CHOOSING A FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Most people choose to entrust funeral arrangements to a professional funeral director. Partly for reasons of convenience, at what is generally a very stressful time, but also to make sure that the remains of their loved one are cared for with dignity and propriety.

Only funeral directors who have signed the council's terms and conditions will be granted permission to carry out interments at the burial ground.

Choosing a Funeral Director

· Ask for a detailed description of costs and a price list when getting a quote.
· Try and get quotes from more than one company.
· Check whether the funeral director is qualified and holds the diploma in funeral directing (Dip.Fd.) or a certificate in funeral practice (Cert.F.P).
· Find out whether they are a member of any of the trade associations: National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD), The Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors (SAIF), The Funeral Standards Council (FSC).

There is no legal requirement to have any kind of funeral ceremony at all and no legal statutes governing what form any ceremony should take.

Funeral directors must ensure the deceased's family/representatives are provided with a copy of, and are aware of, the rules and regulatons of the burial ground and the council's 'Burial Ground Management Policy.'

Here's a list of Funeral Directors approved by the council; this means they have permission to carry out burials in the council's burial ground. We're unable to recommend any company:

Approved Funeral Directors

Alan Finneron Funeral Directors. 32 West Street, Congleton CW12 1JR. T: 01260 277622 E: enquiry@afinneron.co.uk

Arlington Funeral Directors, Arlington House, Ford Green Road, Stoke on Trent ST6 1NX. T: 01782 818888. E:arlingtonfs@btconnect.com

C McGough & Sons. 69 High Street, Biddulph ST8 6AA. T: 01782 515155 E: info@cmcgoughandsons.co.uk

Co-op Funeralcare. 20 West Street, Congleton CW12 4ER. T: 01260 270290

Dolven Funeral Services Ltd. 31 Congleton Road, Biddulph ST8 6DY. T: 01782 379191 E: info@dolvenfuneralservices.co.uk

John Garside & Sons Funeral Directors (part of Dignity Funerals Ltd). 2 Cross Street, Biddulph ST8 7BD. T: 01782 513210 E: jgarside.biddulph@dignityfunerals.co.uk

John Johnson Co-op Funeralcare. 22 Madeley Street, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent. ST5 8AX. T: 01782 837832

Kevin Lownds Funeral Services. 12-13 Andrew Place, Newcastle-under-Lyme. ST5 1DL. T: 01782 914777 or 01782 291500. E: lownds@kevinlowndsfuneralservices.com

Larvin and Clegg Funeral Directors. 20 Antrobus Street, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1HB. T: 01260 297963

Samuel Sigley & Sons Ltd. Lyndhurst House, Queen Street, Leek. ST13 6LS. T: 01538 382048 E: sigleys@mac.com

Tudor-Davies Funeral Services Ltd, The Beeches, 142 Waterloo Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 3HB. T: 01782 811411. E: enquiries@tudor-davies

Williamson Brothers. Birch House, Birches Head Road, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 6 LH. T: 01782 212880 E: office@williamsonbrothers.co.uk