

Council: Tuesday, 16 July 2013

Non Executive Business Item: Councillor Brian Coleman

Hendon Cemetery and Crematorium

Council notes that the proposed DRS contract includes the management of the Hendon Cemetery and Crematorium being transferred to Capita a company with no experience of running businesses in this sector. Council notes the experiences of Westminster City Council in attempting a similar disposal of Cemeteries (situated in this Borough and elsewhere) and the huge reputational damage and expense that followed. Council notes that Hendon cemetery is important to many residents and communities within our Borough.

Council further notes that Golders Green Crematorium (founded in 1903 and one of the oldest in the Country) has always been run by a private company of which there are several in the sector. Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to undertake a separate marketing exercise for the Crematorium and to retain the Cemetery under Council control.