

There's so much to remember when you're planning a funeral, and it can be such an emotional time that it's easy to forget things or not know where to start. In all cases, no matter what type of funeral you would like, the initial important things are:

- Contact us 01691 652995 – we will be able to help through the points below:
- Do you have the medical Certificate of Cause of Death (obtained from the Doctor) or is the Coroner involved?
- Register the death (you will need the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death to register). To do this you will need to phone and make an appointment with the Registrar that covers the County where the deceased died. The registrar will guide you through which government organisations they will inform of your loved one's death and advise who you will need to inform yourself. You will also need original copies of the death Certificate, obtained from the registrar (there will be a cost involved for these) to give to organisations e.g. Banks, for proof of death. An average of 6 is normally enough, but will depend on how many investments, insurances etc. they have.
- Have you decided if it will be a burial or cremation? This is important because there are different forms that the doctor or coroner will need to complete.

Following these three decisions, the list below will give you an idea of what other things you need to consider when planning a funeral, some of which may or may not be relevant depending on what kind of funeral you would like.

- Have you decided where you would like the service to take place?
- Will the service be a religious or non-religious service?
- Have you written or organised a Death Notice? In most cases your funeral director will do this on your behalf if you would like a notice to go into the newspaper.
- Which type of coffin/casket you would like?
- How would you like to dress the deceased? You may prefer them to wear their own clothes or a gown provided by the funeral director.
- Would you like an Order of Service printed? This is something your funeral director can supply for you or you may as a family like to make your own.
- Would you like any music or hymns in the service, if so, what would you like?
- Would you like a Eulogy read out at the service, if so, who will write and read it?
- Would you like to use the traditional hearse to transport the deceased to the service or something else?
- Have you arranged for transport for family members, to and from the service?
- Would you like some flowers or floral tributes? This is something your funeral director can arrange on your behalf if you would prefer not to arrange them yourself.
- Would you like donations to be given if desired, by the people attending the funeral? If so, which charity or charities would you like donations to go to?
- Would you like a funeral wake or teas after the service? This is something you can arrange yourself or if preferred your funeral directors can suggest a venue and arrange it for you.
- Would you like a memorial stone?
- Have you notified all family members and close friends of the funeral arrangements?
- Have you informed all relevant Organisations (e.g. Bank, Building Society, Insurance Companies, Private Pensions) and Authorities of your loved one's death?