

For Publication

Revision of Crematorium Regulations

Meeting:	Chesterfield and District Joint Crematorium Committee
Date:	27 March 2023
For publication	

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To seek the approval of Members for Stakeholder Consultation prior to the adoption of revised regulations for the management of the crematorium.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the draft Regulations for Management of the Chesterfield and District Crematorium as detailed in Appendix 1 be adopted for wider consultation.
- 2.2 That a further report, incorporating regulations redrafted in light of consultation responses, be presented to a future meeting of the Joint Committee.

3.0 Reason for recommendations

- 3.1 To ensure that the Regulations for Management of Chesterfield and District Crematorium are accurate, up to date and fit for the purpose of providing clear guidance to Funeral Directors, Stakeholders, Staff and the Bereaved.
- 3.2 To consult with our Stakeholders (Funeral Directors, Ministers and Celebrants) which may improve outcomes whilst building relationships, satisfaction and engagement.
- 3.3 To enable the Manager and Crematorium Staff to inform, advise and enforce using Regulations that are current and accurate.

4.0 Report details

- 4.1 Chesterfield Borough Council, North East Derbyshire District Council and Bolsover District Council (the constituent authorities) are burial authorities by virtue of the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972. Under the terms of the Agreement between the constituent authorities, all of the powers of the authorities with reference to the provision and maintenance of crematoria have been delegated to the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee has exercised its discretionary powers under the Cremation Acts 1902 and 1952 to provide and operate a crematorium.

- 4.2 The Chesterfield and District Crematorium was opened in November 1959. The Joint Committee adopted the first Rules of Management on 2 July 1982, and published them in a leaflet, the text of which is reproduced at Appendix 2.
- 4.3 The first and only comprehensive review of those regulations (Rules of Management) took place in 2004/2005 and the existing Regulations were published in 2007.
- 4.4 The Regulations, published in 2007 are now outdated. Whilst the proposed draft Regulations do not incorporate considerable radical alterations, it is the Manager's view that the amount of outdated information warrants a review and revision.
- 4.5 A summary of the key alterations contained within the draft regulations are listed below;

I. HOURS OF OPENING

Alterations to Hours of opening to reflect that the Office no longer closes at lunchtime and alteration to weekend opening times that better suit the needs of service users.

II. ADMISSION OF VISITORS

Under 9. ANIMALS – to clarify that Assistance Dogs are permitted to enter Chapel and the addition of the Dog Control Order that covers the Crematorium Grounds.

III. CONDUCT

Clarification that smoking is strictly prohibited in the Crematorium.

IV. APPLICATION FOR CREMATION

V. MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

Clarification and numerous changes to the Statutory Documents required for Cremation that reflect most recent legislation. Clarification added confirming that forms can be submitted electronically with the removal of reference to outdated technology such as Facsimile and Telex Documents.

VI. FUNERAL SERVICES

Changes to Funeral Service duration that reflect the current diary.

Confirmation that the Joint Committee accepts no responsibility around the performance of the Celebrant/Minister or Organist.

Removal of reference to Resident Organist and that the Organ is provided free of charge for use by an Organist arranged by the Funeral Director.

Changes to terminology around recorded music that incorporate newer technologies such as webcast and media and clarification around the responsibilities of the Funeral Director in providing music and media.

VII. CREMATION

Details and clarification on how metals are recovered and recycled after cremation and additional context to why some medical implants are not permitted due to explosive or radioactive components.

Changes to the maximum dimensions of coffins that can be accepted.

Reference to the Woodland Walk as an area designated for the Strewing of Cremated Remains, in addition to the Garden of Remembrance Lawns.

Reference to new memorials and procedures in particular Pond Markers and Sanctums.

5.0 Alternative options

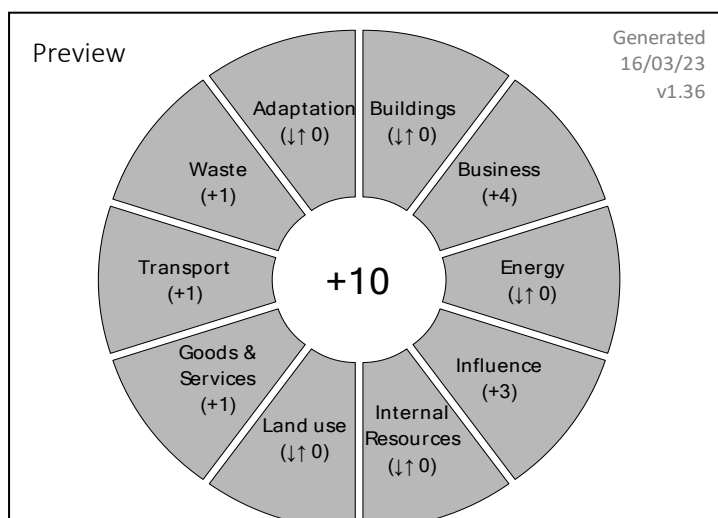
5.1 Members could decide not to review the regulations, however, whilst regulations and practices change, the Regulations have been static for 16 years. The outdated Regulations have led to confusion at times.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Climate change

6.1 The Regulations confirm the materials that may or may not be included within the construction of the coffin and it's contents which in turn reduce the likelihood of harmful emissions.

The Regulations also take into account advice for memorials and removal of plastics.

The Regulations also take into account provision for cycle storage and therefore cycle friendly, promoting green travel.



7.0 Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity

7.1 The Regulations include clarification on Assistance Dogs and confirm that the Chapel is available to all Religions and none.

Document information

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Appendices to the report	
Appendix 1	DRAFT REGULATIONS
Appendix 2	1982 RULES OF MANAGEMENT