Local counselling service gets a boost from South Essex Crematorium

A cheque looking like a NASA count-down provided local charity, Havering and Brentwood Bereavement Service (HBBS) with a boost on Tuesday 13 October. The charity received £4,321 as part of a dedicated scheme to sensitively recycle metals at South Essex Crematorium.

The scheme, operated by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) and conducted with the permission of next of kin, donates all money received to Bereavement charities.

The Mayor of Havering, Cllr. Brian Eagling presented the cheque on behalf of South Essex Crematorium saying:

“Staff are proud to be able to contribute to a scheme that cares for and supports the bereaved in Havering.”

Since 1989 HBBS has offered professional and confidential counselling to Havering residents that is subsidised according to need, and funded by donations, grants and local fundraising. During the last year HBBS has facilitated family counselling groups as well as supporting both children and adults in disadvantaged areas in Havering.

Sue Newth-Gibbs Chair of HBBS, said:

“We are phenomenally busy, HBBS currently sees eighty to ninety people each week. For a small charity, a gift like this is significant and this money will enable us to help another nine children”.

Since launching its children’s counselling service in 2009 the charity has helped more than 150 local children. It provides 4 to 18 year olds with 1 to 1 counseling followed by a two year programme of support.