

# Paying for the Funeral

**One of the main concerns when making funeral arrangement is the cost.**

**This section outlines the average cost of a funeral in Scotland and provides information on what financial support is available to help with the costs.**

**You can ask your Key Worker for more information and talk to them about what options might be available for you.**

## **The Cost**

- The average cost of a funeral in 2018 in Scotland was estimated at approximately £4,085
- Additional costs such as flowers, notices in the local paper and the hosting of a wake can add on as much as £2,000 to the average funeral

## **Paying for the Funeral**

- When a person dies all their bank accounts are frozen. Money can only be released to pay for the funeral. You have to check what their bank's policy is and how quickly funds can be released to your family or the funeral director
- You might want to find a funeral director who will accept payment later rather than in advance, this would allow you to receive payments from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA) and then repay the funeral director

# Funeral Expenses Payment

- You might be eligible for the Funeral Expense Payment if you receive other benefits
- You have six months from the date of the funeral to make a claim
- You can make a claim before the funeral if you have an invoice from the funeral director
- You cannot make a claim if you've only been given an estimate
- Be aware that the Funeral Expense Payment is usually unable to cover all costs that come with arranging a funeral

## How to Claim:

- You can claim by calling the Bereavement Service helpline on 0800 731 0469
- Or by filling out the form available at

[tinyurl.com/funeral-expenses-form](https://tinyurl.com/funeral-expenses-form)

