

# Deceased Management Advisory Group

## Update 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021

The members of DMAG held a video conference on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021, with representatives from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and the Welsh Government (SG), present for the 'Open' part of the meeting. The FBCA chaired the meeting. The APCC and Northern Ireland representatives had sent their apologies.

### DMAG Wider Consultation

#### 1. Ministry of Justice (MOJ) update

SAIF asked if viewings at home are permitted in England and Wales? The MoJ responded that they would look into the question and respond at a future DMAG meeting. The Welsh representative responded that funeral requirements did not include viewings at home, and these would be subject to separate restrictions. The Welsh representative would seek a more detailed response from his legal team and report back to a future meeting of DMAG.

SAIF reported examples of care homes requiring funeral directors to undertake a lateral flow test each time they entered the building, even if this was twice in a single day. The MoJ representative replied that it was unclear where this policy had come from and if it was a national or local requirement. He went on to request DMAG members provide details of the care homes where this is occurring, and he would raise the matter with the Department of Health and Social Care and report back to a future meeting.

ICCM requested further messaging encouraging the number of mourners attending funerals is limited to 30 in accordance with the COVID-19 Regulations. It was noted that the Scottish Government had issued additional messaging on the subject. The MoJ representatives agreed to raise the matter with the Cabinet Office who control communications.

#### 2. Senedd Cymru (SC) update

The Welsh Government representative agreed to report back on further communications relating to the number of mourners attending funerals to the next meeting of DMAG.

SAIF expressed concern that the roll out of the vaccine to funeral operatives appeared to be slower than expected. The Welsh Government representative requested details if the problem appeared to be a local or more generalised. In addition, he agreed to raise the matter with colleagues involved with the vaccine roll out.



# Deceased Management Advisory Group

## DMAG Closed Meeting

### 1. Notes from previous meeting.

The notes of the previous meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were agreed and will be placed on the DMAG website.

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

The usual list of items will be submitted ahead of the CO meeting on Thursday.

### 3. AOB – Round Robin

No issues were raised.

The meeting was followed by a meeting with JBP updating DMAG on the APPG.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 with NAFD chairing the meeting.

