

## Appendix 1: Hendon Cemetery & Crematorium Capacity and Population Evidence

### 1. Background

1.1 This appendix will evidence that:

- Hendon Cemetery is running out of space
- The population of Barnet is expected to increase by 25%
- The population of over 80s is expected to double

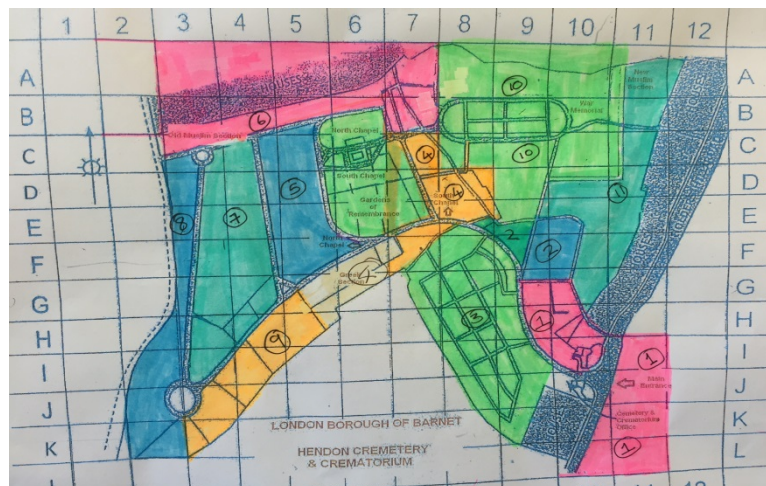
1.2 The lack of space and increase in population and disproportionate rise in the population of older adults will place further pressure on the need for burial space for Barnet residents.

### 2. Current Capacity at Hendon Cemetery

2.1 Hendon Cemetery stands in 42 acres of land and benefits from being an open, almost parkland environment, which gives the impression of having almost unlimited capacity. However, looks can be deceiving and nearly all of the space in the cemetery that at first sight appears unused is in fact already buried into.

2.2 For ease of reference, the cemetery is divided into grids; Plan 1 below shows those grids.

Plan 1: Grid of HCC



2.3 Each grid has a corresponding plan showing the graves with an identified grave number (the scale of each map is 8 feet to 1 inch or approximately 100:1).

2.4 On visiting the cemetery it gives the impression there is ample capacity, if photograph 1 below is compared with the corresponding grid plan, Plan 2, below it is abundantly clear that this area is full. This scenario is replicated throughout the site.

Photograph 1 and Plan 2 below show area D10.

Photograph 1: Area D10



Plan 2: Map showing graves in Area D 10

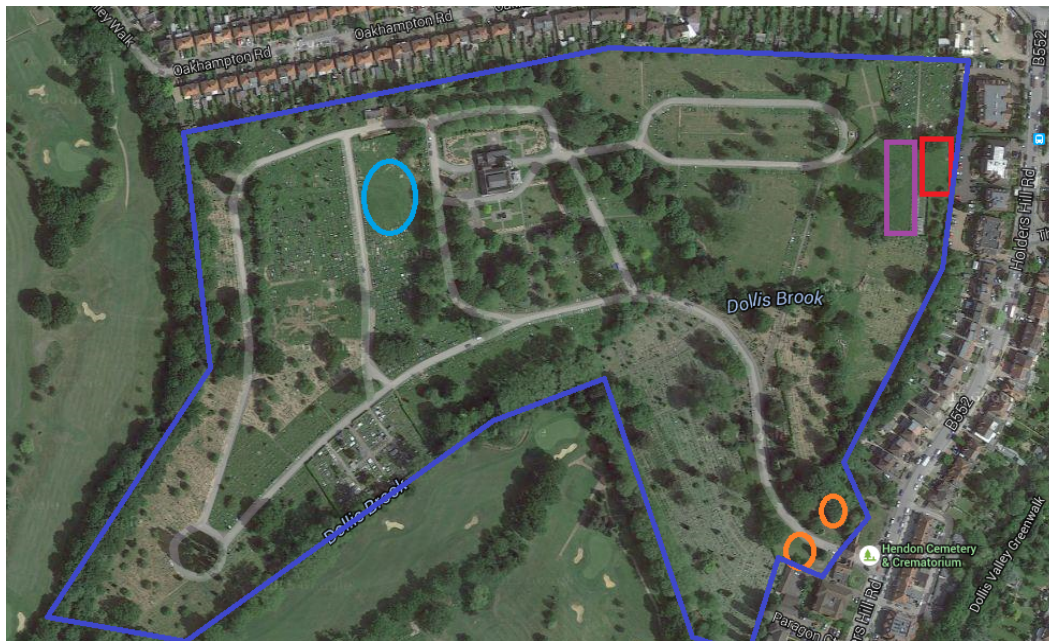


2.5 Part of the reason for this open appearance is that on 14 January 1972 the Council served notice under the provisions of the Middlesex County Council Act 1956 s48. The effect of the Notice was to remove and dispose of a significant number of headstones to “facilitate grounds maintenance and improve the appearance of the site which had become dilapidated and overgrown as grave-owners ceased to tend their graves” .

### 3. Current available space

- 3.1 The aerial photo (Photograph 2) below shows the cemetery in its entirety, the royal blue outline shows the cemetery boundary.

Photograph 2: HCC with the blue line showing the boundary



- 3.2 The sky blue oval outlines grid areas C5 & D5 which are currently being used for burial, a new Muslim burial area has been created at the north end in C5 and a traditional burial area continues at the south end D5.
- 3.3 The red and purple rectangles are the only other areas of virgin burial space available on site and make up the land set aside for burial and form the 2-3 years projected capacity, this would be split on a pro rata basis between traditional and Muslim burial based on current demand.
- 3.4 The red rectangle is of very poor quality land and has a very high water table. It is not suitable for burials (one was attempted, but unfortunately the body had to be exhumed at the request of the family and located elsewhere in the cemetery). Alternative interment methods are being considered and costed for this area. These would include burial chambers, sarcophagi and various sizes of mausoleum. It should be noted that this would attract a different customer base and would not add to the availability of burial space per se. Benchmarking has shown that this type of above ground interment is favoured by the Greek, Italian and Afro-Caribbean communities.
- 3.5 The purple rectangle is of unknown quality as no trial pits have yet been dug. It is known that there is a surface water drain running north to south on the western

edge of the rectangle. The depth of the drain is not known, and its impact on the ability to bury is yet to be assessed. It may be desirable to open up the surface water drain and create a new stream in the cemetery which could generally improve ground conditions by creating a catchment for surface water run off rather than the ponding of water during the winter. This would likely need consultation with the Environment Agency. It is recommended that Re (Regional Enterprise) Ltd be commissioned to explore this area further.

- 3.6 The orange circles are land at the entrance to the cemetery and form part of the open aspect of the cemetery and create the first impression of an open parkland environment. It should also be noted that these areas raise concern over safe access to and egress from the site as their use will impede traffic flow and may require infrastructure works to widen the road.

#### 4. Population Data

- 4.1 The catchment area has been set as the following London Boroughs and Hertfordshire Councils; Barnet, Brent, Camden, Enfield, Haringey, Harrow, Islington, Three Rivers, Watford, Welwyn & Hatfield, Hertsmere, Broxbourne. This is based on an industry standard of 10 miles or 45 minutes maximum travel time, whichever is the lesser.
- 4.2 Data has been drawn from population projections from [data.london.gov.uk](http://data.london.gov.uk) and [atlas.hertslis.org](http://atlas.hertslis.org). The tables show that in the assumed catchment area population as a whole is set to increase by 20% between 2013 and 2041, the population of over 80's is projected to increase by 101% over the same period.

Catchment Area Population Projections 2013-2041

	2013	2018	2023	2035	2041
Total projected population	2,440,515	2,565,524	2,663,209	2,844,615	2,925,701
% increase from 2013	0	5.12	9.12	16.56	19.88
Projected over 80's population	86,030	97,379	109,233	152,797	173,282
% increase from 2013	0	13.19	26.97	77.61	101.42

#### Data for Barnet Only (which exceeds the wider catchment area trend)

Barnet Projected Population	375,197	407,963	426,057	457,866	469,887
% increase in Barnet population from 2013	0	8.73	13.56	22.03	25.24
Barnet Projected over 80's population	15,523	17,261	19,452	28,707	32,721
% increase in Barnet over 80's population from 2013	0	11	25	85	111

#### Projected population for over 65 in Barnet

	2013	2018	2023	2035	2041
Barnet Projected over 65's population	50,200	54,900	61,000	79,200	86,600
% increase in Barnet over 65's population from 2013	0	9	21	58	72

4.3. This increase in population will place additional pressure on already short availability. Currently the split between cremation and burial is approximately 75:25 Cremation: Burial, this is a national position and Hendon Cemetery & Crematorium currently reflects that position within the bounds of a comparatively small sample size. It is also predicted that with demographic changes, there is likely to be a shift back to burials by up to 10-15 percentage points which would further increase demand.

4.4. Whilst not surprising, it should be noted that of all the deaths registered in England and Wales in 2015 85% were over the age of 65, 68% were over the age of 75 and 40% were over the age of 85. With a projected near doubling of the older age groups, it is reasonable to assume that demand for graves will increase proportionately over the same period.

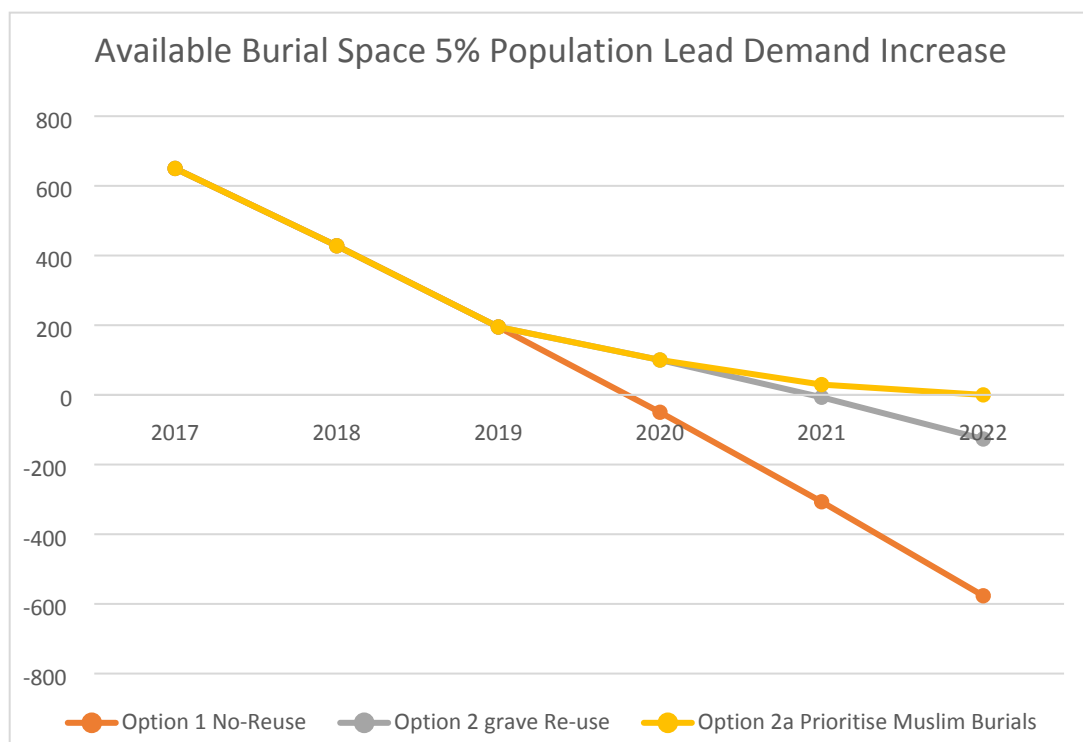
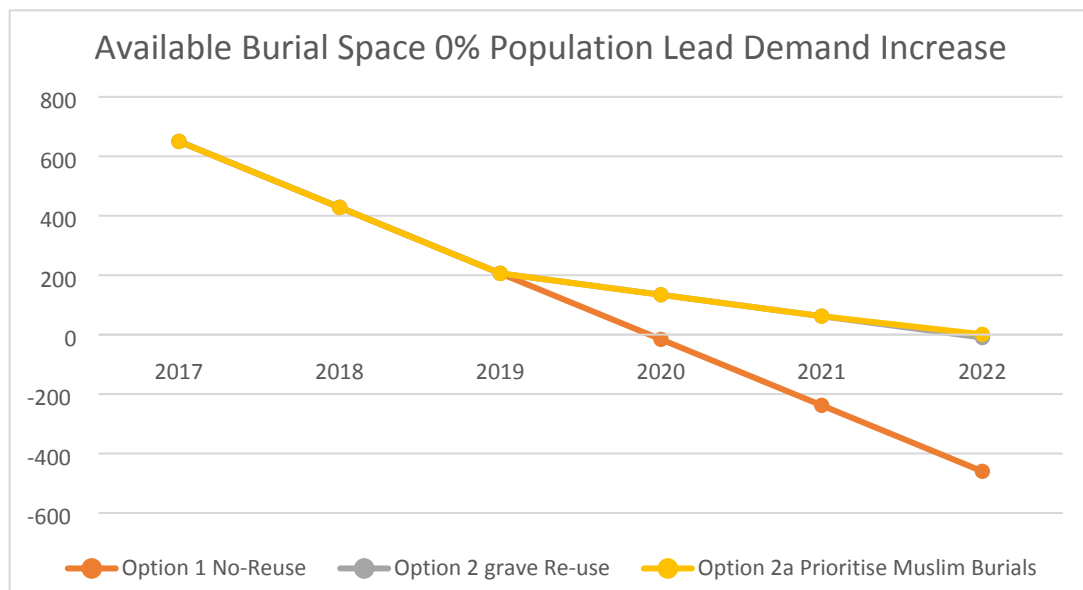
#### 5. The modelled effects of Grave Reuse on Availability of Graves

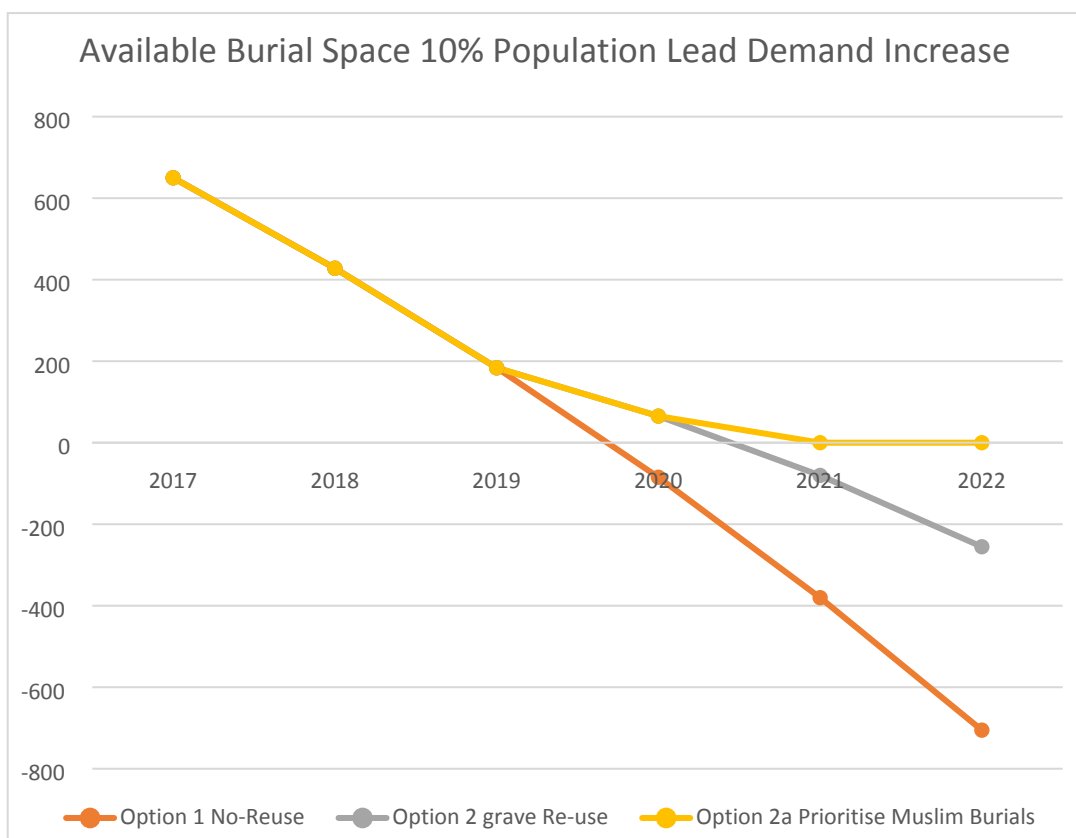
5.1. The graphs below show the impact of grave reuse on the availability of grave space at Hendon Cemetery. The three graphs assume 150 graves becoming available per annum and the variable effect of increased demand owing to population increase.

5.2. On the graph the option 1 line shows the effect on available burial space against average demand if grave reuse is not adopted, the option 2 line shows the effect on available grave

space against average demand if grave reuse is adopted, and option 3 shows the effect on available grave space against average demand if the service prioritises Muslim burial for the currently available virgin land.

5.3. The graphs below demonstrate that even with the introduction of grave reuse, Hendon Cemetery will not be able to cope with current demand by 2022 assuming no in Borough population growth. A 5% increase in population will mean that demand will exceed capacity by 2021 and a 10% increase will bring that date forward to early 2020.





5.4. As cremation is not an option for a significant number of people in the Borough, this will mean that unless an additional site is found, residents will have to find alternative burial options. For many this will mean being buried in other Cemeteries in or near the Borough at non-resident rates.

5.5. By way of comparison, the non-residents rates of nearby cemeteries are set out in the table below. In each instance the lowest priced grave available has been quoted. This would mean that Barnet Residents would be forced to pay between 35% and 60% more for a burial plot than they would if Barnet continues with its current policy of provision of a cemetery.

<b>Cemetery</b>	<b>Cost of grave space for immediate use including first interment*</b>
Hendon (Residents rate)	£2995.00
St Pancras (Islington & Camden) (Non-Residents Rate)	£4030.00
Mill Hill (Westminster) (Non-Residents Rate)	£4818.00
Carpenders Park (Harrow & Brent) (Non-Residents Rate)	£4255.00