Grass cutting in Southampton City Council Cemeteries

The Cemetery Operatives are responsible for excavating grave spaces and grounds maintenance of Southampton City Council's five cemeteries. Most grass sections are cut by two teams; one covering Hollybrook Cemetery and Millbrook Cemetery with the other covering South Stoneham Cemetery, St Mary's Extra Cemetery and Southampton (Old) Cemetery.

All sections are cut in rotation and weather permitting this programme will continue throughout the grass cutting session, however grass cutting within all our cemeteries is very labour intensive due to the number of obstructions encountered, and the care needed to ensure that headstones and kerb sets are not damaged by the machinery being used, so progress might still be slower than some cemetery users would expect.

Some sections are not cut as frequently as others in order to provide areas where wild flowers, bees and other insects can thrive within the urban landscape.

* These sections may contain both non-protected and protected species of wild flowers.

Some cemetery owners prefer to maintain the grass around their own graves, if this is the case please contact the Bereavement Services office for advice on 023 8076 6405.

| | 1 st cut | 2 nd cut | 3 rd cut | 4 th cut | 5 th cut |
|----------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Hollybrook Cemetery | March/April | May/June | June/July | August/September | October/November |
| South Stoneham Cemetery | March/April | May/June | June/July | August/September | October/November |
| St Mary's Extra Cemetery * | March/April | May/June | June/July | August/September | October/November |
| Millbrook Cemetery | April to October | | | | |
| Southampton Old Cemetery | This cemetery has a designated mowing programme based on specialist wildlife and conservation advice. | | | | |

The above programme is subject to change in adverse weather conditions.