



**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL  
REPORT**

<p>To : ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE</p> <hr/> <p>From : DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</p> <hr/> <p>Date : 11th February 1999 Ref : GB/TM</p>	<p>Subject : NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 50(1), LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1973 - SCHEDULE 27, PARAGRAPH 93 - CONTRACT FOR BURIALS</p>
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**PROPOSED DECISION**

To agree that tender documents should be prepared to enable North Lanarkshire Council to enter into a formal contract with a local firm of Funeral Undertakers with a view to providing an acceptable contract burial service covering the whole of the North Lanarkshire area for a period of two years.

**BACKGROUND**

In terms of the above mentioned Acts, North Lanarkshire Council has a duty to cause to be buried the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, in any case where it appears to the authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been or are being made otherwise than by the authority.

Since April 1996, the Environmental Services Department, who administer the provisions of the aforementioned sections, have been, on each occasion, contacting two or more local Funeral Director firms to invite quotes for contract burials on an ad hoc basis with the lowest quote invariably being accepted. This system can be time consuming and can cause, at times, unnecessary delays in responding to the wishes of local hospitals and nursing homes for the funeral arrangements of deceased residents. Mortuary facilities at these establishments, especially smaller nursing homes are usually limited. Having a contract with a local firm would enable the body to be removed without undue delay, especially outwith normal office hours and at weekends.

It is proposed therefore to invite tenders from the local Funeral Undertakers with a view to obtaining a price for the service described in the Appendix to this report.

In summary the service provided by the Department will include the full interment costs of a burial within a cemetery managed by North Lanarkshire Council and will include the services of a Minister, Priest or other person acting in a similar capacity as appropriate together with the cost of transport for the Minister, Priest or other person acting in a similar capacity to and from the funeral.

**RECOMMENDATION**

To approve the report and invite tenders, in terms of the above legislation, for burials as per the Schedule outlined in the Appendix to this report.

*M'Kenzie L. Hutton.*

**APPENDIX****SCHEDULE IN RESPECT OF TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF CONTRACT FUNERALS****(National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 50(1))****Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973 - Schedule 27, Paragraph 93 - Contract Burials)****Description of Service**

The service to be provided comprises funerals from any location within the North Lanarkshire Council Area to any Cemetery managed by the Council in the area. The price will include one fully furnished burial coffin, hire of hearse and car for Minister, Priest or other person acting in a similar capacity, necessary professional services required and any additional cost involved for individual religious funerals at the discretion of the Department.

**Details.**

- (1) Fully Furnished Burial Coffin
- (2) Hire of Hearse and Car
- (3) Professional Services
- (4) Additional cost involved for individual religious funerals at the discretion of the Department.