

MARGAM CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

16 JUNE 2017

REPORT OF THE TREASURER - HYWEL JENKINS

MATTER FOR DECISION

WARDS AFFECTED - ALL

REVIEW CREMATION FEE FOR MINORS UP TO THE AGE 12

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report proposes an amended to the cremation fee charged for services to minors under the age of 12.

2. Background

- 2.1 Members will be aware that Caroline Harris MP for Swansea East has campaigned to Parliament to introduce free cremations and burials for minors. Caroline Harris wants all Local Authorities to adopt free service charges across the Country.
- 2.2 The current policy for Neath Port Talbot CBC is there is no charge levied for a child's burial up to the age of 12, in the designated children's area in Margam Cemetery.
- 2.3 The current policy for Margam Joint Crematorium Committee is there is no cremation fee levied for a stillborn child or a child up to the age of 1 year.
- 2.4 Swansea Crematorium and Coychurch Crematorium do not charge a cremation fee for children up to and including the age of 16, however there is a fee for the use of the chapel, this is their current policy.
- 2.5 The Co-op funeralcare service have made the decision to waive funeral fees for children's funerals.
- 2.6 At Neath Port Talbot's council meeting on the 15th March 2017, the Chief Executive advised Members of Council that a report would be submitted to Margam Joint Crematorium Committee. The report would recommend the committee review their fees to introduce a

levy of a free cremation fee and certificate to minors up and including the age of 12.

- 2.7 Members will note the numbers of minors under the age of 12 for the financial year 2016/17 were :-

Description	Number
Foetal remains	10
Still born & under 1 year	9
Aged 1 – 16 years	1 (9 year old)
Total	11

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members:

- Review the Cremation fee for minors and provide a free cremation service and certificate for children up to the age of 12 years.

4. Reasons for Proposed Decision

To provide a free cremation fee and certificate in line with the campaign led by MP Caroline Harris.

5. Implementation of Decision

The decision is proposed for immediate implementation.

6. Appendices

None

7. List of Background Papers

None

8. Officer Contact:

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