



Bereavement Services Fees and Charges 2018

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The annual review of Bereavement Services Fees and Charges has traditionally been included in the overall review of Communities, Environment and Regulatory Services Directorate Fees and Charges. This is done in line with the fiscal year. However, this report proposes that the review of Bereavement Services Fees and Charges is aligned with the calendar year and if approved comes into effect on 1 January 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the increase in Bereavement Services Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2018 as set out at Appendix 2 effective from 01 January 2018.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To enable Bereavement Services to contribute to the Communities, Environment and Regulatory Services Directorate Budget for 2017/18 and 2018/19
- 3.2 To adjust the cost of providing graves to accommodate Vaulted Chambers to ensure parity with other charges.
- 3.3 To adjust the cost of an interment in a Vaulted Chamber to reflect the cost of provision.
- 3.4 To enable bereavement services to manage unbudgeted repairs and maintenance to plant and equipment in-year financial pressures.
- 3.5 To ensure that Bereavement Services is in the best position to manage increasing commercial pressures on the service from private sector crematoria.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 As part of the 2017/18 budget management and 2018/19 budget preparation processes, within the Communities and Place Directorate, Bereavement Services have reviewed their fees and charges to ensure that:
- a) Any in-year budgetary pressures are managed;

- b) Inflationary cost increases are incorporated into the charging structure where applicable;
- c) Additional costs of providing the service are reflected in the level of fees and charges levied;
- d) They meet directorate budgetary targets;
- e) They are competitive with the regional and national averages.

- 4.2 Taking these factors into account it is proposed that, the Bereavement Services Fees and Charges are increased broadly in line with the national average increases of approximately 3% identified in the Royal London Annual Review of Funeral Costs. It is further proposed that the increase is effective from 1 January 2018.
- 4.3 In addition, Markeaton Crematorium is coming under increasing commercial pressure due to the recent opening of Amber Valley Crematorium at Swanwick and the building of a further crematorium at Aston-on Trent, which is planned to be open later this year. These private sector crematoria work on a calendar year business model, which means that our own fees and charges are out of line for part of the year, which brings additional commercial pressures on the service and confusion to the funeral directing sector.
- 4.4 As the design and layout of the burial sections to accommodate Casket and Vaulted burials is now the same, it is proposed that these charges are adjusted and merged into one fee.
- 4.5 A similar review of the Interment Fee in a Vaulted Grave has also concluded that due to the application of inflationary increase in previous years and as a result of the renegotiation of the contract and economies of scale, the cost of the vaults has reduced. It is therefore proposed that the Interment Fee in a Vaulted Grave is reduced
- 4.6 During the year it also became clear that there was a need to liberate existing management capacity to be better able to address the strategic issues facing the service including the competitive pressure from the opening of local private sector crematoria and the need to find land for a new cemetery. In addition, concerns were raised about the level of resilience in the service to discharge the statutory burial registration processes.
- 4.7 The proposed increases will enable the service to manage these pressures from a review in the establishment.
- 4.8 The proposal is To approve the increase in Bereavement Services Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2018 as set out at Appendix 2 effective from 01 January 2018.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	Olu Idowu Amanda Fletcher n/a n/a John Tomlinson Doug Walkman Sheena Ratcliffe
For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Gary Marshall 07812301635 gary.marshall@derby.gov.uk The Royal London Annual Cost of Funerals Report Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Proposed Bereavement Services Fees & Charges 2018

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 The proposed fees and charges have been set to support Bereavement Services budgets. It is estimated that £18k additional income will be generated in 2017/18 with a full year effect of £70k based on current trends. This additional income will initially be used to support the service and potentially across the directorate. It will also bring with it some fiscal resilience as we prepare for the impact of the new private sector crematorium at Aston on Trent.

Legal

- 2.1 In accordance with the provisions of Schedule 214 of the Local Government Act 1972, Derby City Council is defined as a burial authority and therefore has powers to provide a crematorium and raise fees and charges from the provision of such facilities.

Personnel

- 3.1 None arising from this report.

IT

- 4.1 None arising from this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 None arising from this report

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None arising from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 None arising from this report.

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 None arising from this report.

Risk Management

- 9.1 Markeaton Crematorium is coming under increasing pressure due to the recent opening of Amber Valley Crematorium at Swanwick and the building of a further crematorium at Aston on Trent, which is planned to be open early 2018.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 10.1 The setting of appropriate fees and charges contributes to one of the Council's eight priority outcomes which are 'being more commercial' (Council Plan 2016 -2019).

BEREAVEMENT SERVICES FEES AND CHARGES REVIEW – 2018

	DESCRIPTION OF CHARGES	CURRENT CHARGE (£)	PROPOSED CHARGE (£)	COMMENTS
Cremation Fees				
	Adult Discount Booking	521	537	
	Adult Standard Booking	651	671	
	Adult Premium Booking	716	737	
	No Service Booking	446	459	
	Child Under 5 yrs. Booking (including still born)	NIL	NIL	
	Child Under 16 years Booking	178	183	
	Body parts	419	432	
	Additional Service Time/Memorial Service	175	180	
	Representation to Medical Referee	74	77	
Memorial Fees – Garden of Remembrance				
	Garden Vault	859		No Longer Available
	Pergola Plaque	297	306	10 year lease
	Kerb Plaque & Vase Path Side	626	645	10 year lease
	Kerb Plaque in Baby Garden	193	199	10 year lease
	Tower Plaque in Baby Garden	193	199	10 year lease
	Additional Vase	124	128	
	Single Leather Plaque	192	199	5 year lease
	Double Leather Plaque	234	241	5 year lease
	Replacement Plaque Current Lease	112	128	
	10 year lease renewal	186	199	
	Children's & Leather Memorial Renewal	93	96	10 year lease for children's. 5 year lease for leather.

	DESCRIPTION OF CHARGES	CURRENT CHARGE (£)	PROPOSED CHARGE (£)	COMMENTS
Book of Remembrance				
	2 Line Entry	68	71	
	5 Line Entry	91	94	
	8 Line Entry	108	112	
	Flower Artwork	52	54	Only available with a 5 or more line entry
	Badges, Armorial Crests & other illustrations	65	67	Only available with a 5 or more line entry
Memorial Cards				
	2 Line Copy	35	37	
	5 Line Copy	44	46	
	8 Line Copy	55	57	
	Flower	52	54	Only available with a 5 or more line entry
	Badges, Armorial Crests & other illustrations	65	67	Only available with a 5 or more line entry
Keepsakes				
	3" Decorative Keepsake Urn	26	26	
	Decorative Full size Urn	129	133	
	3"Decorative Bass Heart	31	31	
	5"Decorative Brass Heart	41	41	
	Necklaces	82	85	
Ashes into Glass				All Ashes to Glass Tributes are set in a National Contract Agreement
Tribute Ring	Silver	295	295	
	Gold	375	375	
	White Gold	395	395	
Signet Ring	Silver	345	345	
	Gold	425	425	
	White Gold	495	495	
Round Pendant	Silver	245	245	
	Gold	375	375	
	White Gold	425	425	
Long Pendant	Silver	295	295	

	DESCRIPTION OF CHARGES	CURRENT CHARGE (£)	PROPOSED CHARGE (£)	COMMENTS
	Gold White Gold	395 445	395 445	
Cuff Links	Silver Gold White Gold	345 565 595	345 565 595	
Earrings	Silver Gold White Gold	195 345 395	195 345 395	
Charm Bead	Silver Gold White Gold	125 175 195	125 175 195	
Paperweight	Memorial Paperweight	195	195	
Miscellaneous Fees				
	Strewing of cremated remains from elsewhere	97	100	
	Recording of service	45	47	
	Wesley tribute screen holding picture	15.50	16	
	Wesley 15 photos	52	54	
	Wesley additional photos (x5)	15	16	

	Description	Existing	Proposed	Comments
Cemetery Fees				
Exclusive Rights of Burial: 50 years				
	Earthen Grave	1061	1093	
	Casket Grave	1267	N/A	Sec 4.4
	Vaulted Grave	863	N/A	Sec 4.4
	Casket or Vaulted Grave	N/A	1306	Sec 4.4
	Mausoleum	POA	POA	
	Cremation Grave	201	207	
	Childs grave (less than 16 years)	73	75	
	10 year extension to Exclusive Rights	212	219	
	Exclusive Right Premium cremation grave (1.5 grave space)	301	311	
	Exclusive Right and memorial for Mini Grave plot (including inscription and 1 st interment.	843	843	No change to encourage the option
Interment Fees				
	Adult: to a depth of 4'6"	637	657	
	Adult: to a depth of 6'0"	751	774	
	Adult: to a depth of 7'6"	877	904	
	Vaulted grave	1463	1023	Sec 4.5
	Child: under 16 years	162	167	
	Child: Still-Born and under 5 years	No Charge	No Charge	
	Cremated Remains	118	122	
	Cremated Remains Saturday interment additional charge	POA	POA	
	Body parts	115	119	
	Use of cemetery chapel	81	84	
	Wooden shoring	134	139	
	Top soil for backfill	POA	POA	
	Adult: woodland	637	657	
	Child: woodland (less than 16 years)	162	167	
	Strewing of cremated remains: woodland	118	122	

	Saturday funeral surcharge	POA	POA	Fee Consolidated
	Saturday funeral hourly rate	59	60	Fee Consolidated
	Sunday funeral surcharge	POA	POA	Fee Consolidated
	Sunday funeral hourly rate	89	92	Fee Consolidated
	Saturday/Sunday Funeral surcharge	POA	POA	
Exhumations				
	All Exhumations	POA	POA	
Memorials and Inscriptions				
	Not exceeding 3'6 height/3" width/4"thick	242	249	
	Not exceeding 4'6 height/3" width/4"thick	284	292	
	Not exceeding 2'0 height/6" width/4"thick (baby section only)	97	99	
	To purchase and erect a temporary memorial	44	45	
	Memorial vase: not exceeding 12"	48	50	
	Kerb set: full set 7' x 3'	205	211	
	Kerb set: full set 8' x 4'	301	310	
	Kerb set: baby section Plaque: tablet	45	46	
	Additional inscription	34	35	
	Replacement of existing memorial	44	45	
	Additional work to existing memorial	45	46	
Miscellaneous Charges				
	Change of grave ownership	45	46	
	Replacement/updating of deeds	45	46	
	Strewing of cremated remains from Markeaton	49	50	
	Strewing of cremated remains from elsewhere	97	100	