

PHILIPS ELECTRONICS PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

GUIDANCE ON FUNERAL COSTS – 2018

Many reports say that funeral costs have more than doubled in the last 15 years. What seems certain is that costs are rising every year with the average cost of a funeral now over £4000.

The person responsible for arranging a funeral should consult the chosen funeral director at the earliest opportunity to discuss the various options available to them and to establish their costs. Many people even ring or email around requesting a quote as for any other service.

There is still a wide variation in charges across the country. The following information is given based on costs in the home counties in 2018.

Funeral Directors Charges

Basic funeral to include coffin	£1850
Simple funeral to include veneered coffin and one limousine	£3210
Funeral to include solid coffin and one limousine	£3990

Cremation Charges

There is a wide variation in cremation charges depending on the time of day and whether or not the crematorium is municipal or private. Costs can be up to £1070.

For most adult cremations:

Two doctor's medical certificates are required	£164
Minister's fees	£206
Organist's fees	£130
If a church service is required add:	
Church fees	£233

Plus organist and possibly verger and heating charges.

Burial Charges

Church service followed by interment in churchyard (if space available and these days usually for parishioners only)	£540
Grave digging charges	£375
Interment in local municipal cemetery (to include purchase of grave plot and grave digging charges but does not include use of cemetery chapel, minister or organist fees)	£2135

In the case of a non-parishioner fees can be up to three times this figure.

(Non-parishioners are those who lived outside the ecclesiastical parish for a churchyard burial, and outside the civil parish or district for municipal cemeteries.)

If interment is to take place in an existing grave in most cases any existing memorial will need to be removed. This will incur additional charges.

NOTE If a burial or cremation takes place on a separate occasion which does not follow on from a church service, extra costs may be incurred.

Other costs

- Extra mileage charges where long distances are involved
- Additional limousines
- Caskets for cremated remains
- Interment of cremated remains
- Provision of a headstone
- Choir
- Flowers
- Printing
- Newspaper announcements
- Catering

As funeral costs rise, some may wish to consider the option of taking out a pre-paid funeral plan which all funeral directors now offer. These can be tailored to your individual requirements and will allow you to freeze the ever-increasing funeral costs at the current rates.