



Consultation response in respect of planning application

Application reference	LA05/2025/0372/F
Proposal	Proposed cemetery including associated ceremony building, maintenance depot, new vehicular access onto Quarterland Road and race day access onto Carnaghliiss Road, car parking, landscaping and associated site and infrastructure works.
Location	Lands located c.120m east of No. 10 Quarterland Road, c.130m west of No. 28 Quarterland Road, east of No. 27 Carnaghliiss Road and c.130m east of No. 29 Carnaghliiss Road, Crumlin, Dundrod
Consultation date	17/06/2025
Response date	

Response type

Content	
Advice	X
Standing advice	
Consulted in error	
More information required	

Comments:

Belfast City Council provides the following consultation response in respect of the proposed cemetery development at Dundrod. The Council has no specific comments on the technical aspects of the planning application and sets out below contextual information relating to burial provision and land acquisition.

Current Capacity and Context

Belfast City Council has an estimated remaining burial capacity of approximately 18.5 years. The most recent burial provision developed by the Council is located at Roselawn, which is situated outside the Council's administrative boundary. A Review of Burial Policy undertaken in 2015 identified that hydrogeological and spatial requirements for cemetery development may necessitate consideration of sites beyond the Council boundary.

Expression of Interest and Site Selection

In 2019, the Council issued an Expression of Interest to identify land suitable for cemetery development. Following assessment, two sites remain under consideration, including the Dundrod site that is the subject of this application. This site is being evaluated in terms of its

technical and geographical suitability to contribute to future burial provision.

Burial Trends and Demand

Data for the period 2023–2026 indicates a reduction in annual burial numbers from 1,353 to 1,172 (13% decrease). Over the same period, non-resident burials have remained consistent at approximately 25% of total burials.

Additional observations include:

- Roselawn Cemetery accommodates users from outside the Belfast area.
- There is limited burial capacity available for residents in North and West Belfast, following the closure of City Cemetery to new burials.
- Cremation levels have stabilised at approximately 46%, below earlier projections of 55%, indicating continued demand for burial space.

Summary

Since 1995, Belfast City Council has assessed multiple potential sites for cemetery development. Some sites were not progressed due to hydrogeological constraints or land acquisition issues. The current approach focuses on identifying smaller sites and considering provision at a broader regional level

Officer name:

This response is issued on behalf of Belfast City Council and is based on information available at the time of response.