

A GUIDE TO ....

# FUNERAL PLANS

Morecambe Bay Wills and Estates

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## WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER A FUNERAL PLAN?

To protect yourself and your family from rising funeral costs, and ensure your wishes are known and followed.

The average cost of a funeral today is over £4000. This has almost doubled in the last 10 years and is forecast to double again in the next 10 years. With low interest rates, savings plans and life insurance may not keep up with this rate of increase and may not cover your funeral costs.

You can fix your plans and costs now for peace of mind and reassurance for your family in the future. You can also make sure your wishes are clear and followed, leaving less decisions for your family to make at this difficult time.



## HOW CAN WE HELP?

We can offer you a pre-paid funeral plan service exclusively with Co-op Funeralcare.

You can make decisions around the type of service you want, where and when it would be held, and the number of cars provided for your family. You can also specify details of what readings and music you might like to have, and any charities you wish to be supported. You can change these decisions at any point, and your family can choose to make changes at the time of your funeral if required.

These plans are available directly from Co-op Funeralcare at the same prices. We simply make it easier for you by helping you with this alongside our other services in the comfort and privacy of your own home.

QQ

Fabulous service. Personal, discreet, very understanding of all situations. Would highly recommend Nicola and wouldn't go elsewhere.

QQ

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Co-op FuneralCare offer 4 plans. Full details of what is included in each plan are shown [here](#) and overleaf

Simple Plan - £3095 or from £18.96/pm

Bronze Plan - £3595 or from £22.13/pm

Silver Plan - £3995 or from £24.65/pm

Gold Plan - £4295 or from £26.55/pm

Payments can be spread over 12 months interest free or over 2-25 years (with instalment charges). There is no VAT to pay, and Co-op members enjoy a discount of £125 (£75 for the Simple Plan).



## WHY A CO-OP PLAN?

We have chosen to work only with the Co-op because:

They are full members of the [Funeral Planning Authority](#) who regulate providers in the UK pre-paid funeral plan industry.

As the UK's leading Funeral Director, with 100+ years' experience and 1000+ funeral homes in the UK, their plans have won many awards and 5\* ratings.

The Silver and Gold plans guarantee all fees are included, no matter how much prices rise. The Simple and Bronze plans offer generous contributions towards these, meaning your family are unlikely to be left with an unexpected bill. You can compare plans with other providers [here](#).

They offer several payment options. If you choose the instalment option, you also benefit from the "Co-op Commitment" - if you died after the first 12 months of your plan, but before all your instalments have been paid, they will still deliver all the services in your chosen plan with nothing more for your family to pay. Unlike life insurance, if you cancel you get your money back (subject to a cancellation fee).

# CHOOSE FROM 4 CO-OP FUNERALCARE PLANS

A fixed plan includes all our funeral directors' services needed for a burial<sup>^^</sup> or cremation. We've four plans and each includes a different combination of services, so you can choose the one that most closely fits your needs and your budget.

Two of our fixed plans are 'fully guaranteed'. That means that we guarantee to cover the cost of all items within the plan, including our services and any defined third-party fees such as the cremation/burial cost, officiant and doctors' fees if applicable. Once you've paid for your guaranteed plan, your loved ones will have nothing more to pay towards your funeral, even if prices rise in the future.

Two of our fixed plans have a 'Capped Disbursement', which means the plans cover all the essential services for a funeral plus a fixed amount of money that can be used towards third party fees such as the cremation/burial cost, officiant and doctors' fees if applicable. As prices are likely to change during the life of your funeral plan, we will adjust the cap on the charges that we pay to others to reflect general inflation (based on the Consumer Price Index measure of inflation).

## Simple Plan

**Basic plan with some restrictions - our entry price point plan**

The Simple plan is our entry price point plan. It provides the essential services for a funeral with some restrictions. This plan includes a capped inflation linked contribution<sup>^</sup> of £950 towards third party fees such as cremation/burial costs and, if a balance remains, can also be used for officiant and doctors' fees (if applicable). This plan has some restrictions to the day and the time of the funeral and we reserve the right to use our preferred crematorium in the local area. The plan provides a basic coffin and a funeral vehicle of our choosing. It may mean, dependent on when the plan is redeemed, your loved ones may need to pay something towards these costs at the time of redemption.



## Bronze Plan

**Guaranteed to cover the cremation fee**

The Bronze plan has a capped inflation linked contribution<sup>^</sup> of £1,100 towards third party costs. This plan guarantees the third party cremation fee and, if a balance remains, can also be used for officiant and doctors' fees (if applicable). If a burial is selected, the plan contribution will be towards the burial third party costs, such as the burial or interment fee and the officiant fees. The cremation fee guarantee relates to a standard cremation cost only. This plan has some restrictions to the day and the time of the funeral and provides a wood effect coffin and a hearse.



## Silver Plan

**Fully guaranteed**

A popular choice - the Silver plan is fully guaranteed, which means we guarantee to cover the cost of all items within the plan. This includes our services and any defined third-party costs, guaranteeing cremation or burial fees, officiant and doctors' fees (if applicable). This plan includes a choice of a wood effect coffin, a hearse and the provision of one limousine.



## Gold Plan

**Fully guaranteed, award-winning 5 star plan**

The Gold plan, our award-winning plan, rated 5 stars for the fourth year running by Fairer Finance and Defaqto. This plan is fully guaranteed like the Silver plan but with additional products and services included such as the provision of two limousines, a quality wood veneer coffin and a memorial canvas or item up to an equivalent value.

<sup>^</sup>We will adjust the contribution annually in line with general inflation based on the Consumer Price Index measure of inflation (CPI)