

## **Cross-Party Group Annual Report**

**15 November 2018**

### **Cross Party Group on Funerals and Bereavement**

#### **1. Group membership and office holders.**

**Chair:** Mark Isherwood AM

Julie Morgan AM  
 Neil Hamilton AM  
 Darren Millar AM  
 Russell George AM  
 Janet Finch-Saunders AM  
 Paul Davies AM  
 Andrew RT Davies AM

**Secretary:** David Beamer, Brevia Consulting ([www.brevia.co.uk](http://www.brevia.co.uk))

#### **Other external members and the organisation(s) they represent**

Lorraine Barrett – Wales Humanists  
 Martin Birch - Cardiff County Council  
 Janette Bourne – Cruse Cymru  
 Jeremy Field – National Association of Funeral Directors  
 Paul Harding – Marie Curie  
 Morgan Harris – National Association of Funeral Directors  
 Gordon Hector - Joseph Rowntree Foundation  
 Jon Levett - National Association of Funeral Directors  
 Kate Edwards - National Association of Funeral Directors  
 Carol Humphreys – Care for the Family  
 Jean Letton - BASW-Cymru Committee Member & Independent Social Worker  
 Kim Bird - About the Funeral  
 Philip Blatchly - National Association of Funeral Directors  
 Carys Moseley - Eglwys Bresbyteraidd Cymru  
 David Beamer - Brevia Consulting  
 Nigel Lymn Rose - National Association of Funeral Directors  
 Gordon Swan – Golden Charter  
 James Tovey – SAIF Charter  
 Peter Hutton - Unllais  
 David Teague – ICO  
 Lesley Parry – NEWCIS  
 Aubrey Kirkham – Aubrey Kirkham Funeral Directors  
 Wendy Hobbs - Ambassador of Dreams and Wishes Charity  
 Gemma O’Driscoll – Funeral Director  
 Angela Huang – Maggies Centre  
 Sarah Hughes – Maggies Centre  
 Ahmed Alsisi - Muslim Community Leader; White Rose Funerals & Memorials

## 2. Previous Group Meetings since the last AGM.

### Meeting 1.

**Meeting date:** 9 May 2018

**Attendees:** Mark Isherwood AM (Chair), Russell George AM, Kim Bird (CEO, About the Funeral), James Tovey (SAIF Charter), Graeme McAusland (Funeral Planning Authority), Philip Blatchly (NAFD), Kate Edwards (NAFD), Gordon Swan (Golden Charter), Wendy Hobbs (Dreams & Wishes), Tony Curtis (Dreams & Wishes) and David Beamer (Secretary; Brevia Consulting).

**Summary of issues discussed:** Presentation from Graeme McAusland on the work of the Funeral Planning Authority, Review of Correspondence, Death Certification Reforms, Cremation Regulations, Social Fund Support, Acts of Memorials, and Codes of Practice.

### Meeting 2.

**Meeting date:** 24 October 2018

**Attendees:** Mark Isherwood AM (Chair), Darren Millar AM, Jon Levett (NAFD), Gordon Swan (Golden Charter), Morgan Harris (NAFD), Lorraine Barrett (Wales Humanists), Ahmed Alsisi (White Rose Funerals and Memorials / Acceptance), Janette Bourne (Cruse Bereavement Care), Kim Bird (About the Funeral), Philip Blatchly (NAFD), Paul Harding (Marie Curie), and David Beamer (Secretary; Brevia Consulting).

**Summary of issues discussed:** AGM (Election of Officers), Presentation from Cruse Bereavement Care on its work in Wales, Presentation from the NAFD on its Code of Practice, Death Certification Reforms, Social Fund, Funeral Affordability, CMA Funerals Market Study, and HM Treasury Pre-Paid Funeral Plans consultation.

## 3. Professional lobbyists, voluntary organisations and charities with whom the Group has met during the preceding year.

<b>Brevia Consulting</b> 5 Salamanca Place London SE1 7HP	<b>Cruse Cymru</b> Ty Energlyn Cwrt Llanfabon Caerphilly CF83 2TP
<b>About the Funeral</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor One Central Square Cardiff CF10 1FS	<b>National Association of Funeral Directors</b> 618 Warwick Rd Solihull B91 1AA
<b>Golden Charter</b> Canniesburn Gate 10 Canniesburn Drive Bearsden	<b>SAIF Charter</b> 3 Bullfields Sawbirdgeworth Herts

Glasgow G61 1BF	CM21 9DB
<b>Dreams &amp; Wishes</b> 1 Cardiff Road Newport Gwent NP20 2EH	<b>Marie Curie</b> 89 Albert Embankment London SE1 7TP
<b>Funeral Planning Authority</b> Barham Court Teston Maidstone ME18 5BZ	<b>Wales Humanists</b> 39 Moreland Street London EC1V 8BB
<b>White Rose Funerals &amp; Memorials</b> 27-29 Splott Road Cardiff CF24 2BU	

**Annual Financial Statement.****15 November 2018****Cross Party Group on Funerals and Bereavement****Chair:** Mark Isherwood AM**Secretary:** David Beamer, Brevia Consulting ([www.brevia.co.uk](http://www.brevia.co.uk))

<b>Group's Expenses.</b>	None.	£0.00
<b>Costs of all goods.</b>	No goods purchased.	£0.00
<b>Benefits received by the group or individual Members from outside bodies.</b>	No benefits received.	£0.00
<b>Any secretariat or other support.</b>	David Beamer (a Director of Brevia Consulting; <a href="http://www.brevia.co.uk">www.brevia.co.uk</a> ) provided secretariat support on behalf of the National Association of Funeral Directors - cost to the organisation of £500 plus VAT per month.	£6000 per annum
<b>Services provided to the Group such as hospitality.</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Description and name of provider</b>	<b>Cost</b>
9/5/18	A dinner was held in the Welsh Assembly where AM and non-AM members of the Group were invited; paid for by the National Association of Funeral Directors	£191.29
24/10/18	A dinner was held in the Welsh Assembly where AM and non-AM members of the Group were invited; paid for by the National Association of Funeral Directors	£173.82
<b>Total cost</b>		<b>£365.11</b>