Ingredients

Focused Response

- Member Direction / Support
- Clear Strategic Direction
- Leadership
- External Partners
- Internal Partners
- The ‘It’ factor

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
A Winning Team
Sandwell Key Force Multiplier
Business Driven - Internal Partners

Service/Income

Procurement
ICT
Accountants
Members
Human Resources
Marketing & Promotion
Governance
Legal Support
WOMBAT
Nature's cutest little indestructable death machine
Waste Of Money Brains And Time

WOMBAT
Nature's cutest little indestructable death machine
GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF THE NEW PUBLIC BATHS, SUTTON AND CHEAM.

(Architect: Mr. N. H. MICHELL, Assoc. M.Inst.C.E., Borough Engineer and Surveyor.)
Response
Response
Response

- Innovation
- Creative
- Forward thinking
- Embracing new ideas and way of working
- Response to predators
- Diversification
Sandwell Valley
Pet Memorial Gardens
Life is simply incomplete without the love of a dog.
SHARE THIS ROSE...

If you’ve ever lost a pet who took a piece of your heart
Legislation

• The **burial** of pet animal ‘carcasses’ (including horses but not farm animals) is governed by the Animal By-Products Regulation (not the scattering of ashes)

• Environment Agency have transferred responsibility of the above regulation of this activity to the Animal Health & Veterinary Laboratory Agency (AHVLA)
Location

• **Water**
  – at least 250 metres away from any well, borehole or spring supplying drinking water or water for use at farm dairies
  – at least 30 metres from any other spring or watercourse
  – at least 10 metres from any field drain

• **Scientific interest**

• **Consideration to surrounding area**
Registration

- An application must be made to the Animal & Plant Health Authority (APHA)
- The Environment Agency (EA) permit is not required to authorise the scattering as the risk to environment and human health is low however the regulatory note should be checked and the EA informed
- Inspection by APHA
- Local planning permission
Sandwell Valley Pet Memorial Gardens
Design and Access Statement

Sandwell Registration Services plans to develop a memorial garden that is dedicated to the scattering and burial of pets.

The Site
The site is located off Forge Lane, West Bromwich bordering Sandwell and Birmingham. It is currently a disused field area.

There are no residential or commercial areas within the vicinity and no buildings on site.

Access
There is a defined access point and car park that can be used for visitors. In addition, access has been taken into account within the grounds ensuring that there are suitable paths.

Design
The design will take into account the surrounding green area. Natural paths with a mixture of formal and informal walkways will cut between the wildflower areas and native trees. No impact on the surrounding area.

Management
The site is within close proximity to our administration/operations building so that the garden can be suitable managed and maintained using existing staff.

Consultation
We have consulted with Defra and the Environment Agency in regards to the potential site and they are satisfied that there would be no risk to the environment or human health.
Operation

- Prices
- Handling of carcasses
- Infrastructure
- Memorialisation
- Administration
  - forms for completion
  - evidence
  - record keeping
  - agreements (or deeds)
  - exhumations
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We specialise in

- Memorials
- Wake facility and catering
- Crematorium new build
- Crematorium modernisation
- Cemetery new build
- Seven day working
- Profitability
- Managing Registrars, Coroners and Bereavement Services
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