Edinburgh Crematorium Ltd

Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Bill

The Health and Sport Committee invited all interested parties to submit written evidence on the Bill. In particular, the Committee encouraged responses on the following:

(1) **General principles**
Edinburgh Crematorium Ltd. support the general principles of the Bill.

(2) **Applications for burial**
Edinburgh Crematorium Ltd. support the introduction of a standardised application form for burial; however we are of the opinion that there should be 3 separate forms; one for foetal remains, one for body parts and one for all other burials.

(3) **Meaning of cremation/ashes**
We would be in favour of retaining Lord Bonomy’s definition of ashes (all that is left in the cremator at the end of the cremation process and following the removal of any metal). Not all faith groups wish ashes to be cremulated (the application of grinding or other process, referred to in the Bill’s definition) and so this should be removed from legislation.

(4) **Applications for cremation (Section 38)**
We feel that a single form is likely to be too cumbersome and that three forms would be more appropriate; one for body parts, one for foetal remains and one for all other cremations.

(5) **Duty to maintain cremation register**
For the same reasons as in our previous answer, our preference would be to maintain three separate registers.

(6) **Relatives’ decision on disposal of remains**
We support this proposal.

(7) **Disposing of remains from pregnancy loss at or before twenty-fourth week**
We support this proposal.

(8) **Disposal of remains by Health Authorities (Section 54)**
We support this proposal.

(9) **Register of disposal of remains (Section 55)**
We support this proposal.

The Health and Sport Committee also asked for comments on any other provision in the Bill.

We are of the opinion that the requirement for a crematorium to be sited at least 200 yards from the nearest dwelling house should be maintained. We
set out our reasons in the submission that we made to the Local Government and Regeneration Committee.

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