# Arranging a Muslim Funeral

As of 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022, many of the allowances in the Emergency Coronavirus Act 2020 will end, taking us back to most of our previous working practices and levels of normality.

We have put together this update to our previous guidance to support bereaved families when arranging a funeral. It provides a brief overview of what processes should be undertaken and what legal documentation will be required before a funeral can take place. An easy to follow flowchart accompanies this guidance.

### When a loved one passes away

Our initial advice when someone passes away is that you appoint an experienced Funeral Director/Arranger to deal with the funeral arrangements. We also advise that you designate **one member** of your family to communicate with them in relation to any funeral matter.

#### Medical Certificate of Cause of Death

To start the process you will need to secure the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD). This is a formal document that states what the person died of. The MCCD is issued by the hospital doctor if death took place in the hospital, or by the GP if death took place at home or within the community. This document will be required by the Registrar of Births and Deaths in order to register the death.

If the cause of death is clear the hospital or issuing GP will contact the Medical Examiner (ME) who will review the death. Once this process has been completed the ME will scan the MCCD and email it directly to the Registrar of Birth & Deaths. No physical documents will be provided to the next of kin.

#### **Body collection**

Once the MCCD has been issued by the hospital bereavement services department or the GP the deceased can be collected from their place of death. For UHL collections an appointment system is in place so please contact your Funeral Director/ Arranger for assistance.

## Registering the death

In order for the burial to be arranged you will need to obtain a Burial Order. This is done by registering the death with the Registrar of Births and Deaths. The Burial Order is often referred to as the "green".

In hour's process - Once the Registration Service has received the MCCD from the hospital or issuing GP, a Registrar will contact the next of kin to book an appointment to register the death. This appointment will be an office based "face to face" appointment.

Once the death has been registered the Registrar will hand the Burial Order directly to the next of kin, who will need to deliver it to their Funeral Director/Arranger in order to book a burial.

Out of hour's process - Once the on-call Registrar has received the MCCD from the hospital or issuing GP, the Registrar will contact the next of kin to remotely scan and email the Burial Order to them. This will then allow the appointed Funeral Director/ Arranger to arrange an out of hour' burial. Please note, this remote process out of hour's is not a formal registration and a "face to face" appointment will be made for the next of kin during office hours.

# **Cemetery Bookings**

The Funeral Director/Arranger is only able to make cemetery arrangements with Leicester City Council or Crescent Funerals (out of hour's) once the registration has been completed.

## Ghusl (ritual bath) & Kafn (shroud)

There are several organisations within Leicester that provide ghusl and kafn facilities to prepare the deceased for burial.

To access services please speak to your appointed Funeral Director/Arranger. They will assist you in making all the necessary arrangements with the Masjid/organisation of your choice.

You may also contact the Masjid/organisation directly to access such services.

# Attending the funeral

In order to ensure the safety of those attending the funeral, including the safety of any staff and volunteers, please note to the following:

- 1. Please arrive at the cemetery at your appointed time
- 2. If you have booked the Janazgah for the funeral prayer you will have been provided with with a specific time to access the Janazgah and another to be by the grave for the actual burial. Please adhere to both timings.
- 3. At graveside please follow instructions given by the cemetery staff or volunteers. This is to ensure your safety and the safety of any staff and volunteers.

For further information or support please visit:

#### www.crescent-funerals.com

To arrange a funeral please contact:

Salim Mangera

07833 533490

**C**rescent Funerals

22.09.2024

