

To receive amendments to the Churchtown Cemetery Management Policy and Regulations and consider any actions and associated expenditure

Background

Members are asked to review the information below for proposed updates to the [Cemetery Management Policy and Regulations](#), due to recent issues highlighted in its application.

Ground Conditions

Information:

Whilst re-opening a grave at Churchtown Cemetery to allow a second interment to take place, the Grave Digger informed the Town Council that due to the ground conditions a third interment would not be possible.

Proposal:

Members to consider replacing the following sentence in the Management Policy and Regulations, recommending to the next Policy and Finance Committee Meeting.

From:

4.6.6. New graves will be dug to accommodate 3 burials unless ground conditions do not allow.

To:

4.6.6. New graves will be dug to accommodate 3 burials unless ground conditions do not allow. In consultation with the Council appointed Grave Digger, should any interment indicate that subsequently no further interments can take place in a specific grave, then the Council will not permit any further interments in that grave. The relevant Funeral Director to be informed.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

Information:

Funeral Directors, Memorial Masons, the Grave Digger and external contractors who work at Churchtown Cemetery are required to provide evidence of their public liability insurance and also a risk assessment, which has to be approved by the Service Delivery Manager.

The requirement for public liability insurance for Funeral Directors is set out in the Management Policy and Regulations. Memorial Masons, the Grave Digger and external contractors are not mentioned. The need for a risk assessment is entirely absent.

Proposal:

Members to consider replacing the following sentence in the Management Policy and Regulations, recommending to the next Policy and Finance Committee Meeting.

From:

4.1.9. Funeral Directors must register with the Council showing evidence of public liability insurance. Funeral Directors are responsible for the behaviour and safety of the funeral cortege whilst in the cemetery.

To:

4.1.9. Funeral Directors, Memorial Masons, the Council appointed Grave Digger and other contractors at Churchtown Cemetery, must register with the Council showing evidence of public liability insurance. A risk assessment, the content of which must be approved by the Council's Service Delivery Manager, will also be required. Additionally, Funeral Directors are responsible for the behaviour and safety of the funeral cortege whilst in the cemetery.

End of Report
Planning and General Administrator