

AUDIT OF CEMETERY PROVISION WITHIN SOUTH DERBYSHIRE

On 26th February 2015 an initial letter and questionnaire (copy attached at Annexe 1) was sent out to 31 Parish Councils to ascertain the provision of burial space within their area. The Parish Councils were also given the opportunity to complete the questionnaire online. In some areas where Parish Councils were not responsible for burial provision they passed on the questionnaire to bodies such as the Church of England for completion, others provided further contact details to enable a second tranche of 9 questionnaires to be sent out.

31 responses were received in total (6 of which were nil returns). No responses were completed online.

NOTE: *A key area where data has not been received from to date is Willington where the Parish Council own and manage a cemetery. Due to the size of the settlement and the likelihood of further development this information could be significant in a needs assessment. Should the data become available it will be incorporated into the report.*

Of the 25 sites with data provided 5 were operated by Parish Councils, 14 were burial areas connected to Churches and operated by their relevant Parochial Church Councils and 6 were operated by the District Council.

The questionnaire was broken up into sections covering site details, grave details (statistical data), burial/site costs and planning for the future.

Site Details

The dates of sites coming into being vary greatly. For example the oldest churchyard was established in 653 with the newest burial site, a Parish Council managed site, opening in 2005.

A total of 18 of the 25 sites were still accepting interments.

14 of the 18 sites still accepting interments operated restrictions as to who could be interred within their burial ground, (e.g. live locally, belong to the church etc.) the majority of these sites being churchyards.

Sizes of sites were provided by 14 respondents. These range from 0.09ha to 4.1ha with Findern Cemetery (pre-extension) currently being the smallest site in the district and Church Gresley Cemetery being the largest. (See table)

Cemetery Name	Size of site
Findern Cemetery	0.09 ha (0.4 ha post extension)
Elvaston 'New' Churchyard	0.1 ha
Moor Lane, Aston on Trent	0.17 ha
Marston on Dove Cemetery	0.3 ha
St Wystan's, Repton	0.6 ha approx.
Christ Church, Linton	0.916 ha
St James' Church, Shardlow	1 ha
St Mary the Virgin, Newton Solney	1 ha approx.
St Saviours Church, Foremark	Approx. 1 ha
St George's Church, Ticknall	1.125 ha
Derby Rd Cemetery, Aston on Trent	1.5 ha
Newhall Cemetery	1.83 ha
Barrow on Trent	2 ha
Church Gresley Cemetery	4.1 ha

Grave Details

Whilst most responses could provide the total number of plots on their site and the number of available/unreserved plots there was more difficulty in providing information on part used and reserved plots.

Sites where data was provided show a range from 90 plots to approximately 6,675 plots. This data correlates to the size of site.

The number of unreserved plots available at sites range from single figures in areas such as Church Gresley (8) and Walton on Trent (7) to Derby Road, Aston on Trent (585), St Michael & All Angels [Church Broughton] (500 extended in 2014) and Marston on Dove (275).

Only 2 sites have Gardens of Remembrance where cremated remains may be scattered whilst 21 sites had provision for the interment of cremated remains.

Again whilst most responses could provide the total number of cremated remains plots on site and the number of available/unreserved cremated remains plots there was more difficulty in providing information on part used and reserved cremated remains plots.

Where data was provided sites had from between 6 (Dalbury Lees) to approx. 250 (Church Gresley) cremated remains plots on site.

14 of the 21 sites where there was provision for the interment of cremated remains still had available/unreserved plots.

Of the 4 sites which reported vaults on site, none were still open to interments.

Each respondent was asked to provide details of the number of interments undertaken at their site for the previous 5 years. This data can be found in Annexe 2 attached.

Based on the number of available/unreserved graves available at sites and the average number of interments per year on said site the projected lifespans are as follows:

Cemetery	No. of Graves Available/Unreserved	Average No. of Interments per yr	Projected Lifespan (yrs)
Derby Rd Cemetery, Aston	585	5	117
Elvaston 'New' Churchyard	53	3	17
St Michael & All Angels, Church Broughton	500	2	250
All Saints, Dalbury Lees	50	1	50
St George's Church, Ticknall	100	2	50
Scropton Churchyard Extension	12	2	6
St Laurence's Church, Walton on Trent	7	2	3
St Wilfrid's Church, Egginton	80	1	80
St James' Church, Shardlow	6	2	3
Melbourne Cemetery	121	12	10
Barrow on Trent	240	2	120
St Michael's Church, Sutton on the Hill	500	3	166
St Mary the Virgin, Newton Solney	12	1	12
Marston on Dove Cemetery	275	9	30
Findern Cemetery	4 Est 510 within new extension coming online late 2015/early 2016	4	1 128
Newhall Cemetery	262	7	37
Church Gresley Cemetery	8	10	>1

Burial/Site Costs

When asked which official body was responsible for the collection of burial fees 5 were collected by the Parish Council, 14 by the relevant Parochial Church Council and 6 by the District Council.

A breakdown of the costs charged by the relevant official body can be found attached at Annexe 3 alongside the current burial fees charged by neighbouring authorities as a comparative.

The responsible body for site maintenance costs predominantly correlates to the body responsible for the collection of burial fees. The only instance where this differs is at Etwall Cemetery where maintenance is undertaken by the Parish Council but fees collected by either the District Council or Parochial Church Council depending on which section.

Annual budgets for maintenance where quantified vary greatly from few hundred pounds (Newton Solney) to just over £29k (Melbourne) where a full time sexton is employed. Works covered by maintenance budgets largely consist of grass cutting, strimming, hedge trimming, weed control, tree maintenance and boundary repairs.

Additional costs not covered by annual maintenance budgets can include items such as signage, pathways, roadways, memorial plinths, replacement equipment etc.

Planning for the future

16 of 25 responses stated that they had not identified any land for future provision of burial space. 8 respondents had identified additional land and 1 had completed an extension within the previous 12 months (Church Broughton). All identified sites were adjacent to current ones. The areas that had identified future provision include: Elvaston, Scropton, Repton, Barrow on Trent, Foremark, Newton Solney, Marston on Dove, Findern (extension due for completion 2015).

Where future provision had been considered all sites were currently in the ownership of the relevant body.

Only 2 of the 8 future sites were suitable for double interments with only 1 site able to provide an approximation of the number of graves that would be made available within the new site/extension, this being Marston on Dove whose future extension would provide in the region of 550 additional graves.

A full table of responses is available on request.

Further data on funeral trends can be found at the end of the document. (Annexe 4)

Questionnaire Letter & Questionnaire



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Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Date: 26th February 2015

Dear

Audit of Cemetery/Churchyard Provision

To enable the District Council, as part of its scrutiny function, to gain an overall view of burial provision within the district of South Derbyshire we are undertaking an in-depth audit of what is currently provided by different organisations including Parish Councils and churches.

Not only will this information provide us with a fuller picture of the current situation within the district but hopefully an insight into the future requirements of the district.

With this in mind it would be appreciated if you could complete the enclosed questionnaire, either by using the enclosed paper copy and returning it in the pre-paid envelope or by going online to www.surveymonkey.com/s/cemetery_provision_survey by 27th March 2015.

You may find that some of the questions are not applicable to yourselves. In this instance it would be appreciated if a N/A or Nil return could be provided.

Whilst we do not expect you to complete the questionnaire on behalf of other organisations within your area, at the end of the questionnaire we would appreciate it if you could provide us with contact details of other organisations so we can contact them direct.

Should you require further information on this audit please contact the Cemeteries & Services Officer, Joanne Abbassi on 01283 595782.

Yours sincerely

pp Malcolm Roseburgh
Cultural Services Manager

CEMETERY PROVISION SURVEY

Please use Block Letters

Site details

Name of Cemetery or Graveyard [where multiple sites within your area please fill out a separate questionnaire for each one]

Location address

Postcode:	

What year was the site opened? (If unsure please give approx. year)

Is the Burial site closed to interments in new/unreserved graves?

Is the burial site restricted to Parish residents only?

Size of site (hectares)

Grave details

Total number of grave plots on site

Total of graves partly full (double/triple plots)

Total number of reserved plots (please state if known)

Single graves	
Double graves	
Triple graves	

Number of vacant/unreserved grave plots available

Do you have a Remembrance Garden at your site for the scattering of cremated remains?

Yes / No	Area of size allocated	
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Is provision made at your site for the interment of cremated remains within a plot?

Yes / No

Total number of cremated remains plots on site

Total number of cremated remains plots partly full

Total number of reserved cremated remains plots

Number of vacant/unreserved cremated remains plots available

Do you have any Family or Individual Vaults on site (please give approx. figures)

Are the Vaults still open to receive further interments?

Please give details of the number of interments undertaken at your site for the previous five years

	Coffin burials		Cremated remains	
	New	Re-open	New	Re-open
2014				
2013				
2012				
2011				
2010				

Burial/Site Costs

Which official body is responsible for the collection of burial fees?

Please provide details of your current burial charges:

Coffin Burial

	£
Grant of Right (where issued)	
New single grave	
New double grave	
2 nd /subsequent interment within a grave	

Cremated Remains

	£
Grant of Right (where issued)	
1 st interment of remains	
2 nd /subsequent interment of remains	
Scattering of remains (where available)	

Which official body is responsible for the site's maintenance costs?

What is the annual budget for maintenance costs?

What maintenance services does this budget cover?

Are there any other financial costs not covered above?

Which body has overall responsibility for the Burial ground?

Planning for the Future

Has land been identified or secured to extend the provision of burials within your Parish for the future?

If so, where is the preferred location of the new site?

Has planning advice been sought or granted?

How is the proposed new site to be financed?

Is the proposed future burial ground suitable for double graves?

How many new graves is it anticipated will be created?

If a preferred site has not yet been found, what size site would you ideally be looking for? (hectares)

Are you aware of any other organisations, whether private or ecclesiastic, which have a burial site/churchyard within your area that could also provide details for this survey? If so, please give details of the organisation below.

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey.

Please can you provide your contact details should we need to seek any further clarification on the information you have provided.

Name:

Email address:

Tel Number:

Interment Numbers for the last 5 years

Parish / Organisation Name			2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Aston on Trent PC	Coffin Burials	New	12	4	3	3	0
		Re-Open	0	1	1	0	0
	CR Interments	New	1	0	0	0	0
		Re-open	0	0	0	0	0
Elvaston 'New' Churchyard	Coffin Burials	New	3	2	3	3	4
		Re-Open	0	1	0	0	0
	CR Interments	New	1	1	2	2	1
		Re-open	1	1	0	0	0
St Michael & All Angels Churchyard Church Broughton	Coffin Burials	New	0	3	1	1	2
		Re-Open	1	0	0	0	0
	CR Interments	New	0	3	0	0	0
		Re-open	0	0	0	0	0
All Saints Dalbury	Coffin Burials	New	2	2	0	1	0
		Re-Open	1	0	0	0	0
	CR Interments	New	0	3	0	0	0
		Re-open	0	0	0	1	0
St George Church Graveyard Ticknall	Coffin Burials	New	0	1	3	5	0
		Re-Open	4	2	1	2	0
	CR Interments	New	1	3	1	4	1
		Re-open	1	0	1	1	0
Scropton Churchyard Extension	Coffin Burials	New	0	2	1	3	2
		Re-Open	0	0	1	0	0
	CR Interments	New	2	2	0	1	0
		Re-open	1	1	0	0	0
St Laurence's Churchyard, Walton on Trent	Coffin Burials	New	4	1	3	1	1
		Re-Open	2	0	0	0	0
	CR Interments	New	0	2	1	1	2
		Re-open	0	1	0	0	0

St Wilfrid's Churchyard, Egginton	Coffin Burials	New	0	0	0	2	1
		Re-Open	1	0	2	1	1
	CR Interments	New	2	1	3	4	0
		Re-open	0	1	1	1	0
St James Church, Shardlow	Coffin Burials	New	0	2	3	3	2
		Re-Open	1	1	2	1	1
	CR Interments	New					
		Re-open					
Melbourne Cemetery	Coffin Burials	New					
		Re-Open					
	CR Interments	New					
		Re-open					
Monsom Lane Burial Ground Repton	Coffin Burials	New	1	2	2	1	3
		Re-Open	4	2	0	1	0
	CR Interments	New	3	2	0	0	1
		Re-Open	0	0	2	0	2
Barrow upon Trent	Coffin Burials	New	3	2	0	1	2
		Re-Open	0	0	0	0	0
	CR Interments	New	0	0	0	0	1
		Re-Open	0	0	0	0	0
St Michael's, Sutton on the Hill	Coffin Burials	New	3	6	0	3	3
		Re-Open	0	0	0	0	0
	CR Interments	New	0	0	2	0	0
		Re-Open	0	0	0	0	0
Chrict Church, Linton	Coffin Burials	New	0	1	0	0	0
		Re-Open	0	0	0	0	0
	CR Interments	New	0	0	2	2	3
		Re-Open	0	0	0	1	0
St Saviours, Foremark	Coffin Burials	New				1	1
		Re-Open					1
	CR Interments	New					
		Re-Open					

Average of 12 interments per year at Melbourne

St Wystan's, Repton	Coffin Burials	New					
		Re- Open					
	CR Interments	New	3	6	1	4	3
		Re- Open	1	5	1	1	2
St Mary The Virgin, Newton Solney	Coffin Burials	New		1		1	
		Re- Open				1	
	CR Interments	New	4	2	5	3	2
		Re- Open	2	2	2	2	1
Aston on Trent Cemetery (Moor Lane)	Coffin Burials	New	0	0	0	0	1
		Re- Open	1	0	0	1	0
	CR Interments	New	0	0	0	0	0
		Re- open	0	0	0	0	0
Church Gresley Cemetery	Coffin Burials	New	8	11	9	9	10
		Re- Open	2	9	7	1	5
	CR Interments	New	10	5	10	4	3
		Re- open	10	13	13	6	6
Etwall Cemetery	Coffin Burials	New	1	2	1	1	6
		Re- Open	5	4	4	1	9
	CR Interments	New	0	0	0	0	0
		Re- open	2	1	0	2	0
Findern Cemetery	Coffin Burials	New	5	2	6	2	3
		Re- Open	0	0	0	0	0
	CR Interments	New	0	1	0	2	1
		Re- open	0	2	0	0	0
Marston on Dove Cemetery	Coffin Burials	New	8	11	9	6	8
		Re- Open	4	4	5	1	3
	CR Interments	New	6	5	4	5	4
		Re- open	3	3	2	6	1
Newhall Cemetery	Coffin Burials	New	7	8	9	6	4
		Re- Open	7	8	2	8	9
	CR Interments	New	8	7	2	5	4
		Re- open	9	13	7	5	7

Interment Fees

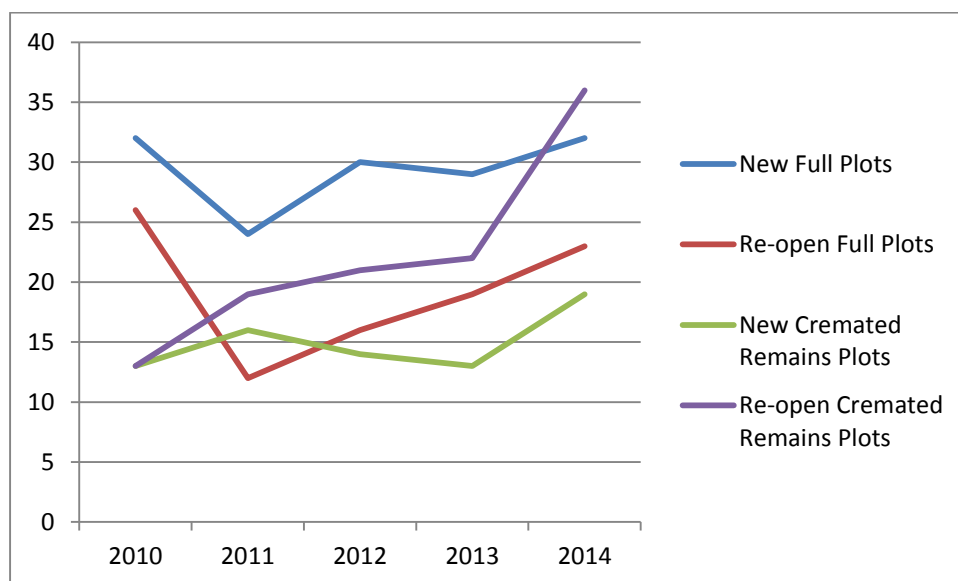
		Coffin Interment				Cremated Remains Interment				
Site Name	Parish / Organisation Name	Grant of Right	New Single Grave	New Double Grave	2nd / Subsequent interment	Grant of Right	1st interment	2nd interment	Scattering (where available)	Additional Info
Aston on Trent Cemetery (Derby Road)	Aston on Trent PC			400	330		180			Charges x1.5 for non-residents
Elvaston 'New' Churchyard	Elvaston PCC	inc. in fee	284	568	284		122	122		
St Michael & All Angels Church, Church Broughton	PCC		284	284	284		122	122		additional fee if not immediately after church service
All Saints Dalbury	PCC		284	284	284		148	148		additional fee if not immediately after church service
St George Church Graveyard, Ticknall	PCC		284	284	284		148	148		
Scropton Churchyard Extension	PCC		295	295			142	142		additional fees if not in church or crem

St Laurence's Churchyard, Walton on Trent	PCC		284		284		148	148		
St Wilfrid's Churchyard, Egginton	PCC		272	272	272		110	110		
St James Church, Shardlow	PCC		310				148			
Melbourne Cemetery	Parish Council									No fees supplied
All SDDC Cemeteries	SDDC	470	409	377.5	366	226.5	110	110		
Monsom Lane Burial Ground	Parish Council	270		220	220	220	170	170	120	
Barrow upon Trent	Parish Council	350	350			120	120			
St Michael's, Sutton on the Hill	PCC		284	284	284		148	148	178	
Christ Church, Linton	PCC		284	284			122	122		
St Saviour's Church, Foremark	PCC		442		341		142	142		
St Wystan's Church, Repton	PCC						122/148	122/148		price depends on whether burial immediately follows church service
St Mary The Virgin, Newton Solney	PCC		284	284	284		148	148		

East Staffs Borough Council		617	478	478	478	261	132	132		Additional fees for non-residents
North West Leicestershire District Council		403	363	363	363	218	109	109	60	Additional fees for non-residents
Derby City Council		1005	603	711	603	190	112	112	44	
Willington Cemetery	Parish Council	84	126	126	95	79		66	53	Information taken from parish website (fees do not include the cost of grave digging) Additional Administration fee of £68 applicable

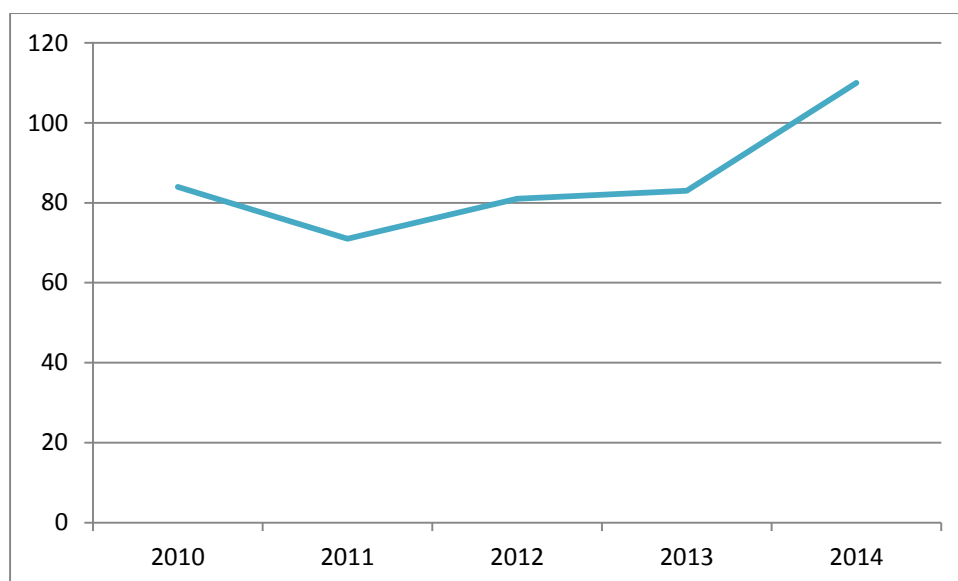
Funeral Trends

No. of Interments & Type within SDDC Managed Cemeteries

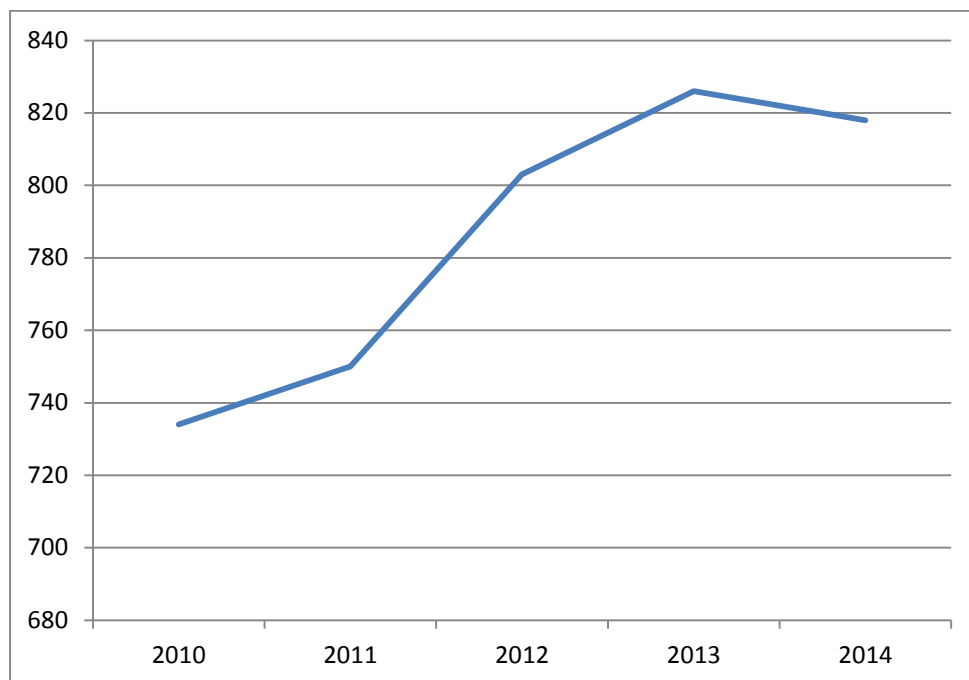


NB. Full plots are full size graves for coffin interments

Total No. of Interments within South Derbyshire

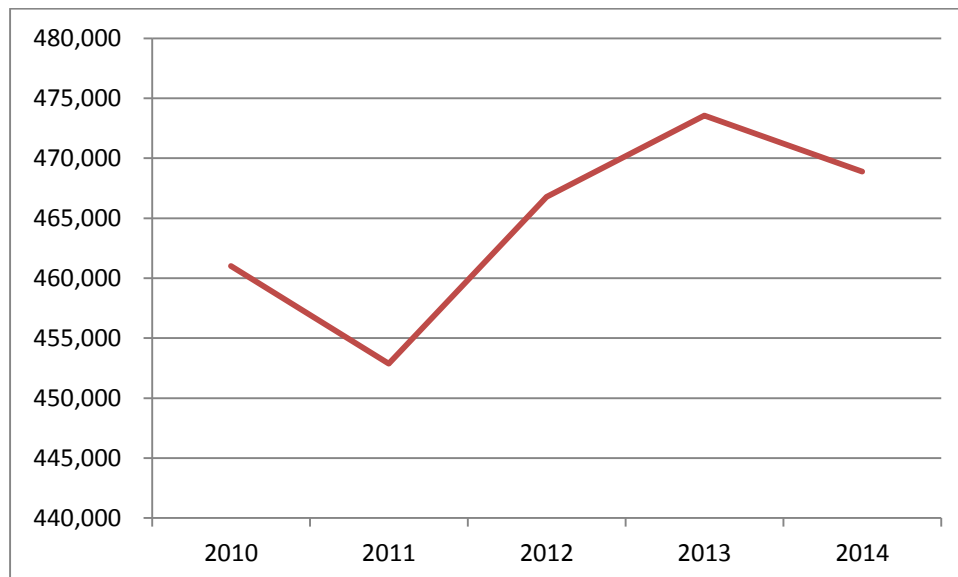


No. of Deaths Registered within South Derbyshire 2010-2014



Data supplied by the Office of National Statistics

No. of Deaths Registered within England 2010 -2014



Data supplied by the Office of National Statistics

Information provided by the Cremation Society of Great Britain shows that since 2011 the cremation rate has been hovering around 75% therefore the burial rate is circa 25%.

The Cremation Society of Great Britain
National Cremation Statistics (extract from website)

Year	Operating Crematoria	New Crematoria	Deaths**	Cremations	Percentage
2011	265	5	556,434	413,845	74.37
2012	266	1	572,962	425,784	74.31
2013	270	5*	580,086	436,280	75.20
2014	273	3	574,093+	429,254	74.77+

Local Cremation Statistics (data provided by Bretby Crematorium)

Date	Total no. of cremations	No. of which SDDC residents
29/4/13 – 28/4/14	1499	489
29/4/12 – 28/4/13	1793	610
2011/2012	1434	Data missing
1/04/10 – 4/2/11	1243	398