

Our Ref: ID312

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group  
Old Market House  
Hamilton Street  
Birkenhead  
Wirral  
CH41 5AL  
Tel: 0151 651 0011

## Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received into this office on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

### You Asked for:

1. What happens when a patient dies in the care of the trust and there are no details of the next of kin provided?
2. Who tries to locate/trace the next of kin if the information is unknown? (name, department and contact details)
3. What are the steps taken to locate the next of kin of the deceased patient?
4. What happens when the trust is unable to locate the next of kin?
5. If the patient dies within the care of the trust and the next of kin cannot be traced, whose responsibility is it to provide a funeral? (name and contact details)
6. On how many instances has the trust provided a funeral for a patient (time frame January 2014 to present)?
7. Of these public health funerals please provide:
  - a) Name of deceased
  - b) Date of birth and date of death
  - c) Last residential address
  - d) Have the next of kin/family members been traced?
  - e) What date have the details been referred to the QLTR, Bona Vacantia, Treasury Solicitor, Government Legal Department, National Ultimus Haeres, Duchy or Farrer & Co?
8. Have there been cases where the trust has referred/or plan on referring details of the deceased patient to the Treasury Solicitor/Government Legal Department, Bona Vacantia, National Ultimus Haeres, Crown Solicitor, Duchy Farrer & Co or QLTR?
9. Which other organisations have details (of the deceased with no known kin) been passed to and why?

10. Does the trust conduct an asset search and/or will search?
11. Which department deals with the deceaseds assets? (name and contact details)
12. Is the trust responsible for selling the assets in order to compensate for the funeral costs?
13. Does the trust have an Empty Homes department? (name, contact details)
14. What is the role of the Empty Homes department?

**Our Response:**

Unfortunately NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group would be unable to answer this question; I would suggest that you contact:

**Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust**

Information Governance Manager  
Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
Arrowe Park Hospital (D Block)  
Arrowe Park Road  
Upton, Wirral  
CH49 5PE

[wih-tr.AccessToInformationOffice@nhs.net](mailto:wih-tr.AccessToInformationOffice@nhs.net).

Or

**Wirral Community NHS Trust**

Board/FOI Officer  
Wirral Community NHS Trust  
Old Market House  
Hamilton Street  
Birkenhead  
Wirral  
CH41 5AL

[FOI@wirralct.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@wirralct.nhs.uk)

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