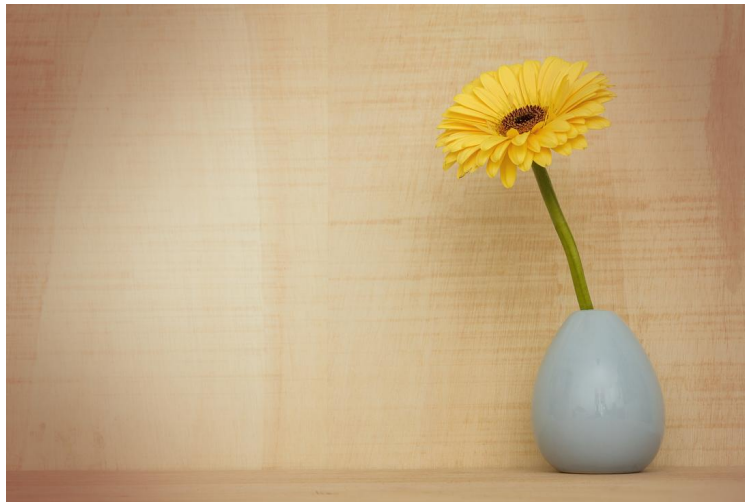




A monthly review of news and events from within the bereavement sector



Competition and Markets Authority

The Competition and Markets Authority has released its Provisional Decision Report and associated papers, as part of its **Funerals Market Investigation**.

For more details, please see page 6.

Miriam Deacon - Newsletter Editor Chief Executive of The Cremation Society

We regularly receive calls from members of the public, crematoria staff and funeral directors, across the UK, with queries concerning the procedure surrounding cremation, the collection of ashes, cremation forms and now and again, the question of funeral pyres!

We welcome all queries and if we don't have the answer ourselves, we will always try to point you in the right direction of someone who will be able to help. Please don't hesitate to contact us, if you think we can help you.

COVID-19 - UPDATE

Deceased Management Advisory Group



DMAG has carried out an **interim review** of the response by the death management sector to the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this review was not to arrive at a definitive position on the success or otherwise of the measures implemented, as clearly that will be for any inquiry which takes place later. It was to learn lessons from our collective experience and apply them so the sector will be better placed to react to any increase in deaths during the short to medium term. You can read the '**Interim Lessons Learned Paper**' [here](#).

There have been a number of updates in guidance issued since our last news review and we mention below some of the more significant updates issued :-

- 12.08.2020 **Scottish Government** updates its '**Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance for funeral services**' to incorporate updated rules on the use of face coverings
- 11.08.2020 **Public Health England** updates its '**COVID-19: guidance for managing a funeral during the coronavirus pandemic**' to incorporate new rules on face coverings
- 07.08.2020 **Scottish Government** **announces** face coverings to be compulsory at indoor funeral services, including crematoria, funeral directors' premises and places of worship, with effect from 8 August 2020.
- 07.08.2020 **Department of Health & Social Care** updates its '**Guidance - Face coverings: when to wear one and how to make your own**' to reflect that face coverings are to be worn at 'funeral service providers (funeral homes, crematoria and burial ground chapels)' with effect from 8 August 2020



CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

We have recently updated [our website](#) with new information and statistics. If you haven't visited the website recently, please do head over and take a look. As always, we are grateful to all the crematoria and organisations who provide us with their information for us to be able to compile these statistics.

You can now find:-

- updated progress of cremation figures
- cremations by crematorium comparison figures
- fact and figures 1990-2019
- international cremation statistics
- cremations since opening by county or regions of the British Islands
- ongoing dedicated COVID-19 news including all the latest Government guidance updates and DMAG news

We are always keen to hear your feedback on what else you would find useful to find on the website, so if you have any suggestions, please do let us know.

CREMATION NUMBERS SINCE OPENING

Please click below for details of the numbers of cremations per crematorium, since opening, within the regions of the British Islands.

For more cremations statistics, please see our dedicated statistics issue of our journal, *Pharos International*.



Bedfordshire	Berkshire	Bristol	Buckinghamshire
Cambridgeshire	Channel Islands	Cheshire	Cleveland
Cornwall	Cumbria	Derbyshire	Devonshire
Dorset	Durham	Essex	Gloucestershire

[TOP](#)



NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Hambleton District Council's Planning Committee has approved plans submitted for the development of a new crematorium on land near **Skipton-on-Swale**, near Thirsk. You can view the planning documents and decision notice on the [Hambleton District Council's website](#), under reference 20/00716/FUL.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council will be holding public consultation events about its proposals to build a new crematorium in the **Holderness** area, near Preston. Some initial design impressions developed for the proposed crematorium will be on display and representatives from the council will be available to answer any questions. Councillor Richard Burton, leader of East Riding of Yorkshire Council said: "The new crematorium would offer numerous benefits to local residents, businesses and communities. It would provide a place for people living in the Holderness area to remember their loved ones, local to where they live, in a beautiful and tranquil facility." Further details of the project can be found at bereavementservices.eastriding.gov.uk

An outline planning application has been submitted to **Mid Sussex District Council** for the development of a new crematorium at **Turners Hill**, West Sussex. The application is described as a 'single chapel crematorium with a single abated cremator and natural burial site with associated access, car parking, landscaping and drainage'. Details of the application submitted by Hartmires Investments Limited can be found on the [Council's website under planning application reference number DM/20/2877](#).

Southern Co-operative has submitted plans to **Tandridge District Council** for the development of a new crematorium on land off Byers Lane, **South Godstone**. The plans are the second set of plans for a new crematorium submitted to Tandridge District Council, with Horizon Cremation having submitted plans for a development on land off Oxted Road, Godstone, in April 2020. You can view Southern Co-operative's application on the [Tandridge District Council website](#), under planning reference 2020/882.

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

East Cambridgeshire District Council has announced plans to develop an outdoor centre at **Mepal** into a 'cutting edge, ecological crematorium'. An outline business plan to transform the currently unused brownfield site in Mepal, has been approved by East Cambridgeshire District Council's special Full Council. The new plan for the land owned by the District Council includes a crematorium, woodland burial area and pet cemetery, and has been designed to protect and enhance the significant biodiversity and ecology that exists on the site. For more details, you can read [East Cambridgeshire District Council's Press Release.](#)

A new crematorium and memorial gardens in **Horncastle** has been given the go ahead. Jonathan Crossley's plans to build the facility off Horncastle Road, in **Martin**, appeared before **East Lindsey District Council's** planning committee on Thursday. The proposals for the 16-acre site include a chapel, a new pond and a picnic site for users of the Viking Way and Spa Trails, which runs between Woodhall Spa and Horncastle. Recommending approval, officers said there was evidence of a need for an additional crematorium facility within the district and that the site was an "acceptable location". You can read more in the [Lincolnshire Reporter article.](#)

Brookwood Cemetery is to open a "Museum of Death" as part of a new visitor attraction. The plans to encourage more visitors to visit the Cemetery have been approved by **Woking Borough Council**. "New visitor facilities including a café, walking trail, education centre and the provocatively titled, 'Museum of Death' are among the plans to attract new audiences and promote greater appreciation of this largely hidden public asset," a council spokesman said. Under the Council's 'Brookwood Cemetery Masterplan', space is also allocated for the possible future development of a crematorium within the grounds. You can read more on the [Woking Borough Council website.](#)

NEWS REVIEW

FUNERAL DIRECTOR NEWS

The **Funeral Service Consumer Standards Review (FSCSR)** Steering Committee has met to discuss the next steps for the project, in light of the challenges posed by the global coronavirus pandemic. The FSCSR has amended its draft FSCSR Code of Practice and has also published all responses received to its Standards Consultation Paper with the CMA. You can read more on the [FSCSR website](#).



GOVERNMENT NEWS

The **Competition and Markets Authority** has published its 'Provisional Decision Report' following its funerals market investigation. In its Press Release, it announced:

'The CMA has provisionally decided that, in the short term, it will require all funeral directors and crematoria to provide customers with information on, and the prices of, the various services and packages they offer. This will go a long way to ensuring people have easily accessible information on services and costs to help them decide which type of funeral arrangement they require.'

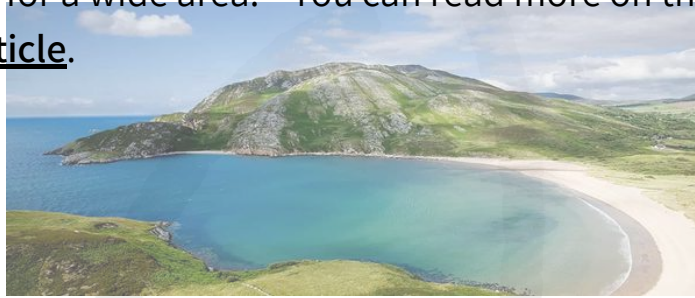
The CMA proposes to continue active monitoring of the funerals sector with an obligation on funeral directors and crematoria to provide the CMA with key financial data every quarter.

Other proposals include a provisional recommendation that the UK Government and the devolved administrations in Wales and Northern Ireland establish an inspection and registration regime to monitor the quality of funeral director services. A similar regime already exists in Scotland.'

You can read the full report and associated papers on the [CMA's GOV.UK webpage](#).

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND NEWS

Plans for the development of a new crematorium at **Manorcunningham, Donegal** have been submitted to **Donegal County Council**, and if approved, it is hoped the facility will be in operation by spring 2021. One of the applicants, Mr Shane Stewart, commented: “The nearest crematorium to here is Cavan or Belfast which is a couple of hundred miles round trip while families are going through a difficult time. We have identified a facility that is needed here in the north west region but it is currently subject to planning. We picked the location so it can cater for a wide area.” You can read more on this development in the [Strabane Chronicle article](#).



BEREAVEMENT NEWS

The **University of Cambridge Palliative and End of Life Care Research Group** is undertaking a national survey of a wide range of people who are supporting bereaved people during the pandemic. The Group would be very grateful if you could complete the anonymous survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/V97QP5Q> which takes less than five minutes to complete. Please do also forward this link to your colleagues involved in supporting bereaved people.



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

DIRECT CREMATION NEWS

The COVID-19 pandemic may have prompted consumers to reconsider ‘no fuss funerals’, according to new research by leading independent funeral plan provider, **Golden Leaves**. After seeing the impact that ‘direct cremation’ has had on the family members of COVID-19 victims, 45% of respondents advised they would no longer consider this as an alternative to the traditional funeral for either themselves or a loved one, with 33.21% ‘unsure’. You can read more details on the research carried out in the [London Loves Business article](#).

Current advertisers in **Pharos International**



Cemetery Development Services - Cemetery Development Services is recognised as a leading international brand in cemetery, crematorium and mausoleum design and development.



The Columbaria Company - specialists in the production of personalised memorial artwork and after cremation memorials.



F G Marshall supplied the very first Book of Remembrance to Woking Crematorium in 1938. To this day technology still hasn't replaced the precision, skill and touch of the human hand.



Facultatieve Technologies - over 140 years of experience in the design, construction and maintenance of cremation and filtration equipment.

If you would like to advertise in **Pharos International** please [click here](#) for a media pack. Attractive discounted rates for 4 issues available upon request for new advertisers. Agency

Discount 10%

No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of claims made by advertisers or for the sustainability or standard of goods so advertised

Current advertisers in **Pharos International**



Fordingbridge - designers, manufacturers and installers of innovative canopies and walkways.



Greenbridge Designs - from individual memorials to complete garden schemes, Greenbridge produce a range of memorials that will seamlessly fit into existing schemes as well as some that will create a stunning alternative.



IFZW is an established manufacturer of cremator and emission filter systems.



Matthews Environmental Solutions - a manufacturer of combustion technology, including waste incineration, human and animal cremation and emission abatement systems. They are a part of the Matthews Family of Companies (MATW).



Dodge is now under new ownership with a new name, but will be maintaining the same team and the same respected products

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Current advertisers in **Pharos International**



Obitus - provider of bereavement technology services, delivering music, webcast and tributes for families, funeral directors and leading funeral venues throughout the UK.



OrthoMetals - a family owned and operated business, recycling metals remaining after cremation.



PlotBox is an international death care management solution that facilitates cemeteries and crematoria in operating to world-class standards through integrated software and georectified mapping modules.



Treske - one of the UK's leading makers and suppliers of bespoke crematorium furniture and soft furnishings.



Welters - interment and memorial specialists.

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If you have any news you would like us to consider for future newsletters, please do contact us at info@cremation.org.uk



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