



<b>Policy, Finance and Development Committee</b>	<b>Wednesday, 10 September 2025</b>	<b>Matter for Information and Decision</b>
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**Report Title:** Cemetery and Burial Strategy (2026 - 2036)

**Report Author(s):** David Gill (Legal Consultant)

<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To seek approval for a public consultation on the proposed Cemetery and Burial Strategy.
<b>Report Summary:</b>	The report sets out the Council's approach to the provision of burial services over the next 10 years.
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	<b>A. That the content of the report appendices be noted; and B. That Committee approves the Cemetery and Burial Strategy (at Appendix 1) for a 8-week public consultation.</b>
<b>Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):</b>	Ben Wilson (Head of Neighbourhood Services) (0116) 257 2711 <a href="mailto:ben.wilson@oadby-wigston.gov.uk">ben.wilson@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</a>  David Gill (Legal Consultant) (0116) 257 2626 <a href="mailto:david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk">david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</a>
<b>Strategic Objectives:</b>	Our Council (SO1) Our Communities (SO2) Our Partners (SO5)
<b>Vision and Values:</b>	Customer & Community Focused (V1)
<b>Report Implications:-</b>	
Legal:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Financial:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Reputation Damage (CR4) Effective Utilisation of Assets / Buildings (CR5)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications directly arising from this report. Initial EA Screening (See Appendices)
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
<b>Statutory Officers' Comments:-</b>	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	Click to select comment.

<b>Monitoring Officer:</b>	The report is satisfactory.
<b>Consultees:</b>	8-week public consultation proposed
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None.
<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>1.</b> Cemetery and Burial Strategy (2026 - 2036) <b>2.</b> Cemetery Rules and Regulations (September 2025) <b>3.</b> Memorial Safety Policy <b>4.</b> Equalities Impact Assessment

## **1. Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 Oadby and Wigston Borough Council has not previously had a formalised Cemetery and Burial Strategy. The benefit of the strategy is that it not only outlines the aims and ambitions relating to the maintenance and improvement of burial grounds but, provides an opportunity to look at the broader long-term possibilities.
- 1.2 The ethos and aims of the strategy are based on an understanding of best practise.

## **2. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

- 2.1 Adoption of the strategy and the associated policies /procedures will address the fact that there is currently no Cemetery strategy in place and set out our ambitions for cemeteries and burials for the next ten years. We also want to ensure that policies relating to burials and memorials are clear, well communicated, and consistent. Providing a framework which enables the service to effectively manage our cemeteries and provide future focus.
- 2.2 A strategy that provides a clear direction of travel and guidelines for current management, helps to ensure that burial grounds are maintained and developed well. It also ensures consistency and provides an opportunity for strategic aims to be explored.
- 2.3 The aim is to provide cemeteries for Oadby and Wigston residents that are beautiful, peaceful and well used and to offer burial spaces that support a diverse range of cultural and individual needs. To ensure that our policies relating to burials and memorials are clear, well communicated, and consistent and to ensure that procedures for the purchase and use of burial sites and memorials are clear, efficient, and compassionate

## **3. Consultation**

- 3.1 It is proposed that a public consultation will take place from 12 September 2025 until 31 October with a further report being submitted to this Committee on 2 December 2025.