

**BUYING A GRAVE**

How do I buy a grave?

Normally, your funeral director will help to make the necessary arrangements for buying a grave. Some people may want to make their own arrangements at the time of the funeral. You can organise this by directly contacting the cemetery office on 0161 342 4461 or email [bereavement.services@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:bereavement.services@tameside.gov.uk). Any member of staff will be pleased to advise you.

How long can I buy a grave for?

In the 8 cemeteries Tameside Council manage, we offer several types of grave. The exclusive rights of burial are sold for 100 years maximum. These are known as *'purchased graves’.*

Can I reserve a grave for future use?

Yes. A grave can be purchased in advance of any burial taking place and a grave deed (Exclusive Right of Burial), will be issued to the Grave owner for future reference.

When can burials take place?

Burials can take place on any weekday, except on bank holidays. Please talk to your funeral director or contact us to discuss any specific needs. (NB. In order to meet the religious or cultural needs, burials may place at weekends or Bank Holidays except for Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Yeas Day, Good Friday and Easter Sunday).

What types of graves are available?

Lawn-type graves - We will maintain these special areas, at no expense to the grave owner. After the burial, the grave is made level and grassed over. The headstone can have a marble or granite base on which flowers or wreaths can be placed. Kerbs supplied and fitted by a Stonemason approved by Tameside Council may also be permitted up to 2ft (600mm) from the front of the memorial.

Individual baby graves are also available for those who suffer the loss of a stillborn baby or a baby under 24 week’s gestation. In order to identify where each baby is buried, a memorial needs to be purchased through the cemetery office at the time of arranging the Interment. See [www.tameside.gov.uk/bereavement/charges](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/bereavement/charges)

Cremated remains plots - These are designated graves purely for the burial of cremated remains caskets.

Vaults, Semi-Vaults or Bricked graves can also be constructed and purchased at any of the council’s eight cemeteries.

Can I bury cremated remains in the cemeteries?

Yes, there are cremated remains sections at Denton & Mottram Cemeteries and above ground Sanctums at Dukinfield and Denton Cemeteries.. Cremated remains can also be placed in existing purchased graves.

Are all the graves on consecrated ground?

No. The consecrated ground is consecrated by the Church of England and is reserved for their use only. However, many of the new plots within all our cemeteries are now multi-denominational.

What is the difference between un-purchased and purchased graves?

Un-purchased grave

An un-purchased grave, sometimes known as a public or common grave, is where the right to burial cannot be bought and the Council has total control of the grave. The council will decide who will be buried in the grave and this might not be members of the same family.

No memorial rights exist on public graves so no headstone or other memorial can be put up by families of those interred in the grave.

Purchased grave

A purchased grave is where the right of burial can be bought for a period of 100 years. The owner of the right of burial can decide who will be buried in the grave and memorials are allowed in line with our cemetery regulations.

How much does purchasing a grave cost?

A detailed list of prices can be found on the Councils website page. [www.tameside.gov.uk/bereavement/charges](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/bereavement/charges)

Memorials on graves

There are rules and regulations in place to ensure the safety and standards of the cemetery are upheld. The right to erect a memorial is given to the registered grave owner, upon application. The grave deeds must be shown to the monumental mason as proof of ownership. Permission will only be given to the registered owner/s. The grave owner is responsible for the maintenance and safety of the memorial and the burial authority will inform the grave owner, where possible, if the memorial has become unsafe. The grave owner must then arrange for the memorial to be made safe at their own cost. Failure to do this may lead to the burial authority making the

Memorial safe. If this is the case, charges will apply.

Contact us

**By phone:**

0161 342 4461

**By email:**

[bereavement.services@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:bereavement.services@tameside.gov.uk)

**By post:**

Dukinfield Cemetery & Crematorium, Hall Green Road, Dukinfield SK16 4EP