

Newington Parish Council

Children's Funeral Fund Guidance

Introduction

Newington Parish Council is the Burial Authority for Newington Cemetery and at this difficult time we extend our condolences.

The Children's Funeral Fund for England (CFF) now provides funding for the burial or cremation fees, and some associated expenses.

The CFF can be accessed by the Burial Authority; the eligibility conditions are that the child is under 18 at the time of death or is stillborn after the 24th week of pregnancy.

The residence or nationality of the deceased child, or of the person responsible for organising the burial or cremation, are not relevant in determining eligibility. Payments from the CFF are not means tested.

Claims for Costs of a Child's Funeral

Burial authorities, cremation authorities and funeral directors may apply to the CFF for reimbursement of specified fees which they would otherwise charge for the provision of the burial or cremation of an eligible child. It is intended that the parents or the family of the child are not charged the fees covered by the CFF.

Claims must be submitted within 6 months of the date of the funeral.

Costs that are Covered

The Regulations set out detailed provisions relating to the costs covered. Fees charged by a burial authority are limited to what the Secretary of State considers to be reasonable in the circumstances and must not include any element which relates exclusively to a requirement of the religious faith of the deceased or the family of the deceased.

Newington Parish Council (NPC) can claim fees for (whether for the burial of a body or cremated remains):

1. the burial plot and right of burial;
 - a plot for the burial of a body should be appropriate to the size of the child. However, if the responsible person wishes to purchase an adult sized plot for the purpose of being buried with the child in future, this may also be considered reasonable
 - a double or family plot may only be considered reasonable if a single plot is not available or the fee for a double plot is cheaper than the fee for a single plot
2. carrying out the burial; (NPC does not do this)
3. maintenance of the plot (in specified circumstances)
 - this is only allowable where this is a condition of the right of burial, until the time when the child, if alive, would have reached the age of 18
4. renewal of the right of burial (in specified circumstances);
 - this is only allowable if the right of burial expires before the time when the child, if alive, would have reached the age of 18

5. permission to erect a memorial (including a headstone) – but not the price of a memorial or headstone; and
6. a third-party grave digger, where required (NPC does not do this)

Applying for the Fund

Burial authorities should [download, complete and sign the appropriate form](#) and email or post it, with copies of the required supporting documents, to:

cff@sscl.gse.gov.uk

CFF

PO Box 611

Manchester

M14 0NS

Include copies of the certificate for burial or cremation and relevant invoices or receipts. Also include the burial plot lease, if claiming for fees for the maintenance of the plot.

Assistance or paper copies is available cff@sscl.gse.gov.uk.