

Enquiry Number - FS15954940

Request and Response:

Information in respect of the most recent annual budget (expenditure against income) for the Bereavement Services Team.

The Bereavement Team falls within the Council's Registration Service that is both awarding winning and nationally recognised for the quality of the services provided to the residents of Sandwell.

For the financial year 2018/2019 the annual budget for bereavement services was as follows:

	EXPENDITURE	PROPOSED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE 2020 onwards*	INCOME
TOTALS	£2,787,500	£2,200,000	£4,039,900

This budget does not account for support service expenditure such as Human Resources, Property Maintenance, Finance, Legal Services and ICT.

Expenditure associated with these services are accounted for separately. If the cost of these services were included, the expenditure for bereavement services would increase.

In addition, expenditure associated with bereavement related capital investment schemes are also accounted for separately.

In recent years this includes the following;

LOCATION	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
Sandwell Valley Crematorium	£3,513,835
Rowley Regis Crematorium	£1,629,809
Thimblemill Cemetery	£2,097,336
Wake Facility, Sandwell Valley Crematorium	£ 396,321
TOTAL	£7,637,301

*It is also anticipated that work will commence in 2020 on a new cemetery for Rowley Regis. The estimated costs associated with this developed is **£2,200,000**.

Again, if the cost of these capital investments were included, the expenditure for bereavement related services would increase.

The latest numbers of: a) cremations and b) burials made by this team within a year - preferably 2018 to 2019.

a) Cremations – 3255

b) Burials - 898