

**Freedom of Information Request: 0445 2019/20**

1. **Does your NHS Trust organise, pay for and carry out public health / hospital contract 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 note that The Trust has an ongoing agreement with Birmingham City Council's, Funerals and Protection of Property department. Funerals and Protection of Property provide dignified, sensitive funerals for those who do not have anyone willing or able to make suitable arrangements following their death. We pay for some funerals if the person did not have any assets or funds but not all, the cost may vary as some funds may have been recovered from the deceased estate.

Funerals and Protection of Property investigate into a number of aspects regarding each death referred to them, these include locating any available finances, a search of the deceased persons property and the services of a Genealogist to trace and confirm any next of kin. Funerals and Protection of Property will then inform them of the death and provide an opportunity to take over or be involved in funeral arrangements. Therefore not all deaths referred to Funerals and Protection of Property by the Trust result in a public funeral.

Further specific details relating to your request may be obtained from Birmingham City Council's, Funerals and Protection of Property Team directly via the contact details listed below.

Address: Funerals and Protection of Property  
PO Box 16519  
Birmingham  
B2 2FJ  
Email: funerals.and.protection.of.property@birmingham.gov.uk  
Telephone: 0121 675 7129

2. **If no, which local council you refer public health / hospital contract funeral deaths to?** Birmingham City Council, detail as above
3. **If yes, please supply the following information (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: 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/2019?** Not Applicable
  - 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?** Not Applicable
  - 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?** Not Applicable
  - d) **Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were aged under 18, aged 18-59 or aged 60+?** Not Applicable

- 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). Not Applicable**
- f) **Please state, the net cost to the NHS Trust for all financial years: 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/2019?**

2014/15: £93,287

2015/16: £152,384

2016/17: £93,894

2017/18: We do not hold this information

2018/19: We do not hold this information

Please note that for 2017/18 and 2018/19 we have not yet received final figures from Social Services as undertaking such investigations as described at Q1 can take an extensive amount of time, and final figures are not available yet as these costs are subject to change depending on the deceased/family's financial situations.