

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 2 June 2015

Mortonhall Memorial Options: Summary review of responses

Item number	7.1
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	All

Executive summary

This report provides Committee with an update on progress made on developing fitting memorials for babies and families affected by historical practices at Mortonhall Crematorium.

As suggested by affected parents, four initial garden designs were developed for Mortonhall and made available for consultation throughout February 2015. The results from this survey have now been analysed and a favoured option has emerged based on feedback from those affected parents who responded.

The Council's Chief Executive's Multi-Agency Working Group continues to have oversight of the improvement programme, and was asked to consider this consultation response on 13 March 2015. The outcome from the consultation process and the views of affected parents are presented to Committee for endorsement.

Links

Coalition pledges	P27
Council outcomes	CO24 , CO26
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2 , SO4

Mortonhall Memorial Options: Summary review of responses

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Transport and Environment Committee:

- 1.1 notes the summary of consultation results on memorial garden options at Mortonhall, attached as Appendix 1 to this report;
- 1.2 notes the selection made by affected parents of the initial design Option 2 (Walled Circular Water Garden) as the basis of the final design that will be taken forward through procurement; and
- 1.3 notes progress currently underway on consultation with affected parents on the location of an alternative second memorial.

Background

- 2.1 The Council has continued to work collaboratively with affected parents, Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society (SANDS) Lothians and Simpsons Memory Box Appeal (SiMBA) in regards to the design and location of a fitting memorial to babies affected by historical practices.
- 2.2 Following a survey of parents in September 2014 on the location and design of memorials, a meeting was held on 26 November 2014 by SANDS Lothians and SiMBA, supported by the City of Edinburgh Council, to consider the feedback received. Approximately 40 parents attended and others provided input in advance by email.
- 2.3 It was agreed at the meeting, that three or four initial designs be developed for the Mortonhall site and be published online for consultation with affected parents as it was acknowledged that not everyone could attend a night time meeting. It was also agreed that the designs would be based on the views expressed by those who responded to the survey.

- 2.4 It was recognised that a number of parents would not wish to return to Mortonhall, but as several parents felt that this was the last place they had left their baby, it was agreed that this would be an appropriate place for one memorial. It was also agreed that an alternative memorial should also be developed in another location to respect and reflect these different views, and to enable parents to visit a different location if they preferred.

Main report

- 3.1 The Mortonhall Action Team has been working closely with independent garden landscape designers to develop a range of initial garden design options, which were presented to the Chief Executive's Multi-Agency Working Group on 16 January 2015. These were well received by this group, however it was recognised that the decision around options for creating a fitting memorial must lie with affected parents.
- 3.2 Feedback from affected parents has informed the subsequent work from designers in order to reach an agreed design of garden tailored to both the expectations of parents and to the specific locations. Following advice from the Council's Procurement Team, three garden designers were invited to produce initial designs based on the feedback received from parents. Two of these designers thereafter developed designs based on feedback received from parents, and submitted a total of four design options to present to parents.
- 3.3 These initial designs were available to parents throughout February 2015 via an online survey and on paper by request. A series of consultation events was jointly planned and hosted by SANDS Lothian, SiMBA and the Council. A joint letter to parents outlining details of these engagement opportunities is included in Appendix 2.
- 3.4 The initial design options presented to parents were as follows:
1. Design 1 (Circular garden and benches)
 2. Design 2 (Walled circular water garden)
 3. Design 3 (Water garden and sheltered bench)
 4. Design 4 (Semicircular garden and benches)
- A copy of these designs, together with the supporting information provided to parents, is attached as Appendix 3.
- 3.5 Throughout February 2015, affected parents were invited to indicate their preference as to which option most closely matched their idea of a suitable memorial garden design. Participants were asked to rank their preferred design on a scale of 1 to 4, where 1 indicated their most favourite option and 4 their least favourite.

- 3.6 In order to prioritise the views of affected parents and families, those completing the survey were asked to confirm whether they were a parent or family member affected by historical practices, or whether they were personally or professionally concerned or interested in the Mortonhall memorial for other reasons. This also provided any parents who had not previously come forward to engage with support providers or the Council with an opportunity to participate.
- 3.7 This consultation process ended on 28 February 2015. A total of 50 completed responses were received, of which, all but one individual were from affected parents. The results of this consultation have been analysed by the Mortonhall Action Team, supported by the Council's Business Intelligence Team, and an outline of the responses is attached as Appendix 1.
- 3.8 By focusing on first and second choice selections made by participants, it is possible to gain a clear idea of the preferred choices:
- **Design 2** received the greatest number of votes, with 18 selecting this as first choice, 14 as second choice;
 - **Design 3** was the next preferred option with 14 selecting this as first choice and 13 as second choice;
 - **Design 1** received 11 votes as first choice and 12 as second choice; and
 - **Design 4** received 7 votes as first choice and 8 as second choice.
- 3.9 Parents were also invited to make individual comments. Themes that emerged from these comments were broadly as follows:
- A strong desire that babies' names be individually recorded in some way, such as a memorial tree or plaques;
 - Favouring of sense of seclusion and privacy, also providing reassurance that risk of vandalism will be actively managed and reduced;
 - Favouring of designs that encouraged positive thoughts, contemplation and tranquillity;
 - Favouring of designs that placed emphasis on wildlife and natural environment;
 - Support for the water garden elements, although some parents expressed concern that this element would create longer-term maintenance challenges;
 - Suggestion that elements in some individual designs could be incorporated in others to create a more bespoke approach;
 - Concern that the location of the garden would disturb any ashes buried in Mortonhall; and
 - Appreciation for the work of the designers and the appropriateness of the initial designs.

- 3.10 The feedback from parents was submitted to the Chief Executive's Multi-Agency Working Group on 13 March 2015 for review and discussion. The Group deliberated on the views expressed by parents and agreed to endorse the preferred design option based on their feedback. The Committee is asked to accept the recommendation of the Chief Executive's Working Group to endorse the selection of garden **Design 2** (Walled circular water garden) as the agreed design for Mortonhall.
- 3.11 To ensure the garden design continues to correspond to the aspirations of affected parents, the City of Edinburgh Council will continue to work closely with parents and designers to ensure that the garden creates a high quality, unique and memorable space with a sense of peace and dignity. Parents have also been invited to become involved in a smaller focus group allowing for closer dialogue with designers around the development of the space.
- 3.12 It is expected that positive progress on the procurement and implementation phase for the Mortonhall memorial will facilitate an autumn 2015 completion date. Planning colleagues had advised that the memorial would not require a formal planning application.
- 3.13 As previously reported to the Council's Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee, an offer of dedication has been received from the Church of Scotland Social and Community Interests Committee offering to rededicate land, should this be desired. In addition, this discussion identified further potentially important opportunities for dialogue with multi-faith communities across the City, to ensure that any actions currently being progressed are inclusive of all cultures and beliefs.
- 3.14 Close work with parents and the local team onsite at Mortonhall has ensured that the design brief supplied to designers will ensure long term sustainability and ease of future maintenance, and that each memorial will reflect the nature of its surroundings and context in terms of design and materials used. Designs will also take account of existing land conditions, services, traffic levels and other relevant factors.

Alternative memorial locations

- 3.15 It was also requested by parents that further work be carried out to develop memorial options, where possible in one of the range of locations suggested. As requested by parents, the City of Edinburgh Council undertook to produce a list of pros and cons for each site, together with an indication if each site could be developed for this use. Initial options featuring a range of images of each suggested location, together with more detailed site information, were presented to parents during a meeting at Murrayfield Stadium on 11 February 2015. This was subsequently shared more widely via a further survey during March 2015, and the results of this engagement will be made available to

Committee on conclusion of the consultation. A copy of this consultation material is included as Appendix 5.

- 3.16 Ongoing dialogue with the Council's Parks and Green Space Team will ensure that, in taking forward the development of any memorial, the Council will take into account factors such as access, site geography and patterns of use. It is also important to consider other existing activities on any proposed site, such as sports and games, to ensure that we are able to deliver the quiet and tranquil atmosphere that many parents have requested.

Measures of success

- 4.1 Completion of a sensitively designed, well maintained Memorial Garden at Mortonhall and one alternative location within agreed timescales and to the satisfaction of affected parents, as identified in the Mortonhall Action Plan Update of June 2014.

Financial impact

- 5.1 Advice from procurement and the design team indicates that to deliver two memorials at Mortonhall and an alternative location in the city, initial design cost are in the region of £250,000, the Mortonhall design will go through a value engineering and Quantity Surveyor review. The location for the alternative memorial is yet to be agreed with affected parents. The site chosen will inform the nature and type of memorial development. It is intended that further detail on this will be included in the report to Full Council on 25 June 2015.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 The memorial options will be delivered with clear oversight from the Council's Chief Executive and within a strong governance framework, and a published action plan incorporating clearly delineated milestones and responsible parties identified.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 The activities listed in this report will contribute to a significant enhancement of rights, particularly in relation to Health, Individual, Family and Social Life, Participation, Influence and Voice, and Productive and Valued Activities.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 Any change to the landscape at Mortonhall will be fully discussed and agreed with the relevant agencies and with the necessary consents in place, to ensure compliance with all relevant legislation.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Affected parents have been prioritised as the primary contributors in this process, whose views are paramount in determining the final design of the memorial at Mortonhall. Ongoing engagement with affected parents, parent representative bodies SANDS Lothians and SiMBA, the Mortonhall staff team and any other individuals with a personal or professional interest in the development of a memorial, will ensure that the final design is a fitting memorial to those babies and families affected by historical practices.

Background reading/external references

None

Sue Bruce

Chief Executive

Contacts: Natalie McKail, Environmental Health/Scientific Services, Registration, Bereavement and Local Community Planning Manager

Email: natalie.mckail@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 7300

Ewan McCormick, Mortonhall Action Team Programme Manager

Email: ewan.mccormick@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel 0131 529 7300

Links

Coalition pledges	P27 - Seek to work in full partnership with Council staff and their representatives
Council outcomes	CO24 - The Council communicates effectively and internally and externally and has an excellent reputation for customer care CO26 - The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnership to improve services and deliver on agreed objectives.
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2 - Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health. SO4 - Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric.
Appendices	Appendix 1 Mortonhall Garden Options Survey Analysis Appendix 2 Letter to parents outlining details of memorial engagement opportunities Appendix 3 Design Options for Mortonhall Gardens Appendix 4 Alternative Locations Survey Material

Broad outline

Total of 50 completed responses received of which 90% identified as affected parents.

Not all respondents answered every question.

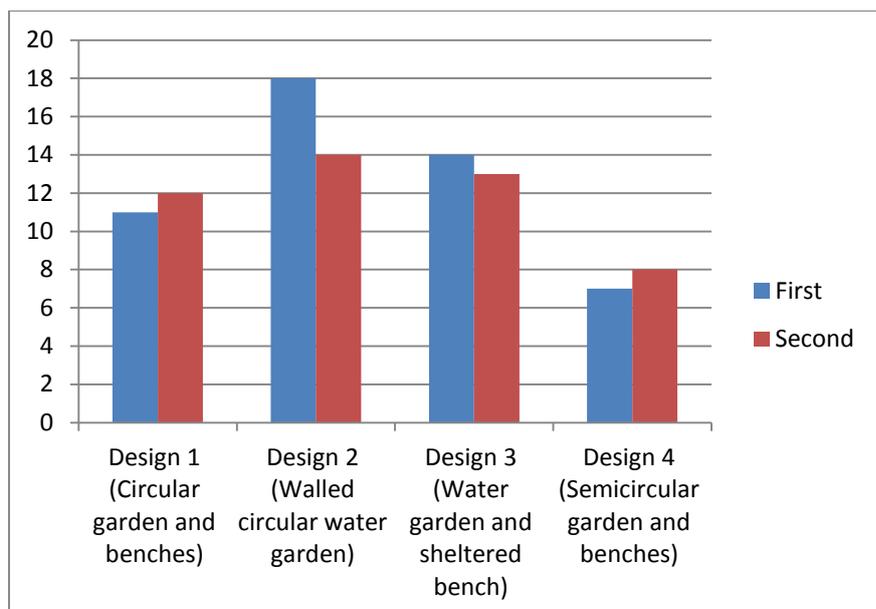
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Total
– Design 1 (Circular garden and benches)	23.91% 11	26.09% 12	34.78% 16	15.22% 7	46
– Design 2 (Walled circular water garden)	36.73% 18	28.57% 14	20.41% 10	14.29% 7	49
– Design 3 (Water garden and sheltered bench)	30.43% 14	28.26% 13	19.57% 9	21.74% 10	46
– Design 4 (Semicircular garden and benches)	15.22% 7	17.39% 8	21.74% 10	45.65% 21	46

Preferred design

Participants were asked to rank their preferred design on a scale of 1 to 4, which 1 indicating their most favourite option and 4 their least favourite.

By focusing on first and second choice selections made by participants, we can gain a clear idea of the most popular choices.

- **Design 2** received the greatest number of Votes, with 18 selecting this as first choice, 14 as second choice;
- **Design 3** was the next most popular option with 14 selecting this as first choice and 13 as second choice;
- **Design 1** received 11 votes as first choice and 12 as second choice; and
- **Design 4** received 7 votes as first choice and 8 as second choice



Individual feedback from parents

Themes that emerged from individual comments posted by parents were broadly as follows:

- A strong desire that babies' names be individually recorded in some way, such as a memorial tree or plaques
- Favour of sense of seclusion and privacy, also providing reassurance that risk of vandalism will be reduced
- Favour of design that encouraged positive thoughts, contemplation and tranquillity
- Favour of designs that placed emphasis on wildlife and natural environment
- Support for the water garden elements, although some parents expressed concern that this element would create longer-term maintenance challenges
- Suggestion that elements in some individual designs could be incorporated in others to create a more bespoke approach
- Concern that the location of the garden would disturb any ashes buried in Mortonhall
- Appreciation for the work of the designers and the appropriateness of the initial designs



Dear

We are writing to update you on progress towards creating fitting memorialisation for babies affected by historical practices at Mortonhall Crematorium.

As you will be aware, a survey of affected parents was carried out in 2014. This resulted in a wide variety of views being expressed and a meeting was held on 26 November 2014 at Murrayfield Stadium by SANDS Lothians and SiMBA, supported by the City of Edinburgh Council, to consider memorialisation options. Approximately 40 parents attended, and others responded by email.

At this meeting parents were given;

- a report on the results of the survey
- a collection of design images from memorial gardens elsewhere in Scotland
- photographs sent in by parents, of individual mementos as suggestions for memorialisation.

Some parents who couldn't attend had their views read out at the meeting.

A variety of opinions were expressed during a wide ranging discussion. These included the location and nature of the memorial, the need to ensure it was of a high quality and well maintained, and how quickly progress should be made.

It was recognised that a number of affected parents would not wish to return to Mortonhall but a number of parents also felt that as this was the last place they left their baby it would be an appropriate location for a memorial. It was therefore agreed that an alternative memorial should also be developed in order to respect and reflect these different views.

It was agreed by parents attending the meeting that one of these memorials should be located within the grounds of Mortonhall. It was also agreed that further work be carried out to develop memorial options, where possible, in one of the range of alternative locations suggested by parents.

Parents discussed the type of memorials which could be developed. It was suggested that three or four designs be developed for the Mortonhall site and be published online for consultation with parents, recognising that not all affected

parents can attend a meeting. It was agreed that the designs would be influenced by the views expressed by parents who responded to the survey.

The City of Edinburgh Council, on behalf of affected parents, SANDS Lothians and SiMBA have been in close discussion with a number of landscape designers, who have produced a range of initial design options for a memorial garden at Mortonhall.

We would like to make sure that everyone has a chance to voice their thoughts, so have arranged a variety of ways in which parents can view and comment on the designs if they wish. In each of these, parents will be given the opportunity to indicate which of the options most closely matches their idea of a suitable memorial garden design.

In person

Parents will be able to view and comment on these first stage designs at any of the following locations and times:

- **SANDS Lothian Offices, Craiglockhart Centre, 177 Colinton Road, Edinburgh**, at the following times:
 - Tuesday 3rd February until Thursday 5th February 2015, 9.30am-2.30pm
 - Tuesday 10th February until Thursday 12th February 2015, 9.30am-2.30pm

Should parents wish an evening viewing, please call and discuss this on 0131 622 6263, or email nicola@sands-lothians.org.uk.

SANDS Lothian staff will be available if needed to provide support.

- **SANDS Lothian Office, Craigsfarm, Maree Walk, Craigshill, Livingston** at the following times:
 - Monday 9th February 2015, 7.00-9.00pm. Please email nicola@sands-lothians.org.uk if you need any more information.

SANDS Lothian staff will be available if needed to provide support.

- **SiMBA Offices, Dalmatian House, Spott Road, Dunbar** on the following dates:
 - Between 2nd February and 28th February 2015, Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm, evenings or weekends by arrangement.

Please call in advance to arrange to view the designs (01368 860141) or email team@simbacharity.org.uk

- **Dalkeith Arts Centre, 2 White Hart St, Dalkeith** on the following dates:

- Tuesday 10th February between 2.00pm and 6.00pm

Please be aware that there will be no staff from SANDS Lothian, SiMBA or City of Edinburgh Council at this session, however information and support materials will be available.

- **Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh Chaplaincy Sanctuary** at the following times:
 - Between 2nd February and 28th February 2015 from 6.00pm-8.00pm.

Please call in advance to arrange to view the designs (0131 242 1990). Staff will be available to provide support if needed.

- **Pendolino Room, City Chambers, High Street Edinburgh** at the following times:
 - Between 2nd February and 6th February 2015, from 9.00am-5.00pm Please call in advance to arrange to view the designs (0131 529 7300) or email mortonhallenquiries@edinburgh.gov.uk. Staff will be available to provide information if needed.

Online

These designs will be available to view and comment between **31st January** and **28th February 2015**. at the following link

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/mortonhall>

The City of Edinburgh Council Mortonhall Investigation webpage also includes a more general update on progress against the recommendations of the Dame Elish investigation report. It is planned that this information will be refreshed on 30th January 2015 to take account of this additional information.

You can also access the survey via the SANDS Lothian and SiMBA Facebook pages. Please contact SANDS Lothian and SiMBA using the contact details above.

The result of this further feedback from parents will then inform the design of the actual garden which will be developed at Mortonhall, and will allow the City of Edinburgh Council to move into a formal procurement process for this work. To support this process our designers hope to work with a focus group of parents to ensure that the garden creates a high quality, unique and memorable space with a sense of peace and dignity.

If you are interested on being part of this group and representing other parents in this regard, you can state this at one of the drop in sessions, or by contacting us at any of the phone numbers or email addresses below.

We are working closely with CEC colleagues, agencies and partners to identify a site for the second memorial, where possible taking into account the locations that

affected parents suggested in the survey, and will keep you updated with progress. The range of alternative locations suggested by parents included, for example, Lauriston Castle or a location near the Royal Infirmary.

At the previous meeting in August 2014, the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh had been suggested as a potential location for a memorial. The RBGE has however noted, with deepest regret, that this would not be possible. Parents suggested that contact be made with the other suggested sites to establish if a memorial would be possible. This work is now underway and includes approaching landowners of a variety of sites suggested by parents, to assess their readiness to host memorials on their land.

Ongoing dialogue with the City of Edinburgh Council Parks and Green Spaces Team will ensure that in taking forward the development of any memorial we take into account factors such as access, site geography and patterns of use. It is also important to take into account other existing activities on any proposed site, such as sports and games, to ensure that we are able to deliver the quiet and tranquil atmosphere that many parents asked for.

We recognise that progress needs to be made as quickly as possible and will continue to consult and work with affected parents, bearing in mind the emotional impact of the Dame Elish investigation report.

A follow-up meeting for affected parents will be held at **Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh**, on **Wednesday 11th February 2015, 7.00-9.00pm**. Support will be provided by representatives from SANDS Lothian, SiMBA and City of Edinburgh Council.

If you are unable to attend any of these sessions, and are unable to use the online option, please contact either:

Sands Lothian info@sands-lothiansorg.uk or 0131 622 6263

SiMBA team@simbacharity.org.uk or 01368 860141

Natalie McKail natalie.mckail@edinburgh.gov.uk or 0131 529 7300

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Welsh
SANDS Lothians
Council

Sara Fitzsimmons
SiMBA

Natalie McKail
City of Edinburgh

Mortonhall Memorial Survey

SANDS Lothians and SIMBA, supported by the City of Edinburgh Council, are currently working with affected parents around the design and location of a fitting memorial for those babies and families affected by historical practices at Mortonhall Crematorium.

A survey on memorial options completed by affected parents in October 2014 resulted in a wide variety of views. Following on from this survey, a meeting was held on 26 November 2014 at Murrayfield Stadium by SANDS Lothians and SiMBA, supported by the City of Edinburgh Council, where parents attending considered the survey feedback and discussed memorial options. This included the location and nature of any memorial, the need to ensure it was of a high quality and well maintained, and how quickly progress should be made.

In terms of the location, it was recognised that a number of affected parents would not wish to return to Mortonhall, but a number of parents also felt that as Mortonhall was the last place they left their baby it would be appropriate for a memorial. It was therefore agreed that two memorials should be developed, in two different locations, in order to respect and reflect these different views. One of these will be within the grounds of Mortonhall, and further work will be carried out to develop memorial options in one of the alternative locations suggested by parents.

The City of Edinburgh Council, on behalf of affected parents, SANDS Lothians and SiMBA have been in close discussion with a number of landscape designers, who have produced a range of initial design options for a memorial garden at Mortonhall based on the views of parents. As agreed by parents at the above meeting these are now being made available for feedback from all affected parents and families.

Through this short survey you will be given the opportunity to view four initial garden design options for the grounds at Mortonhall, and to indicate your preference as to the option which most closely matches your idea of a suitable memorial garden design

If you have completed the survey please fold over and place in sealed box, or if you prefer you can return the completed survey by post to the City of Edinburgh Council using the stamped addressed envelope provided.

Online

These designs are also available to view and comment between **29 January** and **28 February 2015**. at the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/mortonhall>

Please note that if you have completed a paper version of the survey you do not need to complete online, and vice versa.

What happens next?

The result of this further feedback from parents will then inform the design of the actual garden which will be developed at Mortonhall, and will allow the City of Edinburgh Council to move into a formal procurement process for this work.

Alternative memorial

We are working closely with CEC colleagues, agencies and partners to identify a site for the second memorial, where possible taking into account the locations that affected parents suggested in the survey, and will keep you updated with progress.

Work is now underway on this and includes approaching landowners of a variety of sites suggested by parents, to assess their readiness to host memorials on their land.

In taking forward the development of any memorial we will take into account factors such as access, site geography and patterns of use, and existing activities on any proposed site, such as sports and games, to ensure that we are able to deliver the quiet and tranquil atmosphere that many parents asked for.

We recognise that progress needs to be made as quickly as possible and will continue to consult and work with affected parents, bearing in mind the emotional impact of the Dame Elish investigation report.

Getting involved

To support this process our designers hope to work with a focus group of parents to ensure that the garden creates a high quality, unique and memorable space with a sense of peace and dignity.

If you are interested on being part of this group and representing other parents in this regard, you can state this at one of the drop in sessions, or by contacting us at any of the phone numbers or email addresses below.

SANDS Lothians info@sands-lothians.org.uk or 0131 622 6263

SiMBA team@simbacharity.org.uk or 01368 860141

Natalie McKail natalie.mckail@edinburgh.gov.uk or 0131 529 7300

Design 1 - Circular garden and benches

Notes from the designer

The overall concept of this design is based on the “mandala” symbol.

This symbol is almost always a circle -sometimes with a square inside it -and usually with other circles contained within.

The mandala and its variations are used in many beliefs and spiritual contexts across the world. The main circle is generally used to represent the Universe and the idea is that the space within the circle is a place of reflection, peace and contemplation.

As well as being used as a motif to represent the Universe, the Circle is often used to symbolise the everlasting -having no end -and is often used as a representation of the Sun or Moon. This makes it an incredibly simple but powerful shape/symbol for a memorial garden such as this.

The outer edge of the circle has been designed to incorporate some form of hedge and/or a line of trees/planting/land form to create a sense of enclosure and inward reflection. As well as a central feature, such as a tree of remembrance or a water feature, there are several smaller enclosed areas which will create more private and contemplative spaces for parents and families to reflect.

Included with the design are some photographs of features, planting and hard landscaping suggestions which will help to convey a greater understanding of the design, colours, shapes and style which the garden could take.

Design 2 - Walled circular water garden

Notes from the designer

The preliminary sketch of the proposed design is shown through a clipped beech hedge leading to the columbarium. The existing block pathway has been extended to lead you into an enclosed circular space to provide parents with a private and peaceful place for personal contemplation.

The circular garden is created by a stone wall which is softened into the landscape by beech hedge frame. This compliments the existing beech hedges found nearby. A linear beech hedge guides you into the space which opens out to a circular water garden full of aquatic plants. If parents and visitors would like to stop and spend some time to reflect and appreciate the surroundings they will find plenty of seating sweeping round the garden boundary.

The enclosed space has been designed to be welcoming and not claustrophobic with a wall height that allows the viewer to look over and see the grounds beyond. If privacy or shelter, is wanted this can be achieved by simply sitting down. Once seated, visitors will feel completely sheltered.

The water plantings will flourish on shallow, submerged shelves around the pond edges. The centre of the pond can be in deeper water if parents would like water lilies. Water lilies will flower well with the open, south-facing aspect of the garden. Rocks have been placed amongst the plants for sculptural interest and to aid the movement of wildlife in and out of the water.

Rocks can also be engraved, perhaps with a dedication. There are other areas where dedications can be presented. In the wall above the seating, either side of the stone pillar entrance or perhaps as part of the stone seat.

The simple, clean lines of this memorial garden compliment Sir Basil Spence's contemporary design of Mortonhall Crematorium, an A-listed building and the memorial garden beech hedge 'coat' anchors the whole design sympathetically into the wider environs.



Design 3 - Water garden and sheltered bench

Notes from the designer

The preliminary sketch of the proposed design is shown from the suggested entrance to the garden -through a clipped beech hedge leading to the columbarium. The existing block pathway has been extended to lead you on to the new memorial garden. The main focal point is a simple, wave-shaped shelter and bench, complimented by a tear-drop shaped water garden to provide parents with a private and peaceful place for personal contemplation.

Plantings around the water garden have a natural but stylised look, similar to those found round the pond, near the East Gate, at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. There will be year-round interest with primulas in spring, astilbes in summer, rogersias in autumn and plumes of Miscanthus grasses in winter. In the pond are dancing metal dragonflies. Adult dragonflies are beautiful things and their short, yet significant, lives remind us of the reason why this memorial garden is being created.

The roof of the memorial shelter is a wildflower and sedum turf roof and creating a wonderful flower source from nectar-loving insects like butterflies. Its range of colours is lovely, natural and organic and it will work well with the environs of Mortonhall and the shelter walls of Corten steel. It can be viewed as you look down from the commemorative book and the vista from the cross.

The garden has been designed to offer privacy from nearby houses and the crematorium. Its south-facing orientation and curved structure means the seating area makes the most of its position. The seating has been designed to be a beautiful and practical piece of tactile furniture and the wooden slats can be engraved with a personal dedication if parents wish.

The south facing wall and roof of the shelter is made of corten steel in sheets so the shadow gap creates a pleasing pattern. Corten steel creates a warm, natural look and its watertight coating weathered over six months forms a striking russet appearance which then requires no maintenance. With the gradient change in the area of this new garden corten steel could also edge the pond. The back of the shelter is faced with Caithness stone.

The Caithness stone wall could be appropriate location to have an official dedication, in engraved Caithness stone, leaving the inside of the shelter to be a more private area for parents.

The simple, clean lines of the memorial garden complement the Sir Basil Spence's contemporary design of Mortonhall Crematorium, an A-listed building. Corten walls echo existing beech hedges when they are an organic orange-brown colour in winter.



Design 4 - Semicircular garden and benches

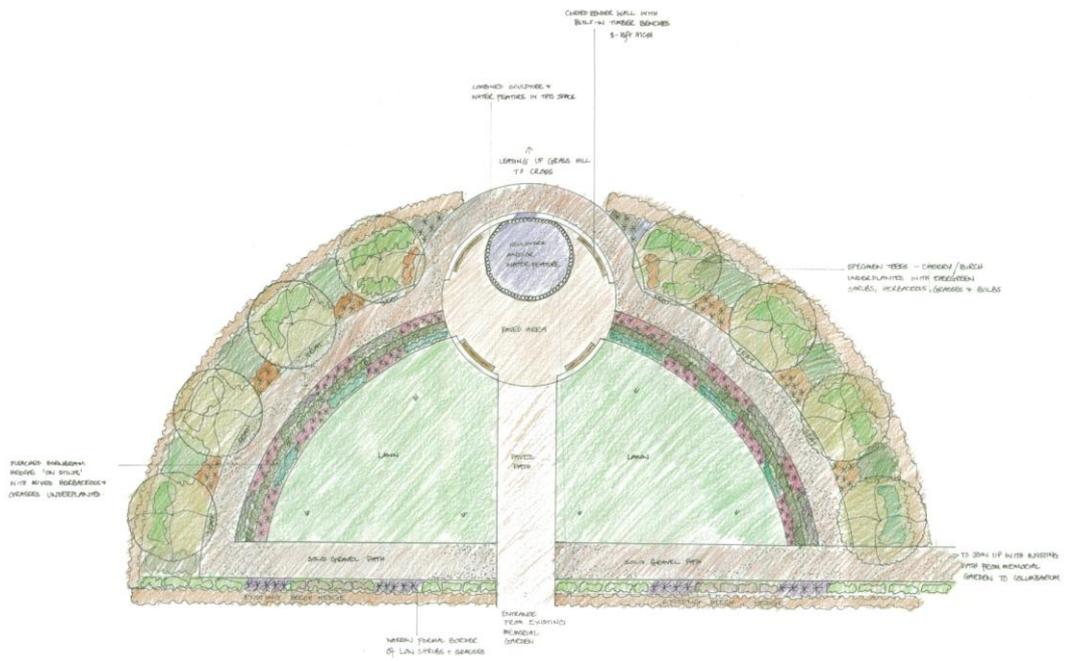
Notes from the designer

This second design concept is based around an expansive fan shape and has been used to echo the contours and features already existing in the surrounding landscape of Mortonhall. The orientation of this garden would be towards the cross sited on the hill above the proposed site of the memorial garden.

Once again a sense of enclosure has been created using trees, hedges, walls and planting. Although the shape of the garden suggests expansiveness and nods towards the outer landscape, there is also a strong sense of enclosure and inward focus, particularly towards the proposed memorial wall/sculpture/water feature.

Some more secluded seating areas have been located throughout the garden, as well as in the open areas around the central feature.

Included with the design are some photographs of features, planting and hard landscaping suggestions which will help to convey a greater understanding of the design, colours, shapes and style which the garden could take.



Arthurs Seat & Holyrood Park

(Not owned by the City of Edinburgh Council)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Location • Scenic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed by Historic Scotland • Initial informal discussions indicate that unlikely that permission would be given for memorial • Limited access

Images of Arthurs Seat and Holyrood Park are available [here](#)

Blackford Hill & Blackford Pond

(City of Edinburgh Council Owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Bus route • Maintained • Stunning views • Requested in survey • Seating • Parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wild and windblown • Limited access to public toilets • Restricted access (slopes) • not centrally located

Images of Blackford Hill and Pond are available [here](#)

Braid Hills

(City of Edinburgh Council Owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Bus route • Maintained • Stunning views • Requested in survey • Seating • Parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited access • Limited access to public toilets • Restricted access (slopes) • golf course, horse riding may not lend itself to memorial • not centrally located

Images of Braid Hills are available [here](#)

Calton Hill

(City of Edinburgh Council Owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scenic• Bus route• Stunning views• Requested in survey• Seating• Parking• Central Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited access• Limited access to public toilets• Restricted access (slopes)• Historical monuments may limit potential development of site• Occasional Festival/Carnival atmosphere

Images of Calton Hill are available [here](#)

Inverleith Park

(City of Edinburgh Council Owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tranquil• Bus / route• Maintained• Equal access• Central location• Close to Royal Botanic Gardens• Pond and wildlife• potential of existing space that could be developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not requested in survey• Noise levels from sports and park• Festival/Carnival atmosphere at times• Limited parking

Images of Inverleith Park are available [here](#)

Lauriston Castle

(City of Edinburgh Council Owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tranquil• Parking• Maintained• Stunning views• Established gardens(Japanese & Italian)• Woodland walks• Toilets• Pond• Seating• Requested in survey• Equal access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some occasional noise levels from park• not centrally located• April through September: 8am - 8pm. October through March: 8am - 5pm

Images of Lauriston Castle are available [here](#):

Little France Open Space Development

(land proposed for development is City of Edinburgh Council owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be developed adjacent to new Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Little France Part of grounds to be modelled on Meadows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time scales unclear and dependent on progress of NHS Capital project for new Royal Hospital for Sick Children, currently planned to open in 2017

Outline view of area of proposed development of Royal Hospital for Sick Children available [here](#)

The Meadows

(City of Edinburgh Council Owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Location Scenic Bus route Maintained Equal access Stunning views Requested in survey Toilets Seating Site of previous Simpsons Maternity Hospital Café Well used play park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent Festival/Carnival atmosphere Noise levels from sports and park Designated barbeque areas Well used play park Heavily used in Edinburgh Festival and at other times Site of previous Simpsons Maternity Hospital

Images of The Meadows are available [here](#)

Princes Street Gardens

(City of Edinburgh Council Owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established gardens Bus/tram route Maintained Equal access Stunning views Toilets Seating Requested in survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent Festival/Carnival atmosphere Big wheel(may be regular feature) Parking Existing diverse collection of memorials Restricted access (slopes) January - February: 7:00 - 17.00 (closing from 16.15) March - April: 7:00 - 19:00 (closing from 18.15) May - June: 7:00 - 20:00 (closing from 19.15) July - August: 7:00 - 22:00 (closing from

	21.15) September - October: 7:00 - 19:00 (closing from 18.15) November - December: 7:00 - 17:00 (closing from 16.15)
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Images of Princes Street Gardens are available [here](#)

Queen Street Gardens

(Privately owned)

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Location • beautifully maintained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Privately owned • Parking restrictions • Access not available to non-residents

Images of Queen Street Gardens are available [here](#)

Saughton Park

(City of Edinburgh Council Owned)

The City of Edinburgh Council has been working with the Royal Caledonian Horticulture Society, the Friends of Saughton Park and the local community to develop proposals to revitalise Saughton Park.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tranquil • Parking • Bus /tram route • Maintained • Equal access • Toilets • Saughton Park Restoration Project £5.2m • initial funding from Heritage Lottery Funding(HLF) to redesign a purpose built garden • Possible Café • A Management and Maintenance Plan for the park will help ensure that the park is looked after to a high standard once all the works are complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not requested in survey • Planned work could be disruptive • Potential noise levels from sports and park • Funding may not be approved to carry out the work • Timescales – design and construction works expected currently to take place between 2016 and 2018

Images of the proposed redevelopment of Saughton Park are available [here](#)