



## FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

---

### Funeral Guidance

---

24 June 2020

Original guidance from 27 April 2020 is amended to reflect an easing of restrictions

#### **Guidance for funerals arrangements during the period of the Covid 19 infection risk**

1. FIG is offering the following guidance for families and friends organising funerals of their relatives and loved ones during the Covid 19 infection risk. This guidance is in accordance with the recommendations from FIG and the Chief Medical Officer on social distancing and how we can protect ourselves and others from the risk of infection.
2. This guidance applies to all funerals conducted in the Falkland Islands.
3. **Churches and places of worship can provide services as required.** Social distancing between household bubbles is to be observed within buildings, to a distance of 2m, where possible and practical. Handwashing / sanitising facilities should be available at the entrance to buildings.
4. Singing in buildings is considered safe providing there is adequate social distancing between household bubbles within the building. Singing outside at the graveside is not considered to be a risk, however again distancing should be observed.
5. At the graveside attending mourners should maintain social distancing to 2m as far as possible and stand as directed by the person officiating. In addition, there will be one person from PWD at the graveside to offer assistance at the service and other pall bearers as needed to look after the coffin.
6. Pallbearers are likely going to be wearing face masks due to the close proximity to each other as they carry the coffin. If pallbearers are family members/friends who are already in a bubble with one another they are not required to wear PPE. It is unlikely that there will be a procession to the grave from the transport point as would normally happen, due to an effort to prevent too close congregation.

7. Burials can take place at the cemetery at Stanley, and burials on the islands and West Falkland can take place where possible/practical.

8. FIG advises that large social gatherings after the funeral do not take place, but a gathering limited to advisory social bubbles would be fine.

9. The Government COVID-19 response is always subject to review and this may lead to at short notice a revision of this guidance to reflect any changes.