

You will be aware that the NI Executive announced the amendment of the Public Health Regulations to permit the opening of burial grounds on a "restricted basis."

FOR ALL PARISHES WITH CHURCH GRAVEYARDS AND CEMETERIES:

You may now reopen parish burial grounds to visitors.

In the absence of further guidance from the Executive, we make the following recommendations:

- For the well being of all involved with funerals, there should be no public access at the time of a funeral - access should be restricted to the funeral party only.
- It may be necessary to restrict access at other times, such as during essential maintenance work.
- If you have oversight of a large graveyard with regular burials, you may wish to restrict visiting to times further, for example to afternoons only.

The Executive has indicated that the decision will be kept under review and should we receive any further advice or guidance we will share this with you.

