

Registering a death

May 2017

Can a funeral director register a death?

A funeral director may register a death with the permission of the family and of the registrar. Registry offices have different policies, so SAIF advises you to contact the register office to discuss beforehand.







November 2014

Coffin Testing Programme by The Funeral Furnishing Manufacturers Association (FFMA).

Following a number of unsavoury incidents involving coffins and possible dangers to the health and safety of cremation operatives, the FFMA together with the Institute of Burial and Cremation Authority (IBCA) and Institute of Cemetery and Cremation Management (ICCM) decided to enlist the help of SAIF and the NAFD in setting up a method of rigorously testing all coffins destined for cremation before being sold to Funeral Directors and accepted by Crematoria.

Programme: The FFMA have engaged the services of Interlek Ltd who will conduct a series of up to 8 tests on each model from each manufacturer involving strength, suitability for charging and ignition, % of ashes residue etc. and, if successful, every coffin produced to the specification will carry, under licence, the approved FFMA logo, model number and company ID number on the underside of the coffin.

Dates: From 1st July 2015 every crematorium in the UK will insist on only cremating accredited coffins. A six month trial period will start from 1st January 2015 but any unmarked (pre December 31st 2014) old stock at the end of the trial period, will be returned to the manufacturer for retrospective stamping, provided it meets the required standard. The manufacturing process will be overseen by the FFMA who will arrange random testing of manufacturers at their expense.

It is hoped that the whole of the profession will co-operate in this effort to eradicate embarrassing, unnecessary events that inevitably rub off on us all and can cause untold distress to the bereaved families.