



Ref. No: 249180821
From: Press
Date: 18/08/2021
Subject: Welfare funerals

REQUEST & RESPONSE

If your NHS Trust organises and carries out public health funerals for people who die in the trust's care and who don't have the financial means or family/friends to arrange it please can you answer the following? (please see the attached spreadsheet I have put together to help you collate the data):

- a) How many public health funerals has your NHS Trust carried out each year for these financial years (April 1st - March 31st): 2019/2020 & 2020/2021? Please give figures relating to the date of funeral, rather than death if possible. Please DO NOT include still births.
- b) Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were male and how many of those men had next of kin and how many of those men did not have next of kin?
- c) Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were female and how many of those women had next of kin and how many of those women did not have next of kin?
- d) Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were aged under 18, aged 18-59 or aged 60+

e) Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were cremated, how many were buried in a grave of their own and how many were buried in a shared or communal grave (if that's applicable).

BBC FOI: PUBLIC HEALTH FUNERALS* for: NAME St Helens and Knowsley Hospitals

Please see attached Table

* **Please note:** We are unable to provide precise figures when those figures refer to individuals in volumes of 5 or less due to the risk that individuals will be re-identified, as we are required to protect their identity under the General Data Protection Regulations & Data Protection Act 2018. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed “lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner”. It is the lawful aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure.