

**COUNCIL  
14 APRIL 2015**

**MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

SUBMITTED UNDER PARAGRAPH 4.18 OF THE CONSTITUTION

**1. PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MARY BARNETT**

**MOTION:**

Torfaen County Borough Council asks the Gwent Cremation Joint Committee to consider extending opening hours for Funeral Services during critical periods, including the possibility of Saturday morning services. There has been a lengthy waiting list, sometimes of over four weeks for Cremation Services this winter; causing extra sadness for bereaved families and friends. Extended opening hours would help ease the anguish felt by the bereaved.

**RATIONALE:**

Although we have been fortunate to avoid any great influenza or other type of epidemic this winter, there has still been a long waiting period for bereaved families and an increase no doubt in pressures on the Crematorium Staff and local Funeral Directors and mortuaries. There are often critical periods during the year when death rates are higher than normal, including no doubt in very hot summers. With an increase in the numbers of Gwent residents requesting cremation rather than burial it would be prudent to ask the Gwent Cremation Joint Committee to consider extending opening hours during periods of increased demand. The Lead Authority for Gwent Crematorium is Newport City Council and Cllr Nigel Davies is our representative on the Committee.