

Ref. No: 065040521
From: Commercial
Date: 04/05/21
Subject: Public health funerals for Covid patients

REQUEST & RESPONSE

This is a Freedom of Information request regarding public health funerals the trust has undertaken during the Covid-19 pandemic. Could you please tell me:

1. How many public health funerals the trust has undertaken for patients who have died of Covid (within 28 days of the first positive test) with no known relatives or next of kin.

STHK does not arrange Public Health Funerals.

I'm looking for information relating to the period between March 2 2020 and March 2 2021. Can the information please be broken down by ethnicity, age and gender for each patient? If doing this exceeds the cost limit and the scope needs narrowing, could ethnicity be prioritised, followed by age, please?

2. How many Covid deaths (within 28 days of the first positive test) have been recorded by the trust between March 2 2020 and March 2 2021.

92.

Due to low numbers when this information is broken down as requested, the Trust considers this exempt on the following grounds: Section 41(1) – Information provided in confidence. Information that forms part of the medical record of a patient is implicitly confidential. Therefore releasing any information which could identify the patient would give rise to an actionable breach of confidence.

3. How much a public health funeral typically costs the trust, and if possible, how much has been spent on public health funerals by the trust between March 2 2020 and March 2 2021.

STHK does not arrange Public Health Funerals.

4. The relationship between the trust and the local authority/authorities when it comes to public health funerals and the processes involved in deciding who is responsible for arranging them.

Public Health Funerals arranged via Local Authority – (Public Health Act), based on next of kin being unable or unwilling to pay for a funeral.

5. What is provided by the trust at a public health funeral?

STHK does not arrange Public Health Funerals.