

Date: 12/04/2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/013409 – Public Health Funerals

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I seek the following information about the public health funerals your organisation has paid for in the last financial year (2016/17).

1. How many of these funerals did you arrange in the last financial year?
2. Would you list all funerals with the following details for each: the date, whether the body was buried or cremated, whether a funeral service was held, the total cost (including all disbursements such as crematorium fees and burial plots. And excluding any offset of monies recovered from the estates of the deceased), and the funeral director used. I do not require any personal information such as name or date of birth of the deceased.
3. How were the funerals providers found - on a case-by-case basis or part of a tendered contract?
4. If part of a tendered contract, when did the contract begin and when is it scheduled to be renewed?

The Trust conducts *contract* funerals - 'where a patient has died within The Trust and has no next of kin'.

If a person dies in hospital and has relatives who will not, or cannot arrange a funeral for whatever reason, the death is referred to Dudley MBC for a '*Public Health Funeral*'.

The Trust only arranges funerals when there are no next of kin.