

Can you help us research the Funeral Payment Scheme?

Dr Kate Woodthorpe, who many of you will know from her previous research with the City of London Cemetery and as a speaker at numerous annual ICCM Conferences, is leading a team of researchers who are looking into the Funeral Payment Scheme (FPS) as part of the Social Fund.

The research team is examining the user experience of the FPS from the perspective of successful and unsuccessful claimants, as well as those who are in a professional or advisory role and assist members of the public in applying to the FPS. The research participants are applicants, funeral directors and key stakeholders.

As part of this, the team is particularly interested in the dynamics between the DWP and local authorities when the local authority has to 'pick up the tab' for the funeral via a Public Health Funeral.

As part of this Kate is hoping to speak to cemetery managers who deal with Public Health Funerals or who would be able to assist with liaising with environmental health officers/services users.

The research is due to report at the end of March, so if you would like to take part in this research or provide feedback/contacts on an informal basis, please contact Kate on k.v.woodthorpe@bath.ac.uk or 01225 386852.