

In this setting there is no opportunity to include the cremated remains of other adult family members at a later date. This type of grave does not allow for normal type of headstone and is maintained as an open lawn area.

There is no cost for the burial of your baby and no inscription fee for adding your child's name to the central memorial.

Due to difficulties in managing the overwhelming floral tributes and toys in both areas, we observe our Management Rules that only permit a limited number to remain beside any grave or memorial and these can be removed by cemetery staff.

Cremation

South Ayrshire Council offers a cremation service at Masonhill Crematorium in Ayr. There is no fee for this service.

In some cases, there may be no ashes remaining after the cremation of a stillborn or newborn baby. Whether or not there are ashes depends partly on the age of your baby. The staff at Masonhill Crematorium will do all they can to ensure any ashes remaining after the cremation will be preserved and the family advised that there will be ashes to collect.

Choice

Your decision at this sad time is important and may affect you for the rest of your life. Please take your time and discuss with those members of your family and others the choices available to you. You do not have to make these choices while still at the Maternity Unit. You may feel more comfortable to discuss these choices with the funeral director when back at home.

Fees

A list of the current fees charged by South Ayrshire Council is enclosed for your information. Should you have any questions, please discuss them with South Ayrshire Councils Bereavement Services staff on 01292 282387.

Contact Information

Ayrshire SANDS

Support Group Office
Ayrshire Maternity Unit
Crosshouse
Kilmarnock KA2 0BE
Tel: 01563 825402
Mobile: 07754 397 685
Email: support@ayrshiresands.co.uk

Ayrshire Maternity Unit

Ayrshire Maternity Unit
Crosshouse
Kilmarnock KA2 0BE
Tel: 01563 521133

South Ayrshire Council

Bereavement Services Office
Masonhill Crematorium
Ayr
KA6 6EN
Tel: 01292 282387
Fax: 01292 610096
Email for Cemeteries:
cemeteries.office@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Email for Cremation:
Crematorium.office@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

A text only version of this publication is available in Chinese.

For further information please contact:

本出版物還有純文字中文版。
有關更多資訊，請聯絡：

01292 612262

A text only version of this publication is available in Urdu.

For further information please contact:

اس اشاعت کے نسخہ کا صرف متن اردو زبان میں دستیاب ہے۔
مزید جانکاری کے لیے براہ کرم درج ذیل پر رابطہ قائم کریں:

01292 612262

Do you know anyone who is registered blind or has a visual impairment?

If you do and you think that they would like a larger print version or an

audio cassette version of the text contact Council staff on:

01292 612262



South Ayrshire Council Bereavement Services

Burial and Cremation Services for Babies

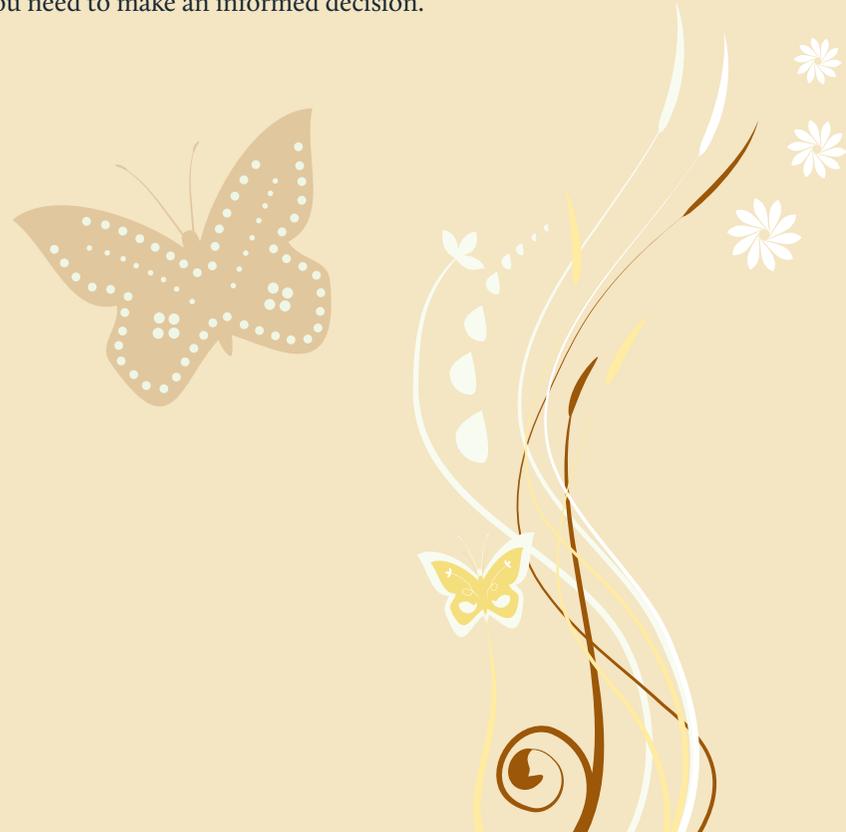
Advice for Bereaved Parents

Introduction

South Ayrshire Council recognises that this is a most distressing time for parents and we will assist wherever possible to ensure that your wishes relating to the last resting place of your child are met.

There are many people who can offer help and support during this time and the first of these will be your Midwife from the Maternity Unit. You will be asked if you wish to speak to a Funeral Director and although this will be difficult, we would advise that you do, as the Funeral Directors have all the facts and support systems that you will need. The Council also have experienced Bereavement Services staff available to answer your questions and to show you or your family the Baby Memorial Gardens available.

The funeral arrangements that you make now will affect you for many years so we believe it is important that you take all the time necessary before making any decisions. You will want to discuss these arrangements with your partner and with your family. If you cannot manage yourself, it would be helpful to arrange for a family member to meet with the Funeral Director. This way, you will have all the facts you need to make an informed decision.



Ayrshire SANDS

(Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society)

“We know what a difficult time this is for you and we understand how you are feeling as all our councillors have experienced a similar loss. We’d like you to know that you are not alone and there is always a listening ear.

Remember that there is no rush to make your decisions about your baby’s funeral, so please take your time as the choices you make cannot be changed at a later date.

Some parents are comforted knowing their baby is buried alongside other babies. Others prefer to purchase a family lair so that in years to come they may be buried alongside their baby. Please also be aware that if you decide on cremation for your baby, there will be few, if any, ashes remaining.

You may decide to place some mementoes inside your baby’s coffin – such as photographs, letters, a teddy, a special blanket or a poem.

Please do not hesitate to contact us. Our thoughts are with you.”

(Contact details for SANDS are listed at the end of this leaflet.)

Ayrshire Maternity Unit

“Our thoughts are with you at this very sad time. We realise how difficult it must be to think about your baby’s funeral. You need to consider where you would want your baby’s final resting place to be, so please take time to read this leaflet carefully and perhaps discuss your wishes with your family.

Your midwife will try and answer any questions you may have. It is important that you do not rush into any decisions and that you feel clear about your choices.”

Burial

South Ayrshire Council offer 3 types of grave space in their cemeteries for the burial of babies, these are;

1. Family Grave (All cemeteries)
2. Individual Purchased Baby Grave (Baby Section in Ayr and Girvan)
3. Individual Grave with Communal Memorial (Baby Section in Ayr and Girvan).

Grave Types

Family Grave

If you wish to have your baby buried in a traditional family grave, South Ayrshire Council Bereavement Services can help you. To do this you will need to purchase a full adult grave in your local cemetery.

Your funeral director can do this for you or you can call the cemetery office yourself.

This would normally allow for the burial of your baby plus two adult coffins (dependent on ground conditions), as well as up to 6 cremation caskets.

A memorial of your choice can be erected on these graves and bereavement staff will be able to assist with the types and inform you of local memorial masons that are permitted to work in our cemeteries, under the guidance of Council staff.

Baby Graves

In addition to family graves, South Ayrshire Council provides dedicated baby sections at Ayr Cemetery and at Bynehill Cemetery, in Girvan. These areas are specifically for the burial of babies and provide a peaceful resting place.

Within the Baby Sections there are 2 ways in which the burial of a baby can be undertaken:-

1. Individual Purchased Baby Grave

This type of single grave allows you to erect a small headstone and will usually accommodate up to six cremated remains. Whilst there is no fee for the burial of your baby or their cremated remains, there will be a fee for the purchase of the individual grave as well as the cost of any memorial or subsequent burial of cremated remains.

2. Individual Grave with a Communal Memorial

An individual grave is provided in a dedicated baby area where the Council has erected a central memorial. Here, you are able to have your baby buried in a single grave with your baby’s name recorded on the central memorial, if you so wish. There is also room to leave a small stone vase engraved with your baby’s name.

The Council manage this Baby Memorial Garden in conjunction with bereaved parents - the ‘Friends of Ayr Baby Cemetery’ and Ayrshire SANDS (Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society) who meet on a twice yearly basis. Please call Ayr Cemetery Office for details for the next meeting which you are very welcome to attend.