

---

**RELEASE OF CAPITAL ALLOCATION IN THE MTFP FOR WORKS WITHIN THE  
COUNCIL'S THREE CEMETERIES AND REPLACEMENT STREET LIGHTING  
COLUMNS WITHIN ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCHYARD AND STANHOPE GREEN**

---

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Nick Wallis,  
Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio**

**Responsible Director - Paul Wildsmith,  
Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources**

---

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek the release of funding allocated in the Capital MTFP to undertake essential works within cemeteries and the replacement of street lighting columns within St Cuthbert's Churchyard and Stanhope Green.

**Summary**

2. Within the Council's three cemeteries, work is required to basic infrastructure including boundary walls, fencing, roads and footways.
3. The street lighting columns within both St Cuthbert's Churchyard and Stanhope Green are now in excess of 40 years old and require replacement.

**Recommendation**

4. It is recommended that :-
  - (a) the £80,000 in the Capital MTFP for works within the Council's cemeteries be released
  - (b) the £23,000 allocated in the Capital MTFP for the replacement street lighting columns within St Cuthbert's Churchyard and Stanhope Green be released.

## Reasons

5. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons :-
- (a) to maintain the infrastructure within the Council's cemeteries
  - (b) to ensure lighting can continue to be provided within St Cuthbert's Churchyard and Stanhope Green.

**Paul Wildsmith**  
**Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources**

## Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Ian Thompson : Extension 6628  
CD

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are positive impacts on crime and disorder by ensuring the provision of street lighting within St Cuthbert's Churchyard and Stanhope Green, deterring anti-social behaviour.
Health and Well Being	There are no health and well being issues.
Carbon Impact	There will be a slight reduction in carbon emissions due to more energy efficient lanterns.
Diversity	The recommendation does not have any specific diversity issues.
Wards Affected	The Council's three cemeteries are located in Hummersknott, North Road and Eastbourne Wards, Stanhope Green in College Ward and St Cuthbert's Churchyard in Central Ward.
Groups Affected	There is no specific impact on any particular group as a result of this report.
Budget and Policy Framework	This decision does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The recommendations in the report will contribute to sustaining the Council's cemeteries and improve St Cuthbert's Churchyard and Stanhope Green.
Efficiency	There may be a small reduction in energy consumption with the provision of modern energy efficient lanterns.

## **MAIN REPORT**

### **Information and Analysis**

#### **Background**

6. The Council provides and has responsibility for the maintenance of three cemeteries; West Cemetery, North Cemetery and East Cemetery. There is a need to carry out repairs/replacement of some key elements of infrastructure within the three sites.

#### **East Cemetery**

7. The boundary fence around East Cemetery is in poor condition and missing in a number of locations. The fence requires replacement throughout to demarcate the cemetery from surrounding land and stop access from various inappropriate locations.

#### **North Cemetery**

8. There is a significant length of wall within North Cemetery held up by wooden trusses that requires demolition and rebuilding to ensure its safety and security for the longer term.

#### **West Cemetery**

9. The main car park area in West Cemetery is in a poor condition and needs relaying. The entrance gates have been removed due to their poor condition, however need to be restored to their former glory and reinstating.

#### **Street Lighting Columns**

10. Street lighting columns within St Cuthbert's Churchyard and Stanhope Green are now in excess of 40 years old and passed their realistic life expectancy. These lights need to be replaced with appropriate columns and lanterns for their location.

#### **Financial Implications**

11. A sum of £80,000 was allocated for the cemeteries and £23,000 for street lighting within the 2014/15 MTFP Capital Programme. This work will be funded from corporate resources such as capital receipts or prudential borrowing.

#### **Procurement Advice**

12. The contract procedure rules must be followed in relation to all procurements carried out by the Council. It is not anticipated that any specific piece of work will be in excess of £75,000 and therefore not required to be reported on the Annual Procurement Plan.

## Consultation

13. No consultation has been carried out in the production of this report however, where boundary walls/fencing impacts on other landowners/residents, consultation will take place as appropriate.