

**Statement by Sue Southall, owner of a Doberman called Tyson and a cat called Toby who were both cremated by Peak Pet Cremations in October 2008 and March 2009 respectively.**

My husband and I were devastated to learn about the investigation into the dumping of pets by Peak Pet Cremations as we had previously used Emma Bent's pet cremation service for our pets Tyson & Toby.

With Tyson it was our vet (Ambivet) that recommended Peak Pet Cremations to us. We paid approximately £145 to the vet for Tyson to be cremated individually – receiving his ashes back about 2 weeks later in a wooden casket along with a certificate saying he was individually cremated. With Toby we contacted Emma Bent directly and took him to her home rather than leave him at the vet. At the time Emma Bent even said that it was better to come direct to her as the vets added their own charge to pet owners on top of what she charged them. We paid her £75 and she brought Toby's casket back to our home the next day.

At the time she was very pleasant and plausible although she was almost boastful when she showed us her new kitchen and both her expensive motorbikes and new jeep that were in her garage. Thinking about that now sickens me as I now know that for a period of time she had a incinerator in there.

I am totally disgusted with Ambivet as I trusted them with my pets when they were alive and put the same trust in my vet when they died. I would never have come in contact with Emma Bent if it wasn't for them and I have moved to another veterinary practice since discovering that Ambivet used her company without ensuring she was properly licensed.

I have now had the contents in both of the caskets inspected by Trading Standards who said the ashes in the caskets looked mostly like bonfire ash. Apparently they only found three bone fragments as big as match sticks in Tyson's casket. I have since had the caskets returned to me but I am heartbroken as I very much doubt they contain the ashes of my much loved pets.

I feel like there isn't a severe enough punishment for what this has put my family through. I just wanted my pets given the send off they deserved and wish I hadn't trusted my vet or Emma Bent.

**Contact details**

Sue Southall Tel. 01159 293963