



Dr Richard Neal
Honor Oak Health Centre
20 Turnham Road
Brockley
SE4 2LA

Environmental Management
Municipal Offices
151-153 Walworth Road
London
SE17 1RY

Please reply to:
Keith Weir
Tel: 0171-525 2092
Fax: 0171-525 2050
Your ref:
Our ref: L13799RNCPS
Date: 13th July 1999

Dear Dr Neal,

Re: Cemeteries Policy for Southwark

Thank you for your letter on the above subject. Councillors, following a period of consultation considered an item on the future of burial provision in Southwark on the 9th October 1996. A copy of the item is attached.

Councillors confirmed (see extract from minutes) that 3 acres of the recreation ground could be reclaimed for burial purposes as soon as at least 3 acres of the old nursery site was provided for recreational use.

Continuing deliberations on the future use of the old nursery site have obviously delayed this reclamation.

The report that Councillors considered also made proposals to ensure that the Council had burial provision for the next 25 to 50 years. This provision would be found by using the following practices/mechanisms:

- (a) reclamation of 3 acres;
- (b) development of a number of public grave areas by building up soil levels and redigging;
- (c) re-use of old graves to utilise vacant grave spaces;
- (d) digging to a depth of 10 feet plus, thereby ensuring four burial spaces to one grave.

Throughout the consultation period it was emphasised that the development of policy had as it's basic principle the provision of burial space for the residents of Southwark. Councillors wish to provide residents with as great a choice for as long as possible. Once this provision has been exhausted cremation will become the only option.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss the matter further.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Weir
Head of Environmental Management

Enc.

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|
| FRN | AMW | EWf | CDS |
| NAD | TCI | BWN | SUMM |
| 16 JUL 1999 | | | |
| ACTION | | | |