

Labour Group Amendment to Conservative Group Motion

Full Council 24th November 2020

Conservative Group Motion

Council notes that the Covid-19 regulations in place limit the number of people allowed to attend crematorium services and funerals are an especially difficult time for residents and their families. Allowing families to carry coffins aids in the grieving process and makes the ordeal easier, rather than the funeral directors carrying out the task; and

Council therefore resolves to –

- Provide clear and up to date information around the rules regarding what is permissible for the ceremony. The current regulations allow the congregation to bear their deceased relative from the hearse into the chapel and placed on the Catafalque, providing those bearing the coffin live in the same household.
- Allow family members to carry the coffin from the car to the trolley with gloves on, and wheel it into the service; as long as family members from the same bubble are wearing the appropriate PPE, and the numbers of people are limited to comply with the current regulations.
- Immediately address the lack of recording facilities in crematoriums and ensure all services are recorded by the Council, so that family and friends can join the funeral virtually.

Labour Group Amendment

Council notes that the Covid-19 pandemic has been an extremely difficult time for residents and families who have suffered bereavements and that government regulations in place for crematorium services and funerals have the potential to add to this difficult time for residents and their families.

Council therefore resolves to –

- Continue to provide clear and up to date information around the Governments rules regarding what is permissible for the ceremony on the Council's website at <http://www.slough.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/coronavirus-and-births-marriages-and-deaths.aspx>
- Continue to advise funeral directors (while noting that they are private business making their own health and safety decisions) that family members are currently permitted by government guidance to carry the coffin from the car to the trolley with gloves on, and wheel it into the service; as long as family members from the same bubble are wearing the appropriate PPE, and the numbers of people are limited to comply with the current regulations.
- Immediately install live streaming facilities in Slough crematorium with a planned start date of December 7, so that family and friends can join the funeral virtually.