

FOI number: **HBC_FOI_20210010**
Date FOI Received: **5/01/2021**
Department: **Community Services**
Title: **Cemeteries and burials**
Description: **Cemeteries and burials**

Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)

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?
2. How many grave plots/burial spaces remain empty/available for burials/reservation across your council-run cemeteries?
3. Does your council have an estimate of when space across council-run/owned cemeteries will run out completely?
4. How many cemeteries and graveyards are run/owned by the council?
5. How many of these are at full capacity/closed to new burials and in what calendar year did they close to new burials?
6. Does your council have any land currently earmarked for new/overspill burial space, and what is the current use of that land?

Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)

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?

2016 - 45 new plots + (2 baby plots)

2017 - 33 new plots + (3 baby plots)

2018 - 32 new plots + (3 baby plots)

2019 - 41 new plots + (2 baby plots)

2020 - 50 new plots + (1 baby plot).

2. How many grave plots/burial spaces remain empty/available for burials/reservation across your council-run cemeteries?

157.

3. Does your council have an estimate of when space across council-run/owned cemeteries will run out completely?

The Council is not the only provider of burial space in the Borough or nearby. It has considered projections of future population, cultural and religious practices and projected demand for burial and is considering options to increase provision.

4. How many cemeteries and graveyards are run/owned by the council?

One.

5. How many of these are at full capacity/closed to new burials and in what calendar year did they close to new burials?

None.

6. Does your council have any land currently earmarked for new/overspill burial space, and what is the current use of that land?

No.

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545700
Website: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards

Information Services

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