

For information only. Parts of this correspondence will have changed since its issue.

Dear Funeral Directors/Arrangers,

This is Covid-19 update number 9. The last update was 13/07/2020

Face coverings. It will become compulsory for mourners to wear face coverings in our chapel from this Friday (7 August). Please ensure that you inform your clients and that they communicate this to their invited friends and families. We will not provide face coverings, so we advise that you have a small supply available on your hearse in the case that a mourner arrives without one. Face coverings at graveside burials are advised.

For your own staff, your company policy applies but we advise that face coverings are worn.

Singing and the use of instruments. Should more than 16 people attend a funeral (up to the maximum allowance of 24) we advise that singing does not take place in chapel or at graveside. Blown instruments and professional singers are not currently permitted. Other forms of live music such as the playing of a guitar are permitted but these artists must be included within the number of permitted people in chapel.

Test and trace. Please continue to ask the lead mourner (usually the applicant of cremation or burial) to make a list of mourners and their telephone numbers and keep it for 21 days. Should we be contacted by the NHS/Public Health England we will contact the lead mourner and advise accordingly.

Coffin plaques. It is now compulsory that a small plaque with the deceased's name is placed on the head end of the coffin to assist us in checking the identity before the coffin leaves the hearse. This became compulsory on 1 August.

Website updates. We have now redeveloped our Coronavirus pages on our website www.enablelc.org/bereavement to make it easier for the public to filter the current guidance and restrictions in place at our cemeteries and at Putney Vale crematorium. This information is available from each of our main pages.

For funeral arrangers/directors we have added all of our previous correspondence relating to the pandemic and a summary of the most frequently asked questions. You can access these under the 'Putney Vale Crematorium' page for information regarding cremations or 'Wandsworth Cemeteries' page for our cemeteries. In both cases click on the 'Resources for funeral directors' link on the right of these pages. This is also the usual place for finding our fees, forms and updates.

On behalf of the bereavement services team and Wandsworth Council we extend our thanks for your continued support at these times.

Take care and stay safe.

Kelvin.