

Argyll and Bute Council: Equality and Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

Section 1: About the proposal

Title of Proposal

Burial and Cremations (RAIS03)

Intended outcome of proposal

Provide a burial and cremation service which is progressing towards becoming self-financing for both day to day operational activities and also asset improvement works such as the provision of new and extended facilities.

Description of proposal

Proposed amendment to fees and charges for the burial and cremation services, increasing the burial charges by 20% (17% above the Council's 3% increase and the cremation charges by 15%, 12% above the Council's 3% increase).

Business Outcome(s) / Corporate Outcome(s) to which the proposal contributes

BO115: We are efficient and cost effective.
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BO113: Our infrastructure is safe and fit for the future.
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Lead officer details:

Data**Other information**

There are a number of burial grounds across Argyll & Bute which require extensive works to extend these sites and enable additional lair spaces to be made available. The Council is due to be carrying out an online consultation exercise to establish what the needs and expectations of our communities are.

Argyll and Bute Council are currently lower than our neighbouring authorities, the proposed increase in fees and charges will bring Argyll & Bute Council nearer to other neighbouring authorities whilst still providing a competitive rate.

The proposed increase in the cremation fees will take Argyll & Bute Council to a position where we will be slightly more expensive than our neighbouring authorities, however, given the good quality of service the funeral directors frequently raise, the picturesque location and community ties with the facility from both Argyll & Bute, Alexandria and Dumbarton we believe that this raise in fees will not be detrimental to business.

Significant capital works have been carried out recently at the Crematorium including installation of a mercury emissions compliant cremator, works to improve DDA compliance and general works to bring the facility up to modern day standards.

Gaps in evidence

None

Section 3: Impact of proposal**Impact on service users:**

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
Protected characteristics:				
Age		X		
Disability		X		
Ethnicity		X		
Sex		X		
Gender reassignment		X		
Marriage and Civil Partnership		X		
Pregnancy and Maternity		X		

	Negative	No impact	Positive	Don't know
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The service