

Date received:	7th May 2025
Date responded:	30 th May 2025
Subject:	Management of Metals

Question:

- 1. The date when the policy of burying metals recovered from cremations was last reviewed;**
- 2. The minutes of the decision at 1 explaining the reasoning to continue the policy of burying metals;**
- 3. The date that DEFA informed the Council that a Waste Management Licence was not required for the burying in a crematorium of metals recovered from cremations;**
- 4. The factual and legal basis for DEFA's advice that a Waste Management Licence was not required by the Council.**

Response:

- The Council does not currently have a formal policy subject to review on a set basis, rather the practice is an operational approach that is kept under continual review by officers. The current operational approach will be described in an upcoming Bereavement Services Strategy which will set out the pros and cons of different approaches and why the current approach is considered by officers to be the most appropriate at the present time. As cited in the two previous Fol responses to your client, the Council has committed to review its current approach and determine if recycling of these metals can be conducted locally but a date for that review cannot be given until resource constraints within the Bereavement Services team are resolved.
- As per question 1 response.
- DEFA most recently confirmed on 10th March 2025.
- Crematoria are regulated under the Cremation Act 1957 rather than the Collection and Disposal of Waste Regulations 2000. Information sought from DEFA needs to be requested to them directly, the Council cannot respond on their behalf.