

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7605

**Please reply to:**  
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19 August 2022

## **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 funeral services.

*You asked:*

*1. Is a contract or framework agreement in place for funeral services for, (i) child/burials/cremations, (ii) stillbirth burials/cremations - where the Trust has responsibility for these matters;*

*(a) Who are the current contract holder(s)?;*

*(b) What are the terms of the contract(s)?;*

*(c) What were the activity levels (approximate number/volume)? - (Please list separately for (i) and (ii) with annual breakdown for period 2020-2022;*

*2. Is there a contract or framework agreement in place where the child's body is sent directly from the Hospital to the Crematorium?;*

*(a) Who are the current contract holder(s)?;*

*(b) What are the terms of the contract(s)?;*

*(c) What were the activity levels (approximate number/volume)?*

**Trust response:**

1. A contract is in place. We do not carry out stillbirth services unless the family do not wish to participate in the arrangements or attend. We do not hold burials. We do not hold child burial/cremations – these are usually arranged by the family. However, we do arrange live born/dying services when requested by the families (Live -born babies of any gestation that breathe then die)

(a) Our general contract is with Viner & Son Funeral Directors

(b) In order for us to respond to this question can you please confirm what you mean by terms? For example, terms as in length of contract or other details.

(c)

(i) 0

(ii) Stillbirth cremations arranged by the Trust -

2020 – 3

2021 – 0

2022 – 1 so far

2. There are no children or babies sent directly to the crematorium without relevant input from Trust staff, or, families if appropriate

(a) Not applicable

(b) Not applicable

(c) Not applicable