

# Deceased Management Advisory Group

## Update 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020

The members of DMAG held a video conference on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020, with a representative from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and a representative from Scottish Government (SG) present for the open part of the meeting. CSGB chaired the meeting.

### DMAG Wider Consultation

#### **1. Ministry of Justice update.**

MOJ informed DMAG that the Competitions and Market Authority (CMA) had published their Funerals Market study today. MOJ had been asked to contribute to an exercise being run by MHCLG on future demand for PPE and would value DMAG's input. He will send further information in the next week or so. DMAG have agreed to help.

A question was asked of the representative regarding the Government update expected on 15<sup>th</sup> August and if there would be anything included on the funeral industry. The representative was unaware of any new updates for the sector.

The MOJ representative informed us that he will be moving to a new role within MOJ in September and we wish him all the very best in his future role.

#### **2. Scottish Government update.**

The three week review period in Scotland will be next week and the representative informed DMAG that the following 4 questions were being looked at re Funerals.

- Are mourners following the Social Distancing guidelines?
- Are the funeral numbers of attendees adhering to the required capped number of 20?
- Are the guidelines regarding face coverings being followed?
- Are the Test and Protect contact details being collected?

As regards PPE in Scotland a central supplier has been set up to supply funeral directors.



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## DMAG closed meeting

### 1. Notes from previous meeting.

Nothing to add.

### 2. Items for future meetings with Cabinet Office/Devolved Governments.

NAFD will be unable to attend the CO meeting this week so SAIF will be the representative for DMAG.

### 3. Lessons learned document.

It had been noted that there had been some adverse comments from the largest providers saying that DMAG had no experience of managing large scale businesses in the sector. It was agreed that perhaps we could invite a representative from these organisations to a DMAG meeting when a relevant topic of mutual interest required wider debate and discussion.

### 4. CMA Report and priority responses.

As stated the CMA had published their Funeral Markets study today. However, we are aware that there will be appendices published within the next few days and that recommendations and conclusions will be included in this document. The representative from APCC was concerned at the new revised date for the deadline for responses to the study and will write to CMA expressing his thoughts. It was agreed that we will add CMA Report to the agenda on Monday to discuss further.

As we now have longer between CO meetings (every other week) we should prioritise the items that we want raised at these meetings and continue to push forward any of our concerns and recommendations going forward.

### 5. AOB Round Robin.

Both ICCM and CSGB had received a query regarding Part C's that had been returned to Registrars by email. ICCM were going to raise this at the CO on Wednesday and it was agreed by DMAG that this should be added to our list of questions.



**FBCA**  
Federation of Burial  
& Cremation Authorities



The Cremation Society

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NAFD apologised that they would not be at the DMAG meetings for the next two weeks – a representative from this organisation will attend in his place.

The chair for Mondays' meeting will be FBCA.



**FBCA**  
Federation of Burial  
& Cremation Authorities



**ICCM**  
Institute of Cemetery and  
Crematorium Management

