

CEMETERIES REGULATIONS REVIEW

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Cabinet recommend to Council that the revised Cemeteries Regulations, be approved in order to fulfil the obligations of the New Forest District Council with regard to the 1977 Cemeteries order.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The New Forest District Council's current Cemetery Regulations were last revised in April 2017 and are subsequently due a five-year revision (April 2022).
- 2.2 The Cemeteries Regulations provide regulation and standards for the management and administration of our cemeteries. They inform and provide guidance to all who have an active interest within our cemeteries. The Regulations also establish rules and codes of conduct in line with statutory burial law. The Regulations support the Cemeteries Service with all its operational responsibilities.
- 2.3 A copy of the new Regulations is attached as Appendix 1.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Regulations are in addition to the provisions presented in the 'Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977 and any other appropriate regulations currently in force.
- 3.2 A Task and Finish Group considered the draft Regulations.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The 2021 regulations will be reviewed within 5 years of adoption and publication.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Regulations set out the Fees and Charges New Forest District Council will collect for cemetery services covered in the Regulations, over the next 5 years.

6. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Cemeteries form part of an important resource of public owned and accessible open spaces which offer a variety of habitats that provide health and well-being as well as biodiversity opportunities.

8. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 New Forest District Council actively attempts to provide sections in their cemetery provision which cover all aspects of society, including aspects such as age, ethnicity and religious requirements, burials, cremated remains and woodland burials.

9. DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None.

10. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL COMMENTS

10.1 The Community, Partnerships and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Panel, at its meeting of 14 September 2021, was supportive of the recommendations.

11. PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS

11.1 I would like to thank the Officers and Task and Finish Group Councillors for reviewing our Cemetery Regulations. I recommend the updated Cemetery Regulations to the Cabinet.

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Background Papers:

None