

Dear Funeral Directors and Funeral Parlour Operators,

Easing of Community Safe Management Measures (SMMs)

Thanks to the collective efforts of everyone in Singapore, the daily local case numbers and the number of COVID-19 related hospitalisations have declined steadily. The Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) announced on 24 March 2022 the easing of our community SMMs. The revised measures will take effect from 29 March 2022. For more information, please visit the MOH website at www.moh.gov.sg/news-highlights/details/easing-of-community-smms-and-border-measures.

Mask-Wearing and Safe Distancing

2. Mask is required to be worn at all times at funeral events held at indoor premises. If a tentage is set up and the outdoor area becomes enclosed, it will be considered as an indoor setting.
3. Where mask is worn, safe distancing continues to be encouraged. Attendees to funeral events should continue to exercise prudence and restraint, and limit interactions of attendees to the same group they are with.
4. For funeral events held at outdoor non-enclosed places (e.g. burial service at cemetery, funeral wakes at void decks of public housing estates), mask-wearing is required when safe distancing of 1 metre between groups of 10 persons is not met.

Event Size Limits for Funeral Events

5. The maximum number of attendees present at the same time continues to be based on the capacity of the venue¹.
6. For funerals held at home, the current requirement of up to 30 attendees remains.

7. For cremation service at Mandai Crematorium, NEA will continue to issue 50 entry passes for each cremation application at Mandai Crematorium. This is in view of ensuring safe capacity at the venue and to avoid chokepoints.

Live Performances

8. Performance and live instrumental music, including live singing and playing of wind instruments will be allowed, provided that the performers keep to the group size of 10 unmasked persons, and keep a 1 metre safe distancing from others.

Vocalisation Activities

9. Religious workers involved in the conduct of the religious rites (e.g. preaching, chanting of prayers) and family members giving eulogies can unmask, provided that they keep to the group size of 10 unmasked persons, and keep a 1 metre safe distancing from others. For large group vocalisation activities beyond the group size of 10 people, it would still be subject to masks being worn.

10. The requirements in the Annex are for your compliance. You are encouraged to also keep abreast and closely monitor the developments and related advisories in the MOH website at www.moh.gov.sg.

11. This is a generic email account, for any further enquiry, you may use the feedback form available in MyEnv Mobile application or via the NEA website at <http://www.nea.gov.sg/feedback>. Thank you.

Regards,

Kaylene Lee

Memorial Facilities and Planning Division

National Environment Agency

Annex – Safe Management Measures at Funeral Events [As at 29 March 2022]

Mask is required to be worn at all times at funeral events held at indoor premises. If a tentage is set up and the outdoor area becomes enclosed, it will be considered as an indoor setting.

Where mask is worn, safe distancing continues to be encouraged.

Attendees to funeral events should continue to exercise prudence and restraint, and limit interactions of attendees to the same group they are seated with.

For funeral events held at outdoor non-enclosed places (e.g. burial service at cemetery, funeral wakes at void decks of public housing estates), mask-wearing is required when safe distancing of 1 metre between groups of 10 persons is not met.

The maximum number of attendees at wakes and funerals including foot processions present at the same time will be based on the capacity of the venue¹.

Cremations at held at Mandai Crematorium shall be attended by not more than 50 persons in total. NEA will issue 50 entry passes for each cremation application at Mandai Crematorium.

For funerals held at home, the number of attendees shall be kept to 30 persons or fewer at any one time.

Religious workers, funeral staff and persons involved in the conduct of live instrumental music should be kept to a minimum.

Attendees of funeral events should minimise their interaction with fellow attendees and leave the premises immediately after the event. No buffet set-up or reception with food and drinks is allowed. From 19 July 2021, provision of individually packed drinks (i.e. bottled/packet drink) or individually packed titbits (e.g. peanuts, melon seeds) is disallowed at funeral wakes.

Individually packed food/drink (e.g. bento boxes) may be supplied to family members of the deceased who keep vigil for the duration of the funeral wake, and need to consume food at the premises. However, they should not interact with the other attendees when consuming their meals,

and should consume their meals with 1m safe distancing from guests present at the funeral/wake event, and in groups of up to ten individuals.

Live performances, including instrumental music, such as live singing and playing of wind instruments (instruments which require intentional expulsion of air, e.g. trumpets, conch shell) will be allowed at funeral events, provided that the performers keep to the group size of 10 unmasked persons, and keep a 1 metre safe distancing from others.

Religious workers involved in the conduct of the religious rites (e.g. preaching, chanting of prayers) and family members giving eulogies can unmask, provided that they keep to the group size of 10 unmasked persons, and keep a 1 metre safe distancing from others. For large group vocalisation activities beyond the group size of 10 people, it would still be subject to masks being worn.

From 19 August 2021, temperature screening is no longer required. Any person who is unwell must be turned away.

SafeEntry check-in is required for funeral events and funeral parlours with wake halls. From 17 May 2021, TraceTogether-only SafeEntry (TT-only SE) check-in will be required for funeral parlours with wake halls and also funeral events. Visitors must perform TT-only SE check-in, via TraceTogether app or TraceTogether token to enable or facilitate contact tracing.

From 19 April 2021, funeral parlours with wake halls are required to deploy SafeEntry Gateway as an additional SafeEntry check-in method. The SafeEntry Gateway enables contactless detection of both the TraceTogether App and Token, and serves as an additional means of SE check-in that is quicker and more seamless.

Discourage vulnerable persons, such as the elderly, from attending these events to protect their health and consider alternative solutions for them, such as live video screening instead.

Individuals are urged to continue to exercise personal responsibility and conduct self-testing, and practise good personal hygiene, especially prior to visiting crowded places or interacting with vulnerable groups.

Funeral staff is strongly advised to administer self-testing regime using the Antigen Rapid Test (ART) kits available for purchase over retail counters. Family members may also consider to perform self-testing if they are worried that they may have COVID-19 and want to put their mind at ease. For more information on ART self-test kits, please visit [https://www.moh.gov.sg/docs/librariesprovider5/art---self-test/simple-guide-to-art-self-test-kits-\(jul-21---web-version\).pdf?sfvrsn=3642cdc6_0](https://www.moh.gov.sg/docs/librariesprovider5/art---self-test/simple-guide-to-art-self-test-kits-(jul-21---web-version).pdf?sfvrsn=3642cdc6_0).

¹ For funeral events with up to 1,000 attendees, the maximum number of attendees present at the same time will be based on the capacity of the venue. For funerals events with more than 1,000 attendees, the maximum number of attendees will be subject to a capacity limit of 75%. For example, at a funeral with 1,200 pax, it would need to be held at a venue that can accommodate at least 1,600 attendees, or the event size would have to be capped at 1,000 pax.