

FOI REF:	15724
RESPONSE SENT:	14/07/2025

Request

Dear Sir/Madam, Under the Freedom of Information Act, I am writing to request the following information regarding funerals arranged by the Council under Section 46 Public Health Act 1984 (England and Wales) and Section 87 of the Burial and Cremation Act 2002 (Scotland).

How many such funerals has the Council arranged since 12 March 2025? In each case please disclose:

a) The name and last residential address of the deceased b) The deceased's dates of birth and death c) Whether the deceased's next of kin/family members have been traced d) Whether the deceased's estate has been referred to the Government Legal Department or elsewhere

Has the Council passed this information to any other individual or organisation (either formally through a FOI request or by other means)?

What is the Council policy on referring Bona Vacantia matters to the relevant authorities across the UK?

Does the Council work with any genealogist? If so, which?

Does the Council publish a list of Public Health Funerals it has arranged? If so: a) Where is the list published (please provide web url if on-line)? b) How often is the list updated? c) When was the list last updated?

Response

How many such funerals has the Council arranged since 12 March 2025? In each case please disclose:

a) The name and last residential address of the deceased b) The deceased's dates of birth and death c) Whether the deceased's next of kin/family members have been traced d) Whether the deceased's estate has been referred to the Government Legal Department or elsewhere – please see details at [Deaths, Funerals and Burials - Winchester City Council](#) document on right hand side titled 'List of Public Health Funerals from 1 Jan 2025 – Updated 14 July 2025'.

Has the Council passed this information to any other individual or organisation (either formally through a FOI request or by other means)? Yes

What is the Council policy on referring Bona Vacantia matters to the relevant authorities across the UK? If no trace of family through nominated genealogy company, case is referred to Bona Vacantia department.

Does the Council work with any genealogist? If so, which? Finders International.

Does the Council publish a list of Public Health Funerals it has arranged? If so: a) Where is the list published (please provide web url if on-line)? b) How often is the list updated? c) When was the list last updated? [Deaths, Funerals and Burials - Winchester City Council](#) updated approximately every 6 weeks.

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