

PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM TO GET AN UPGRADE

Work at Portchester Crematorium will be starting in early 2011 on a £ 2 million scheme to install specialist equipment to enhance the quality of the emissions from the building.

The work is required to comply with a government timetable that requires mercury emissions from British crematoria to be halved by the end of December 2012.

Portchester – one of the largest crematoria in the UK with over 4,000 cremations annually - has decided to go for full abatement of its cremation equipment rather than the 50% target.

Services will continue to take place as normal in the two chapels at Portchester.

In order to accommodate the new equipment it is necessary to enlarge the buildings. This will be achieved by the addition of a first floor plant room. Planning permission for this work was granted some time ago. As with previous improvement schemes undertaken in the past, work will largely take place outside of normal working hours so as to minimise any inconvenience to the Crematorium users.

Specialist contractors are being employed and the aim is to have the new equipment running by early 2012.

The cost of the work is being met from money that has been set aside over several years to pay for improvement works.

Portchester Crematorium is owned and managed by a joint committee of councillors from Fareham, Gosport, Havant and Portsmouth councils.

John Haskell, Clerk to the Portchester Crematorium Joint Committee

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