



Reference: FOI3341

Request:

My questions refer to cemeteries and graveyards owned/run/managed by the council. By 'burials' I refer to body burials rather than the burial of cremated remains:

1. How many grave plots were used for new burials (or bought/reserved for future burials) in council-run cemeteries in 2020, and how many were used in each of the years 2019, 2018, 2017 and 2016?
 - In 2020 there were 274 full burials, 156 purchases of new graves and of these new graves purchased 42 were pre-purchases for future burials.
 - Full burials in previous years;

2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
274	265	268	327	304

2. How many grave plots/burial spaces remain empty/available for burials/reservation across your council-run cemeteries?
 - Unfortunately, we are not able to provide this information as only grave details from 1995 are computerised. To provide this information would involve searching through all manual records.

Therefore, this part of the request is refused under s12 (1) Freedom of Information Act 2000, since the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

In assessing the cost of complying, the costs attributable to officer time involved in complying have been considered. Such costs are limited to £450.00 under the Regulations, which equates to eighteen hours of officer time.

3. Does your council have an estimate of when space across council-run/owned cemeteries will run out completely?
 - No
4. How many cemeteries and graveyards are run/owned by the council?
 - We have seven cemeteries and we also maintain six closed churchyards.
5. How many of these are at full capacity/closed to new burials and in what calendar year did they close to new burials?

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- None of our seven cemeteries are at full capacity.
6. Does your council have any land currently earmarked for new/overspill burial space, and what is the current use of that land?
- Not currently.

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