

## Appendix A

### Cremator Options Assessment Summary

#### 1. Options Considered

| Option                                                            | Total Cost |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Option A - Refurbishment of Existing Cremators (Preferred Option) | £1,046,663 |
| Option B - Replacement with New Bariatric Cremators               | £1,306,934 |
| Option C - Replacement with New Bariatric Hybrid Ready Cremators  | £1,390,274 |

#### 2. Preferred Option

Following the independent condition assessment, options appraisal and subsequent review of supplier cost estimates, refurbishment of the existing cremator plant remains the preferred option.

This option is recommended because:

- The existing cremators remain structurally sound and capable of meeting current and forecast demand.
- Urgent refractory replacement works are required to maintain operational reliability and service continuity.
- The existing abatement plant remains suitable for continued medium-term operation.
- Refurbishment delivers the required resilience, compliance and environmental improvements at the lowest capital cost.
- The proposal is approximately £260,000 less than replacement with new bariatric cremators and £344,000 less than replacement with Hybrid Ready cremators.
- The works can be delivered more quickly and with lower implementation risk than full replacement.
- Installation of NOx abatement technology is expected to reduce NOx emissions by approximately 65%.
- The investment will extend the operational life of the cremator plant by at least 10 years, allowing time for the Council to develop a longer-term replacement strategy.

#### 4. Conclusion

The refurbishment programme provides the most proportionate and cost-effective solution available to the Council. It addresses the principal operational, environmental and compliance risks identified within the assessment while maintaining service resilience, reducing emissions and extending the life of the existing cremator infrastructure at a total estimated cost of £1,046,663.