

Burial and Cremation Records

20 Do you agree that records and forms relating to burial and cremation in Scotland should be stored and transferred electronically wherever possible?

Yes

Should any exclusions apply?:

Should this be applied to all forms of disposing of human remains in Scotland?:

21 Should records and forms relating to burial and cremation be kept for 50 years or is it better that they are kept indefinitely?

Indefinitely

If you specified 'other', please enter your comments below.:

I am replying as someone with a particular interest in family research. Census records are only released when they are 100 years old. It would introduce a serious discontinuity into our research, if burial and cremation records were only retained for 50 years.

I have only this year traced the burial records for my maternal grandmother in Glasgow over 90 years after the event.

Alleviating pressure on burial grounds

22 Do you agree that the sale of lairs in perpetuity should be ended?

No

Please enter additional comments here.:

23 Does the proposed alternative approach provide a suitable balance between enabling people to buy lairs and safeguarding lairs for the future?

Not Answered

Please enter additional comments here.:

Answering " no " to question 22 renders this one redundant.

24a Should there be any restrictions about to whom the owner of a lair can transfer his or her interest?

Yes

24b Should this be restricted to family members?

Yes

25 Do you agree that Burial Authorities should no longer be able to sell multiple lairs or blocks of lairs to an individual?

Don't Know

Please enter additional comments here.:

26 The Burial and Cremation Review Group recommended that Burial Authorities may refuse to sell a lair if it believes that it is not for imminent use. How long should constitute 'imminent' in this situation?

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This recommendation could preclude young people from making burial provision for themselves, unless something like a 50 year leeway was allowed. I recognise that making burial provision is not an issue for many young people, but they should not be excluded.

How could this be tested?:

Can it be tested in any way other than a burial?

27 Do you agree with the proposal that full lairs and partially-full and unused lairs should be considered for reuse in certain circumstances with appropriate safeguards in place?

Yes

Please enter any additional comments here.:

BUT the safeguards needs to be significant. They should only be reusable with :-

the full agreement of the current owner, AND

with a commitment to maintain and make accessible all records of earlier burials/cremations.

28 Is a period of 75 years sufficient before reuse of a full lair can be considered?

Yes

Please enter additional comments here.:

With a guarantee of the above safeguards.

29a Does the initial consultation provide sufficient assurance that relevant specialist interests have been consulted?

Don't Know

Please enter any additional comments here.:

29b Should any other specific organisations or groups be consulted at this stage?

Don't Know

30a Does the process set out allow for sufficient notice to be given that a lair is being proposed for reuse?

Not Answered

Please enter additional comments here.:

30b Should any particular methods of notification be used in addition to those noted?

Not Answered

Please enter any addition comments.:

31 What can be done to make sure that there are no financial disincentives to opposing to the reuse of a grave?

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32 Other than family members, who should be able to object to the proposed reuse of a lair?

What considerations should be made to determine whether an objection from a non-family member is legitimate? :

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34a If the Burial Authority decides not to reuse a lair on the basis of an objection from a non-family member, should that person become liable for the maintenance of the lair?

Don't Know

34b If not, should the Burial Authority remain responsible?

Don't Know

35 Do you agree that the 'dig and deepen' method should be used to allow the reuse of full lairs?

Yes

Please enter additional comments here.:

36 Are any other techniques available that should be considered?

Don't Know

Please enter additional comments here:

37 Do you agree that headstones and memorials may be reused if appropriate?

Don't Know

Please enter additional comments here.:

38 Do you agree that headstones and memorials should be removed from lairs if they cannot be made safe?

Don't Know

In this instance, what should happen to headstones and memorials that are removed? :

39a Are any other approaches for easing the pressure on burial land suitable for use in Scotland?

Don't know

39b For example, should above ground mausoleums, similar to those found in Europe, be considered?

Don't Know

40 Is a period of 25 years sufficient before the use of a partially-full or unused lair can be considered?

Don't Know

Please enter additional comments here.:

41 Is 12 months long enough to advertise the intended reuse of a full lair or use of a partially-full or unused lair?

Don't Know

Where should the Burial Authority's intention be advertised? :

42 Where a Burial Authority intends to reuse a lair having undertaken all appropriate consultations, should it be required to make clear to prospective purchasers that the lair is being reused or is part of a lair that is partly full?

Yes

Please enter additional comments:

43a Do the safeguards described provide sufficient reassurance to ensure that lairs are not reused inappropriately?

Don't Know

Please enter additional comments here:

43b Are any other safeguards required – for example, should the Burial Authority be required to seek a court order to reuse a lair?

Don't Know

Please enter additional comments here:

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44 Should certain categories of grave – such as Commonwealth War Graves – be automatically excluded from consideration for reuse?

Yes

Please enter additional comments here.: