

Advice on Arranging a Cremation using a funeral director

There are many benefits to using a funeral director but the first task is to decide which funeral director to use. Friends, family clergy or your GP may be able to suggest a reputable local firm. Otherwise, most local funeral directors will be listed in either the yellow pages or on the internet. Please be aware that their charges can vary considerably, so it is a strongly advisable to visit several firms to establish which firm you would like to use.

Things to consider when choosing a funeral director:

Check that the funeral director you choose belongs to a trade association. This requires them to provide full information about their services and prices.

Other factors that may influence your choice include:

- **Location of the firm's premises.**
- **Range of services provided.**
- **The way you are treated by the staff.**
- **Cost.**
- **Recommendation of those who have used the service.**
- **Type of ownership that suits your needs (small family business or large firm).**

Most funeral directors are members of one of three trade associations: The Funeral Standards Council, The Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors (SAIF) and The National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD). All have codes of practice which requires the provision of a price list on request and will not exceed any written estimate given to you without your permission. The addresses and contact details are:

The Funeral Standards Council
30 North Road
Cardiff. CF1 3DY
Telephone: 0845 230 1343
www.funeral-standards-council.co.uk

National Association of Funeral Directors
618 Warwick Road
Solihull
West Midlands. B91 1AA

Telephone: 121 711 1343
www.nafd.org.uk

Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors
SAIF Business Centre
3 Bullfields
Sawbridgeworth
Herts. CM21 9DB
Telephone: 0845 230 6777 or 01279 726 777
www.saif.org.uk

The funeral director can do almost everything for you from the time of bereavement such as contacting a Minister/Officiant so that you can discuss details of the funeral, and arranging a date and time for the funeral. They will also arrange for announcements in newspapers and transport required. The funeral director will need a Certificate for Burial or Cremation (Green Form) or an order for burial or certificate giving permission for the body to be buried or an application for cremation to be made.

You will need to register the death within five days. This can only be done by appointment at the local County Registrar's Office. The Salisbury Registration office is at:

The Registration Office
Bourne Hill
Salisbury
SP1 3UZ
Telephone: 01225 713007

The Registrar will issue a Certificate for Burial or Cremation (Green Form). This is a Certificate for the burial or cremation and allows the funeral service to take place.

However, in the event of a sudden death it will be reverted to the Coroner who will issue a yellow or white Coroners Certificate for Cremation. This can be collected from relevant Coroner's office or posted directly to the appointed funeral director.

If you require any further assistance or advice then please do not hesitate to contact the crematorium office. Tel: (01722) 333632 or visit
www.salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk

