**Freedom of Information Act / Environmental Information Regulations Request**

Reference: ECC13831330 11 22
Response: 30 November 2022

**Question 1 -** **please provide me with the following information under the terms of the freedom of information act:**

**Crematoria**

**1 At present, what is the total crematorium charge (including use of chapel, waiting rooms and attendances, floral decoration, recorded or organ music, scattering/strewing of ashes, medical referee’s fee, and environmental surcharge) at each crematorium operated by the council?**

**2 does the crematorium fee include an ‘environmental charge’ associated with the cost of mercury abatement, and if so, how much is this environmental charge?**

**3 what was the council’s total crematorium charge (as described in q1):-**

**(a) in October 2022**

**(b) in October 2021**

**(c) in October 2017**

**4 Has the council transferred any crematoria to private sector businesses and if so:-**

**(a) please identify the private operator.**

**(b) in what year did this take place?**

**(c) has the council restricted the fees which the private operator may charge, and if so what is the restriction?**

**Cemeteries**

**5 how many cemeteries does the council own and operate?**

**6 how much does the council charge for an adult burial, to include an exclusive right of burial, for the minimum period of use, in a standard lawn grave, and including any interment fee?**

**7 what was the charge for the same provision of a grave as described in q6:-**

**(a) in October 2022**

**(B) in October 2021**

**(c) in October 2017**

**8 Are there any private sector cemeteries within the council’s boundaries and if so, please identify them and the company which operates them.**

**9 Has the council transferred any cemeteries to private sector businesses and if so:-**

**(a) please identify the private operator.**

**(b) in what year did this take place?**

**(c) has the council restricted the fees which the private operator may charge, and if so, what is the restriction?**

**10 Please indicate whether the council has had to restrict or cease burials in its cemeteries because of a lack of capacity and if so, what arrangements are there for burials?**

**Therefore, if it is possible to ascertain within the prescribed time limit, without having to provide a fee for further investigations, please respond in electronic form with all the information above to the following email address: matthew.cundall@itn.co.uk.**

**Essex County Council are not a Billing Authority, that responsibility sits within the jurisdiction and responsibility of City, District and Borough Councils, where this request should be directed.**

**Under S.16 of the FOI Act it is our duty to advise and assist requesters, therefore**

**we provide a contact list of all such councils within Essex.**

**Your Right to Know**

Democracy and Transparency

Essex County Council

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