



Bereavement guidance following the changes to registration practices due to Covid-19

Please note that since the publishing of our bereavement booklets, many temporary practical changes have been introduced due to Covid-19.

This covering sheet has been designed to help you through the difficult and distressing time after the death of a relative or friend. It aims to give you, current practical help and guidance with some of the arrangements you will need to make due to your recent bereavement. The rest of the bereavement booklet contains additional information and support, but please note the changes on this covering sheet.

- It is important that following a death of a relative or friend you contact the Bereavement Services so we can provide you with practical support and guide you through the next steps.
Bereavement Services: 01524 512 405 or 512 406
Email: bereavement.office@mbht.nhs.uk
- Covid-19 patient's deaths are not reportable to the Coroner and so a Doctor should be able to issue the Medical Cause of Death Certificate. However, circumstances may arise where it may be necessary to report a death to the Coroner before the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) can be given.

Where there is a requirement for the death to be referred to the Coroner the Bereavement Services will at all times try to ensure you are kept up to date on the progress of the referral.

- Where the MCCD is issued by the Doctor, once this has been checked it will be scanned directly to the Registrar's Office by Bereavement Services. Bereavement Services will then contact you to let you know this has been completed and with your permission, will share your contact details with the Registrar who will then contact you.

The Registrars are unable to arrange appointments until they have received the MCCD. Registration is completed via telephone and there is no requirement for you to attend the Registrar's Office.

Lancaster Registrar's contact number: 0300 123 6705
Website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/births-marriages-and-deaths

You will need to have the following information available to enable the registrars to register the death over the phone.

- Your full name, relationship to deceased and an email address and telephone number.



- Full name of the deceased (if the deceased was female and married the deceased maiden name).
 - Date and place of birth of deceased.
 - Occupation before retirement of the deceased.
 - Residential address before passing.
 - Marital status of the deceased (if married) name of spouse and occupation.
- Death Certificates are £11 each (plus £2 postage per order) and they can be online after registration and they will be posted to you. These can be ordered at www.lancashire.gov.uk/births-marriages-and-deaths/certificates
 - The Registrar will also scan the Green Form to your designated funeral director. Contact with them is recommended prior to registration.

Deceased Personal Belongings

If any personal items of the deceased have remained with Trust they will be stored securely with our Bereavement Team.

Due to the nature of the virus, it is recommended that the Trust destroys all clothing, however, this is with consent of the family except any clothing that is soiled which will automatically be destroyed for infection control purposes.

We will contact the next of kin to arrange collection from the hospital. If you would like to enquire about any personal belongings, you can contact our Bereavement Team on the above telephone or email.

This sheet has been donated by RNS Publications, who understand it is distressing to deal with a bereavement.

Unsolicited mail can be insensitive and destructive during a grieving process, to reduce this, please visit stopmail.co.uk which has been provided to support you.