

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3426

Please reply to:
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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to funerals 01.04.2015-31.03.2016.

I seek the following information about the number of funerals your organisation has paid for in the last financial year (1st April 2015-31st March 2016).

- 1. How many of these funerals did you arrange in the last financial year?*
- 2. How were the funerals providers found - on a case-by-case basis or part of a larger contract?*
- 3. Whose role was it to find the funeral director? With contact details if possible.*
- 4. Would you list each funeral with the following details for each: the date, whether the body was buried or cremated, whether a funeral service was held, the total cost, and the funeral provider used, whether a local council or another NHS trust contributed any money for this funeral, and if so which.*

1. 87 Babies (from 13 weeks only) - 13 Adults
2. Larger contract
3. Contract funeral director – tendered contract
4. All funerals used the contract funeral director.
All had separate funeral services.
The Trust paid for all the funerals. No input from other sources
Adults - 1 burial & 12 cremation
Babies - 80 cremations & 7 burials

The Trust will not provide the information requested in Q4 regarding the date and type of each funeral as this may provide sufficient information to allow for the patient to be identified.

You will also appreciate that patient identifiable information is, by its very nature, owed a duty of confidence, the disclosure of which would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that or any other person. Section 41 (FOI) provides an absolute exemption for information meeting this definition. Whilst

health records relating to deceased people do not carry a common law duty of confidentiality, it is Department of Health and General Medical Council policy that records relating to deceased people should be treated with the same level of confidentiality as those relating to living people. Access to the health records of a deceased person is governed by the Access to Health Records Act 1990.

Total cost to the Trust for 2015/16 - £49,627