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Dear Federation Member,

Like you, we are deeply concerned about the current coronavirus pandemic. We are aware that our members are no less vulnerable than any other section of society and that we are taking serious precautions to ensure the safety of us all.

To this end, I am writing to let you know that our Rainham and Edmonton cemeteries are now closed to all visitors, even on a yahrzeit, until further notice. The cemeteries will be open for funerals only.

All funerals are taking place in the open air with attendance limited to close family members only. Anyone over the age of 70 or with a pre-existing medical condition MUST NOT attend. There is a plentiful supply of handwash in the outside washing areas. Please be aware that all public facilities are locked, including the toilets.

All stone settings that had been scheduled until at least the end of May, are to be postponed. Please G-d, when we are the other side of this situation, we will be in touch to reschedule.

These strict measures are in keeping with Government guidelines and I ask that you respect them so that we may preserve the health of our members, rabbis and staff and all our families.

May G-d preserve us all in good health.

With very best wishes,

Rabbi Lawrence Littlestone  
Head of Burial Society

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