

Summary of consultation responses

The results from the Funeral Director consultation exercise are shown below. The response rate from Funeral Directors was 66.66% (8 from 12).

Q1. Would the removal of the option to pre-purchase a lair affect you?

A total of 8 responses were received. A total of 62.50% (5) of responders indicated that the change would impact on them with 37.50% (3) stating there was no impact. Of the 5 comments received 2 related to not allowing people to be buried where they wanted to be, or near to their families, 1 agreed with the approach, 1 made no comment and 1 saw no impact but suggested a reservation fee for the cemetery rather than the lair.

Q2. Would the removal of the ability to select a lair location within a cemetery or burial ground affect you?

A total of 6 responses were received. A total of 66.67% (4) of responders indicated that the change would impact on them with 33.33% (2) stating there was no impact. Of the 6 comments received 4 related to not allowing people to be buried where they wanted to be, or near to their families, 1 related to allowing families with existing lairs to pre-purchase lairs and 1 answered with no comment.

Q3. Do you have any concerns about the introduction of a new e-form for notice of burials?

A total of 6 responses were received. A total of 33.33% (2) of responders indicated that they concerns with 66.67% (4) stating they didn't have concerns. Of the 4 comments received 1 related to customers potentially not having access to the internet, 1 referenced still having the ability to hand deliver the paperwork as a choice, 2 indicated this would be an improvement (1 also referenced the ability to print the e-form in the response).

Q4. Would the introduction of fixed bookings times for burials affect you? (proposed times of 10.40am and 1.10pm were provided in the consultation)

A total of 7 responses were received. A total of 28.57% (2) of responders indicated that the change would affect them with 71.43% (5) stating there was no affect. Of the 6 comments received, 4 related to receiving complaints and the proposed times potentially causing issues with regards service times and 2 enquired whether there would be any flexibility within the proposed times.

Q5. Do you have any concerns regarding the proposed dimensions? (this question related to the size of headstones. Maximum dimensions are height (1200mm), width (150mm less than the width of the lair) and depth (300mm).

A total of 6 responses were received. A total of 33.33% (2) of responders indicated that they had concerns with 66.67% (4) stating they had no concerns. Of the 4 comments received 1 related to complaints due to larger headstones already being in the cemetery, 1 related to allowing larger headstones to reflect a persons' status in the community. The remaining 2 responses did not raised concerns regarding the proposal.

Q6. Are there any other areas you feel would improve the management of the cemeteries and burial grounds?

A total of 4 comments were received. Of the responses received 1 related to the provision of larger budgets, 1 related to the response time to address issues with sunken lair, 1 related to the provision of double fees for Sunday as fishing communities by tradition preferred this day and 1 gave no response.

The results from the Memorial Mason's consultation exercise are shown below. The response rate from Memorial Masons was 15.78% (3 from 19).

Q1. Do you have any concerns regarding the proposed dimensions? (this question related to the size of headstones). Maximum dimensions are height (1200mm), width (150mm less than the width of the lair) and depth (300mm).

A total of 3 responses were received. A total of 66.67% (2) of responders indicated that they had concerns with 33.33% (1) stating they had no concerns. Of the 3 comments received 1 related to the fact that if headstones are fitted in accordance with the approved fixing method there should be no health and safety issues, 1 queried whether kerbing would still be allowed and 1 queried whether the overall height included the concrete bases and referenced the dimensions within other local authorities in the north of Scotland.

Q2. Are there any other areas you feel would improve the management of the cemeteries and burial grounds?

A total of 3 comments were received. Of the responses received 1 related to improving the foundations, 1 referenced emailing strip foundation permits and 1 gave no response.