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apse online seminar



APSE Cemeteries and Crematoria Seminar 2020

Caring and Sharing—the changing roles and responsibilities
of Bereavement Services Managers



19 November 2020

Microsoft Teams

Programme

10:00 Seminar Start

Session One

APSE State of the Market results 2020

- Results of the state of the Market Survey 2020
- Future funding implications
- Income generation - the opportunities

Wayne Priestley, Principal Advisor, APSE

Public/Private Partnerships—developing partnership approaches with the private sector

- Undertaking cremations for the private sector
- The opportunity for partnership working
- The benefits for both organisations

Paul Wright, Open Space Services—Divisional Manager, Halton Borough Council

Bringing Nature and Biodiversity back Into Cemeteries

- A vision for our 40 acres of cemeteries
- External funding and internal funding challenges/opportunities
- Successes to date and lessons learned
- Plans for the future

Adrian Pickersgill Bereavement Services Manager, Doncaster Council & Andy Harbon Chair of the Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery group

Cremations and burials in an age of climate change worries

- Electric vs Gas Cremations
- Greener solutions to cemetery development
- Contributing to carbon neutrality and climate change declarations in the bereavement industry

Justin Smith, Director, The CDS Group

Audience question and answer session

11:20 Virtual coffee break

11:30 **Session Two**

A worry shared is a worry halved

An open forum discussion on worries and concerns for our experiences of managing COVID-19

Andrew Bond Bereavement Services Manager, Wigan Council

Norwich Natural cemeteries

- Where we are now
- Sustainable living
- Sustainable dying

Susan Moore, Area Management Team Leader, Norwich Council

How well did UK bereavement services cope with the Coronavirus pandemic

- Following the outbreak of the virus, how effective were pandemic plans?
- What changes will you need to make to your future Pandemic Plans?
- What were the main planning, staffing and operational issues?
- Surprises!

Lee Snashfold, APSE Associate

Audience question and answer session

13:00 Seminar close

Who should attend?

- Service Directors
- Managers and officers (bereavement services, funeral services, cemeteries and crematoria, grounds maintenance, greenspace, climate change and environmental services)
- Policy advisors, accountants and lawyers
- Performance Management officers
- Health and Safety Managers
- Sustainability and environmental officers
- Trade Union representatives
- Contractors and suppliers
- Voluntary organisations

Seminar Objectives

About the Seminar

Bereavement Services is a high profile council service which, as well as meeting the needs of the bereaved, is under increasing pressure to become commercially self-sustaining whilst ensuring value for money.

The service area is also facing changing cultural requirements as well as being held responsible for caring for the natural environments in which they work. The service has played a central role in dealing with the impact of the current pandemic - being referred to as the 4th emergency service by many.

Whilst these challenges have to be met, the heart of the service is still to ensure it considers its customers' needs at the most vulnerable time in their lives.

In a time of austerity, local authorities continue to find their budgets shrinking and, as such, managers and staff alike are having to look for ways to compensate against these losses, either through service efficiencies, generating new sources of income, or innovative service delivery methodologies such as partnership working.

Service delivery is, therefore, having to change. APSE recognises this need and, through the provision of this seminar and its wider networking services, APSE can help elected members, managers and officers hear examples of how these changes can be brought about.

Therefore, the aim of the seminar is to highlight best practice and innovation, which, together, will prove invaluable to the development of future Bereavement Services.

Delegates will learn about:

- The issues which are key concerns for local authority Bereavement Services via the results from APSE's State of the Market Report 2020.
- Working with the private sector to increase income levels and utilise local authority bereavement assets
- Learning how one local authority working with Friends Groups have made a place for nature within their cemeteries
- Understanding the climate change impacts of the Bereavement Services and looking at ways on how to reduce them
- A frank discussion on some of the problems Bereavement Services have had to deal with during the Coronavirus pandemic
- Looking at how one local authority is approaching a cradle to grave approach to environmental sustainability.
- How successful has the pandemic plan been and how will they need to be developed for future risks.

It is hoped delegates will take away ideas and experiences which will help services become more sustainable and ready to meet future opportunities and challenges.

The conference is planned to allow time for debate and questions as well as giving delegates the chance to meet exhibitors of products and services which will help Bereavement Managers in delivering higher quality services.

Delegate Packages Exclusive of VAT

What's included?

The delegate fee covers attendance, and documentation including a video showreel following the event.

APSE member delegate fee:	£125 + VAT
Non member delegates fee:	£185 + VAT
Commercial delegates:	£269 + VAT

[**Click here to reserve your place on this event**](#)

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