

**To receive the Law Commission Burial and Cremation Consultation and
consider any actions**

Burial and Cremation Consultation 2024

The Law Commission is currently considering changes to update burial laws with a public consultation running until 9 January 2025. Lack of burial space has been identified as a key issue with grave reuse being proposed as a solution to the problem. One of the areas being considered is closed and disused churchyards. The Commission proposes reforms to allow them to be reopened, allowing people to be buried closer to home, or in a graveyard that holds special meaning for them. It appears that the proposals currently do not intend to stop closures of churchyards, but will allow, if there is a need, to reopen them. A summary of the consultation paper is attached as part of the reports pack. There is also a short video summary which can be accessed here:

[Law Commission Burial and Cremation Consultation 2024](#)

The Burial and Cremation Consultation Paper can be found here:

[Law Commission Consultation Paper](#)

Stakeholders who run burial grounds are invited to respond to the consultation which is available online.

The Law Commission will use the responses to the consultation to develop their recommendations to government for reform and expect the report to be published in late 2025.

End of report

Senior Policy and Data Compliance Officer