



# Countryside Funerals

www.countrysidefunerals.co.uk | email: info@countrysidefunerals.co.uk | Tel. 01884 258881

## **Funeral restrictions during Coronavirus pandemic**

To summarise the current restrictions that apply at this time (**amended 5/1/21**):

From Gov.UK website - Funerals can be attended by a maximum of 30 people. Linked religious, belief-based or commemorative events, such as stone settings and ash-scatterings can also continue with up to 6 people in attendance. Anyone working is not counted in these limits. Social distancing should be maintained between people who do not live together or share a support bubble.

**Local attendance limits** are as follows:

Exeter Crematorium: St Peter's Chapel = 30. St Paul's Chapel = 12.

Taunton Crematorium: 30

East Devon Crematorium: 30

North Devon Crematorium: 30

Churches and chapels may also hold funeral services, with the 30-person maximum in place, however it is expected that numbers for each will vary widely, and some may have to remain closed for the time being.

Where family members or friends are unable to attend due to these restrictions, we will be pleased to advise you on options for live-streaming/webcasting and recording services.

This does not include **funeral receptions/wakes**. With new national lockdown restrictions from 5/1/21, hospitality venues will be closed, and gatherings in homes very severely restricted.

**Social distancing** measures continue to be in place at all venues. All require **face-coverings to be worn** by all attendees (unless exempt), and unless speaking at the ceremony.

**Coffins:** some crematoria stipulate that coffins must be taken into the chapel using a trolley rather than being carried on shoulders. This minimises contact with the coffin and the number of staff members required to attend. Mourners should not touch/kiss the coffin after it is placed in the chapel.

**Singing:** Activities such as singing or playing of instruments that are blown into should be specifically avoided. This is because these activities pose a possible additional risk of infection even if social distancing is being observed or face coverings are used. We can of course advise you about use of recorded hymns/songs which can be played instead of sung.

**Contact tracing:** It is now a requirement that our client/funeral instructor, or their nominee (who should give their contact information to the funeral director), collects the names and contact details of the funeral attendees, and these are held for 21 days after the funeral. Should the Government need to trace mourners in order to help NHS Test and Trace, then these details can be passed on appropriately.

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Funeral Plans

