

Cemetery Review: Actions from Engagement

As of 24 July 2015

The following are the actions arising from the engagement to date:

- Funeral Directors and Memorial Masons
- Muslim community (x 2)
- Gypsy and traveller community
- Members
- Community

Ref	Action	Arising from	By when: (short / medium / long term)* <i>See end of document for timescales</i>
01	Review cemetery office hours	Funeral Directors and Memorial Masons Muslim community	Short
02	Explore option of online booking – more transactional on the website	Funeral Directors and Memorial Masons Muslim community	Long
03	Review of cemetery information / communications – improve how it is advertised – including website	Funeral Directors and Memorial Masons Muslim community	Short (to include changes approved in Sept)
04	Introduce new regulations on memorials for consistency and safety <i>NB height and width issue</i>	Funeral Directors and Memorial Masons Gypsy and Travellers	Short
05	Explore introduction of an annual meeting for those local Funeral Directors / Memorial Masons with link to Watford cemeteries	Funeral Directors and Memorial Masons	Short

Ref	Action	Arising from	By when: (short / medium / long term)
06	<p>Benchmark against what other areas provide (including prices / costs). It was explained this was being done as part of the review and the elements raised in relation to facilitating weekend and Bank Holiday burials would certainly be included. Representatives suggested the following being followed up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpenders Park • Amersham • Chesham (allow community to help with burials) • Luton • High Wycombe • Three Rivers • St Albans 	<p>Muslim community</p> <p>Councillors</p>	Short
07	Explore an 'on call' option for weekend and Bank Holidays	<p>Muslim community</p> <p>Councillors</p>	Short
08	<p>Explore setting aside time slots at weekends and Bank Holidays for burials. There is no need for the service to be 24/7 but what is being requested are times when burials could be achieved.</p> <p>The optimum time for burials for the community would be 12 – 3pm (this allows for burial prayers after 12 noon prayers)</p>	<p>Muslim community</p> <p>Councillors</p> <p>Community</p>	Short
09	Explore scope to train up members of the community to help provide cover – reducing the need for stand-by. This was done in Chesham.	<p>Muslim community</p> <p>Councillors</p>	Short
10	Identify the additional cost of an enhanced / extended service	<p>Muslim community</p> <p>Councillors</p>	Short
11	Consider only offering weekend and Bank Holiday burials to Watford residents	<p>Muslim community</p> <p>Councillors</p>	Short
12	Undertake a detailed analysis of the capacity of the Muslim sections at North Watford Cemetery as part of an overall review of space remaining within NW cemetery	<p>Muslim community</p> <p>Councillors</p>	Short

Ref	Action	Arising from	By when: (short / medium / long term)
13	Explore if there are solutions to the water supply issue for the Muslim section	Muslim community	Short
14	Ensure consistency of the registration for plots that have been reserved (when this was permitted)	Muslim community	Short
15	Consider whether there are any suitable sites outside the borough for cemetery provision (e.g. Link Road / Langlebury)	Muslim community Councillors Community	Medium
16	Re-examine cutting down the trees to expand North Watford Cemetery	Muslim community Community	Medium
17	Identify, if available, pockets of land that could be used (examples were given of land around North Watford mosque / Harebreaks – around the APG)	Muslim community Community	Medium
18	Explore any land held by other public sector bodies in the borough that could be used for a new cemetery	Muslim community Community	Medium

Timescales for action:

Short: August 2015 to March 2016

Medium: April 2016 to October 2016

Long: November 2016 to March 2017