

## Defra Advice for Crematoria

In light of the unprecedented Covid-19 situation that we are facing, Defra are providing the following advice regarding periodic monitoring of emissions from Crematoria in England:

- We advise a 3-month moratorium on periodic monitoring of crematoria (although we intend to review this in 2 months).
- Local Authorities can raise queries or concerns about this to Defra via the [Control.Pollution@defra.gov.uk](mailto:Control.Pollution@defra.gov.uk) inbox, and specific issues can be assessed on a case by case basis.

We are aware that regulators require urgent guidance, as the 2019/20 annual emissions monitoring should be completed by end of March 2020. The minimum specified frequency of emissions testing forms part of Crematoria permits and these results are reported to the regulator as part of compliance. We are aware that, in some cases, testing by external emissions testing providers for the year 19/20 has yet to be completed.

As part of the response to the Covid-19 pandemic it is explicit government policy that people across the country should not be making journeys unless they are absolutely critical, and all unnecessarily interaction with other people should be avoided. To protect staff working in crematoria at this critical time, and those that may be required to carry out the periodic monitoring, we are informing local authorities to observe the 3-month moratorium. These measures are being taken to respond to the significant threat that is presently posed to public health.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email: [Control.Pollution@defra.gov.uk](mailto:Control.Pollution@defra.gov.uk).