

# INTRODUCTION OF NEW SERVICE BRIEFING NOTE – BEREAVEMENT SERVICE

August 2020



## 1. Description of Proposal

The proposal is to introduce a new service – a non-attended funeral service and to change the current no service funeral to an attended funeral service allowing 2 attendees.

## 2. Background - Fees, Charges and Concessions Policy

The current fee for this new non-attended funeral service will be £500.

## 3. Reason for change

The introduction of this service is to increase the choice of cremation funeral service for the bereaved.

## 4. New Fee - No Service Funeral

It is proposed to introduce a second option for families who chose not to have a funeral service. We currently offer a no service funeral at a fee of £675 it is proposed to change this service to permit attendance but no service. This will mean that 2 members of the deceased family or friends can accompany the coffin and have a few minutes quiet contemplation as the deceased is received into the Chapel for cremation.

## 5. Financial Implications

By making this decision, it will increase the options for families using our cremation service. It will also mean that families are not having to choose to have their cremation services outside the city.

It is estimated that this may create a pressure of £0.011 million. We are seeing an increased number of no service funerals due to COVID therefore this figure is a worst case scenario should all of the no service funerals for the remainder of 20/21 be delivered at the lower amount.

Initially there will be provision for 8 services per week.

We are aware that funeral directors are regularly travelling to neighbouring crematoria to use facilities that offer this service. Therefore we hope that this will also create additional income.

## 6. Next Steps

Following the approval of the above proposal the bereavement service will introduce this new service from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

## Decision required by the Cabinet Member Councillor Sally Haydon

The Cabinet Member for Customer Focus and Community Focus:

1. Agrees to introduce a new service for unattended No Service Funerals.
2. Agrees to change the current No Service Funeral to an attended No Service Funeral.