

# Deceased Management Advisory Group

## UPDATE 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020

The members of DMAG held a video conference on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020, with a representative from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) present for the open part of the meeting. FFMA chaired the meeting.

### DMAG Wider Consultation

#### 1. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE UPDATE

The MoJ will advise of two colleagues from the MHCLG Task Force who will join a DMAG meeting later this week to discuss their work, in particular, the re-opening of places of worship.

The MoJ also shared guidance regarding safer passenger travel.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers#face-coverings>

A question was asked regarding refunds applicable on funeral plans where the planned full service was unable to be carried out due to service restrictions in place because of Covid-19. Refunds are being offered and each Pre-payment Company appear to have their own methods for dealing with such matters.

Clarity is sought over those attending funerals who may arrive in England by air. It was suggested this be raised at this week's Cabinet Office meeting.

DMAG closed this session with grateful thanks to the Ministry of Justice for their continued attendance and contribution to the work of DMAG.



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## DMAG Closed Meeting

### 1. FUTURE MEETINGS WITH CABINET OFFICE/SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Further meetings will be held each Thursday at 11.00am

FBCA questioned future guidance on numbers attending funerals and whether this should be the domain of individual crematoria having carried out their own risk assessment?

The presence of MHCLG at a DMAG meeting is eagerly anticipated to discuss updated guidance. As the revised guidance on funerals expected from Public Health England had still not been published, APCC suggested that this issue be highlighted within the updated list of issues for the next meeting with the Cabinet Office and this was agreed.

### 2. BURIAL & CREMATION ADVISORY GROUP

APCC asked when the next meeting of the BCAG, hosted by the MoJ, was to be held. MoJ had mentioned previously they were looking for an online meeting possibly in July. APCC suggested that DMAG should put forward agenda items to be considered and the FBCA also suggested that DMAG become more proactive whereas the group had been primarily reactive during the Pandemic situation to date. ICCM thought the first action should be to ask the MoJ what their plans are for the future of BCAG meetings and this was agreed.

### 3. COMPETITION AND MARKETS AUTHORITY

Although there was no substantive evidence, APCC understand the CMA are seeking evidence from the Burials & Cemeteries sector which had not been part of their original brief.

#### AOB ROUND ROBIN

NAFD commented that DHSC will no longer be acquiring PPE from regular funeral sector sources and that information previously provided by NAFD and SAIF on suppliers has not been used.



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Next meeting Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm. The Cremation Society will chair.



**FBCA**  
Federation of Burial  
& Cremation Authorities



**ICCM**  
Institute of Cemetery and  
Crematorium Management

