

Hammersmith and Fulham

Andrea Comer
Senior Investigations & Information Officer, H and F In Touch

Hammersmith Town Hall ,
Kings Street
W6 9JU
Tel: 020 8753 2732
Email: Andrea.Comer@lbhf.gov.uk
Web: www.lbhf.gov.uk



6 February 2018

Mr. Anthony Collins

Our reference: 1148930

Dear Mr. Collins

Thank you for your request for information which was received on 20 December 2017.

Your request

*I have seen the requests on Burials answered by other authorities
I am interested the similar information from you.*

Please given the prices on Burials in all cemeteries under Hammersmith and Fulham authority.

- 1. cost of a new burial plot for each Cemetery over the last 5 years?*
- 2. How much from buying a burial plot goes towards maintaining the Cemetery?*
- 3. Over the last few years the price of Burial plots has risen by some margin, can you tell me the councils reason(s) for this?*
- 4. Which elected Council members supported the rising costs in Burial plots? (full list from the last 5 years please)*
- 5. Which Council officers supported the rising costs in Burial plots? (full list from last 5 years please)*
- 6. If neither elected Councillors or Council officers supported the rise in Burial plots, can you tell me which part of the Council did support the increase?*
- 7. What is total money collected from Burial plots over the last 5 years?*
- 8. What is the total cost collected by from headstones being put up in Cemeteries?*
- 9. Where does the money collected from Burial plots and the mounting of headstones go to once it is collected?*
- 10. Where can I get minutes from the meetings held on the rising cost of Burial plots and headstones?*

Our response

This request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the information requested is held by Hammersmith and Fulham. Please find below and attached, the information that is being released to you.

1. Cost of a new burial plot for each Cemetery over the last 5 years?

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

2. How much from buying a burial plot goes towards maintaining the Cemetery?

All income is used to off-set the maintenance and running costs of the council's four cemeteries.

3. Over the last few years the price of Burial plots has risen by some margin, can you tell me the council's reason(s) for this?

Prices have risen generally in line with inflation – Retail Price Index (RPI)

4. Which elected Council members supported the rising costs in Burial plots? (full list from the last 5 years please)

The decision in relation to fees and charges is generally delegated to the appropriate Cabinet member.

5. Which Council officers supported the rising costs in Burial plots? (full list from last 5 years please)

The relevant service director makes a recommendation on cost increases.

6. If neither elected Councillors or Council officers supported the rise in Burial plots, can you tell me which part of the Council did support the increase?

Not applicable.

7. What is total money collected from Burial plots over the last 5 years?

Please see the table below.

	Total income
2012/13	£679,862.00
2013/14	£681,323.00
2014/15	£709,887.98
2015/16	£809,317.86
2016/17	£919,888.53
2017/18 (YTD)	£655,441.40

8. What is the total cost collected by from headstones being put up in Cemeteries?

This is not accounted for separately. Please see the response to question 7.

9. Where does the money collected from Burial plots and the mounting of headstones go to once it is collected?

Please see the response to question 2.

10. Where can I get minutes from the meetings held on the rising cost of Burial plots and headstones?

There is not a specific meeting for burial plots and headstones. The decision on fees and charges is taken annually by Cabinet. The decisions were made at the following meetings.

2013/14 Monday 11 February 2013, 7.00pm

2014/15 Monday 3 February 2014 6.00pmr
2015/16 Monday 2 February 2015 7.00pm
2016/17 Monday 8 February 2016 7.00pm
2017/18 Monday 6 February 2017 7.00pm

The minutes of the above meetings are available on the Council's website.

Please use this link to access them.

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/councillors-and-democracy/councillors-committees-and-decisions>

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request for information, please contact the h&f InTouch team within 40 working days of receiving this response. They will consider the matters raised and decide whether they are referred to the Council's Information Manager for an internal review.

You can write to the h&f InTouch team at Room 229, Hammersmith Town Hall, King Street, London W6 9JU, or email: handfintouch@lbhf.gov.uk. If you are registered for self-service, via the Council's My Account portal, you can also do this online: [Click here to complete the form](#)

You also have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Tel: 0303 123 1113. Website: www.ico.org.uk/concerns/. There is no charge for making an appeal. The ICO may ask you to contact Hammersmith and Fulham, so we can complete an internal review, before the ICO investigates the matter.

Yours sincerely

Andrea Comer
Senior Investigations & Information Officer