

BW Foundation
Policy for Burials in Section J at Woodcock Hill Cemetery

BW Foundation has been the leasehold owner of grave spaces at Woodcock Hill Cemetery since 1988. The current area available for new burials in the part of the cemetery leased by BW Foundation, and designated for Muslim Burials, is known as Section J. Anyone who wishes to bury their deceased family member in Section J must adhere to all the terms and conditions set out in this Burial Policy, as well as the Rules and Regulations of Three Rivers District Council ('the Council'), who are the Burial Authority in respect of Woodcock Hill Cemetery.

In the event of extenuating circumstances, a family wishing to purchase grave space in Section J can appeal to the Trustees of BW Foundation for a variation of this Burial Policy, but this appeal can only be heard **BEFORE** burial. It is not possible for the Trustees to agree a variation after burial.

BW Foundation reserves the right to make any amendment to this policy from time to time, as may be deemed necessary or expedient in consultation with the Council.

Exclusive right of burial

The Council has power to grant an Exclusive Right of Burial ('EROB') in a grave by Article 10 of the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977. Following purchase of this right in Section J, a Deed of Grant of EROB will be issued by the Council. This right entitles the holder to stipulate who is buried within the grave. EROB are granted for a period of up to 100 years from the date of burial. The holder of the EROB does not gain an interest in the land of the relevant grave, or section J. The leasehold ownership and legal possession of the land remains with BW Foundation.

Single and Double Depth Graves

BW Foundation offers a choice of single or double-depth graves. However, as there is a national shortage of land for burials, and a particular shortage of Muslim burial space, it strongly encourages families to consider double depth graves so that demand for future burial space may be met.

Payment

BW Foundation will provide to the representative of the deceased an invoice detailing the charges payable. This invoice is payable in full by the representatives of the deceased prior to the issue of the Deed of EROB. The charges may vary dependent upon, but not limited to, the applicable interment fees and plot charges as set by the Council and whether a single or double depth grave is chosen.

Lawn Cemetery and standardised headstones

Section J has been in use since May 2014, and has been designated as a lawn cemetery. This means that **ONLY** a standardised headstone can mark the grave; no planting, borders, sections etc. are allowed. The graves are flat and lawned over (except for burials that took place prior to November 2015, which graves may have a full kerb). BW Foundation retains control of the layout and appearance of Section J, and the graves within it. By seeking a right of burial within Section J, the rights-holder agrees that BW Foundation may maintain section J as it deems fit, and in compliance with the Council's Rules.

Any unauthorised items left within, or erected upon, land within Section J (including memorials, borders, plantings etc.) will be removed without notice.

The standardised headstone, with the motif and ayat (see template below for illustration), will be engraved with the name and dates of birth and death of each of the deceased. The family can add their own inscription on **TWO LINES**. Single and double-depth headstones are illustrated here.



Burials in Section J, Woodcock Hill Cemetery

- 1) The graves in section J are angled so that the body can be interred to face Mecca.
- 2) Graves are normally filled from left to right when facing South (i.e. looking uphill).
- 3) For double-depth burials, bodies will be interred separated by a minimum of 6 inches of earth.
- 4) The layout of Section J will be in the style of a lawn cemetery with a raised headstone (Figures above for illustration only).
- 5) All gravestones will be of a standard format (Figures above for illustration only).
- 6) The style of the headstone, the font, gold colour, the "Bismillah" motif and Qur'anic inscription will be standard on all graves.
- 7) It will not be possible to place extraneous tokens (e.g. toys, plaques etc.) or planting on the graves. Flowers may be placed.
- 8) There will be an additional standard charge (reviewed annually or as appropriate) and currently £950 payable at burial to cover the cost of the headstone. There are additional costs for marshalling and administration.
- 9) Interments will be sequential with no spaces being left between graves and pre-selection of the grave space will not be possible. No plots can be reserved for family except the upper tier of a double-depth grave.
- 10) BW Foundation may adopt other rules from time to time to aid in its goal of good management and maintenance of the graves, in consultation with the Burial Authority, and in keeping with prevailing legislation.

DECLARATION TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BEFORE BURIAL CAN PROCEED

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS DECLARATION IN BLOCK CAPITALS EXCEPT FOR THE SIGNATURE

GRAVE NUMBER:

GRAVE DEPTH: Single / Double

NAME OF DECEASED:

NAME OF FAMILY MEMBER AUTHORISED FOR BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

DECLARATION

I am the next of kin of the deceased or appointed deputy and have received, read, and fully understood the BW Foundation Policy for burials at Woodcock Hill Cemetery Section J ("the Policy"). By signing this declaration, I irrevocably agree to the terms and conditions set out in the Policy.

I wish to purchase the Exclusive Right of Burial in the grave space specified above and am the authorised person to take ownership of the exclusive right of burial in that grave.

I ACCEPT THAT DURING THE PERIOD OF SOCIAL DISTANCING AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC THE NUMBER OF ATTENDEES AT THE FUNERAL WILL BE LIMITED AND THAT THE COFFIN MAY NOT BE OPENED AT THE GRAVE SIDE FOR ANY REASON.

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS:

WITNESS SIGNATURE:

DATE:

NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS:

ACCEPTANCE SIGNATURE ON BEHALF OF BW FOUNDATION:

DATE:

NAME IN BLOCK CAPITALS: