

AT A GLANCE – FUNERAL FAIR

The first ever North West Funeral fair was held on Saturday 12th November 2022 in the Guildhall.

Pulling together several elements of the funeral planning process, the fair offered attendees the opportunity to explore end of life as a part of life.

The funeral fair supported the concept of death preparedness by providing a specific focus on funeral planning as a preparatory activity as opposed to a reactionary activity (to the death of a loved one).

There were several information stalls/funeral vendors present on the day, these included:

- Pat Harley Funeral Directors
- Abbey Funeral Directors
- Organ Donation NI
- Advice North West
- Compassionate Communities NI
- Friends of Derry City Cemetery
- DCSDC Registrars Office
- DCSDC City Cemetery Staff
- Erin Carlin Funeral Musician
- NI Humanists
- Natural Burial Ground NI Campaign Group
- CRUSE Bereavement
- Healing Hearts Bereavement
- Foyle Hospice

The funeral fair set out to achieve two goals under the projects death preparedness strand of work:

- **To encourage people to talk about end of life and funeral planning.**
- **To encourage people to think about planning their funeral.**

We received 38 completed feedback forms, however, we estimate that the funeral fair was attended by approx 80 people.

Feedback from attendees confirms that the funeral fair achieved its goals.

100% of people said that they would tell their family and friends about the funeral fair.

100% of people said the funeral fair would help them think about their own funeral plans.

61% of attendees rated the funeral fair as **5 star**, **34%** rated it as **4 star**, and **2%** rated it as **3 star** (3% of attendees did not complete the star rating section of the feedback form).

Event feedback shows that more than 1/3 of respondents would welcome the funeral fair as an annual event in the city's calendar.

Feedback comments included:

'Excellent to see this taboo subject being talked about'

'Good idea!'

'Really helpful to help me decide what I want'

'Excellent'

'Great idea, people need to think and do something about forward planning for the one thing we are all sure of'