

After you've registered the death you will also be issued with a **Green Certificate**, this allows the burial or cremation to go ahead, there is no additional charge for this certificate. This needs to be handed to the Funeral Director to arrange the next steps.

One of the things that you will need to do after a bereavement is contact government departments and local council services. When you register the death you will be advised that there is now a 'Tell Us Once' service available which will make things easier. This is a multi-agency tool which ensures that you can just make one call and they will let these central organisations know. There is no charge for this service. For further information you can contact them directly on 0800 0857308 (after the death has been registered) or via their website [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk).

If you use the **Tell Us Once** service the following Government and Council Departments will be informed (where applicable):

- HMRC Benefits and Credits
- HMRC Personal Tax
- Housing Benefit
- Passport Office
- Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Benefits and Entitlements
- Council Tax
- Electoral Services
- Adult Social Services
- Blue Badge/Disability Service
- War Pensions Scheme
- Concessionary Travel (Bus Passes)
- DVLA Driving Licence
- DVLA Registered Keeper of a Vehicle
- Public Sector Pensions and/or Armed Forces Pension Schemes

### **Organising a Funeral:**

It is important to contact a Funeral Director as soon as possible after the death of your loved one, there are many options available from large firms to small independents or local family run companies and the arrangements will vary depending on which you choose. Although most funerals are carried out in this way you do not have to use a Funeral Director, this can be done by yourself, if you would like further information please contact the Cemeteries and Crematorium Department of your local authority for further advice and guidance.

Once you have organised an appointment with the Funeral Director of your choice they will visit you in your home to discuss the arrangements. There are many things to think about and decide when arranging a funeral. It is often a difficult time for family and friends who are dealing with loss, sometimes a person may have set up a Funeral Plan which will outline their preferences and may have paid all or some of the costs prior to their death, if you have not been advised of any expression of wishes this information may also be contained within a will if there is one. The