Funeral Plan: Conduct of Business sourcebook

Chapter 10

Arrangements for the funeral



10.1 **Application and purpose**

Application

10.1.1 This chapter applies to a funeral plan provider that enters into a funeral plan contract, under which it undertakes to secure that another person provides a funeral for the covered individual on their death.

Purpose

10.1.2 G The purpose of the requirements in this chapter is to provide certainty at the point of sale of a funeral plan contract that an appropriate funeral services provider will provide the services required under the contract at no additional cost to the customer or the covered individual's estate.

Arrangements with the funeral services provider

10.1.3 R A firm must, within 30 days of the customer's purchase of a funeral plan contract, make appropriate arrangements for the funeral to be carried out. The arrangements must:

- (1) be legally enforceable;
- (2) be made with a funeral services provider that is located within a reasonable distance of the covered individual's address, unless:
 - (a) it is clear from the nature of the funeral plan contract that this was not the intention of both the funeral services provider and the customer; or

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- (b) the customer agrees otherwise;
- (3) identify the business name and address of the funeral services provider (including, as appropriate, the relevant branch) that will carry out the funeral; and
- (4) be such as to ensure that neither the *customer* nor the *covered* individual's estate are required to make further payments to the funeral services provider to provide the funeral in accordance with the funeral plan contract.
- 10.1.4 Following compliance with ■ FPCOB 10.1.3R, the firm must within 2 business days provide the customer with a notification of:
 - (1) the name, address and contact details of the relevant funeral services provider: and

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(2) a summary of the arrangements made with the funeral services provider,

in accordance with ■ FPCOB 6.2 (Means of communication to customers).

- The *firm* must provide the notification in FPCOB 10.1.4R to the nominated representative at the same time as it is provided to the *customer* unless the circumstances in FPCOB 9.3.7R apply.
- The *firm* must regularly review the arrangements under FPCOB 10.1.3R to ensure that the funeral services provider will provide the services required under the *funeral plan contract*.
- 10.1.7 G For the purposes of FPCOB 10.1.6R, a review should take place at least every 12 months.
- If at any time after a *firm* has complied with FPCOB 10.1.3R, a *firm* becomes aware that the funeral services provider is unable or likely to be unable to provide the services required under the *funeral plan contract*, the *firm* must make alternative arrangements with another funeral services provider, at no additional cost to the *customer* or *covered individual*.
- - (1) the customer; and
 - (2) the nominated representative, unless the FPCOB 9.3.6R circumstances apply,

of any new arrangements made under FPCOB 10.1.8R as soon as practicable and in any event, within 2 *business days* of making the arrangements.

- 10.1.10 G A funeral plan provider should consider its arrangements in respect of subsisting funeral plans and whether those arrangements would meet the purpose of the requirements in this section, what steps it might take to change those arrangements as a result and what notifications to make to the customer and the nominated representative.
- 10.1.11 R [deleted]