

Memorial Stabilisation

NETs, Land & Countryside Services

“Scottish Government Guidance on Burial Ground Memorial Safety”

West Lothian Council Model v Scottish Government Guidance
– A Comparison

Background

- About West Lothian
 - Population
 - Location
 - Cemeteries
- Staffing
 - Cemeteries Officer (East / West Structure)
 - 2 x Squad Leaders
 - 7 x Operatives
 - Service Reductions
- The history of headstone stability work in West Lothian over last 10 years
 - Fauldhouse incident 2009
 - Contracts and estimated contract spend - £1m+

FAI and pending SG Guidance

- Development of new West Lothian inspection programme
- Line in sand approach
- Realistic outcomes
- Contract (QQ)
- Process
 - Inspection responsibilities
 - Find, make safe and fix

Comparison SG guidance v West Lothian Model

- What are the differences
 - Communication with lairholders
 - 3 stage against 5 stage
- Why the differences
- Funding
- Contracts
- Training, staff input and involvement
- Communication and updates
 - Staff need to know, understand and comply with their part in the process
 - Double check
 - Structural Engineer support
 - Churchyards

Senior Management and Committee Support

- The process
- Gaining support
- Impact / changes to cemetery management rules
- Risk
- Approach to risk

Summary

Approval to deviate from the guidance in key areas

- Lairholder communication
- 3 stage rather than 5 stage process

Fully funded repairs

Amendments to CMR – to be approved

- Lair transfer
- Lair holder communications
- Headstone height restriction to 1.2m

Implementation of a Memorial Mason Registration Scheme

- To be held responsible for specified period!

Ultimately, West Lothian don't want their cemeteries to look like this!





Any Questions ?

