

# APSE National Cemeteries and Crematoria Network

Tuesday 17 March 2026 – 10:30am–12:00noon

Hybrid Meeting (Microsoft Teams & APSE Offices, Trafford House, Manchester, M32 0RS)

**Booking:**

[>> Click here to book online <<](#)

Attendance is **free** for elected members and officers from APSE member authorities.

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## Agenda

### 1. Welcome

#### **Councillor Mark Wilson**

Chair, APSE Cemeteries and Crematoria Network

### 2. Overcoming Drainage and Water Table Challenges at Upminster Cemetery

- Identifying and assessing effective mitigation options
- Installation of permanent piling and pumping stations
- Environmental improvements and development of a woodland burial area
- Future-proofing the cemetery infrastructure

**Presenter:** *Ashleigh Smith, Cemeteries Supervisor, London Borough of Havering Council*

### 3. Falkirk Council's 10-Year Bereavement Strategy

- Addressing capacity and infrastructure requirements
- Delivering a sustainable and cost-effective long-term service
- Incorporating community involvement into service planning

**Presenter:** *Ian Edwards, Projects and Development Co-ordinator, Falkirk Council*

### 4. The Bereavement Service at Ards and North Down

- Governance, compliance, and risk management
- Digital tools and operational enhancements
- Improving community engagement and overall service delivery
- Future priorities for the service

**Presenter:** *Gary Taylor, Team Leader, Ards and North Down Borough Council*

### 5. APSE Update

*Vickie Hacking, Principal Advisor, APSE*

[>> Click here to reserve your free place <<](#)

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**Kind regards,**

**Vickie Hacking**

Principal Advisor, APSE

On behalf of Councillor Mark Wilson,

Chair of the APSE Cemeteries and Crematoria Network