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Our ref: CORR-2436-2022  
Your ref: SS. P&C – 09.08.2022  
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Date: 6 October 2022

Mrs Sara Steele (Democratic Services Officer)  
via email: [steelesara@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:steelesara@belfastcity.gov.uk)

Dear Mrs Steele,

#### **REVIEW OF BURIAL GROUND REGULATIONS IN RELATION TO FEES FOR BURIALS**

I am writing in relation to your letter dated 20 September 2022 to Minister Hargey regarding a review of Burial Ground Regulations in relation to fees. The Minister has asked that I reply on her behalf.

The Burial Grounds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 were made under section 181 of the Public Health Ireland Act 1878 (the 1878 Act). This section does not provide the Department with the power to make regulations regarding burial fees.

A council's power to sell exclusive rights of burial, amongst other things, is set out under section 178 of the 1878 Act and the setting of fees is under section 188 of that Act. The Department has no role in the setting of burial fees which is the sole responsibility of councils.

I hope this information is useful to your Committee.

Yours sincerely,



**Anthony Carleton**  
Director, Local Government & Housing Regulation Division