

## Financial arrangements

Benefits are sometimes available towards the costs of funerals. Further details can be obtained from the following sources:

- **Turn2us** is a national charity that helps people in financial hardship to gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and support services <https://www.turn2us.org.uk>
- **Bereavement Support Payment** is money you can get if your husband, wife or civil partner dies: <https://www.gov.uk/bereavement-support-payment/what-youll-get>

## Equipment in the home

Following the death you can arrange for any equipment to be returned to the supplier via the telephone number on the paperwork or equipment.

## Medication

It's important that any medicines are disposed of safely by returning them to a pharmacy.

## Useful bereavement contact numbers and support services

### Adult bereavement support:

- Macmillan Cancer Support: [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk)
- Cruse Bereavement Care: Tel 0808 808 1677 [www.cruse.org.uk](http://www.cruse.org.uk)
- Bereavement Trust: Tel 0800435455 [www.bereavement-trust.org.uk](http://www.bereavement-trust.org.uk)
- Social services: Tel 01223 458000 [www.cambridge.gov.uk/bereavement-services](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/bereavement-services)
- Samaritans Helpline: Tel 116123 [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

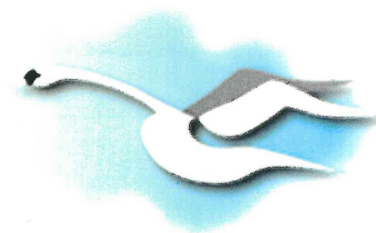
### Children's bereavement support:

- Winstons Wish: Tel 0808 802 0021 [www.winstonswish.org](http://www.winstonswish.org)
  - Stars Children's bereavement support service 01223 292276 [www.ormiston.org](http://www.ormiston.org) [talktostars@ormistonfamilies.org.uk](mailto:talktostars@ormistonfamilies.org.uk)
  - Chums [www.chums.uk.com](http://www.chums.uk.com)
- Peterborough: 0330 058 1657 Cambridge: 0330 058 1659
- Child bereavement UK: Tel 0800 02 888 40 [www.childbereavementuk.org](http://www.childbereavementuk.org)

## Practical assistance

- Caring Together: Tel 0345 241 0954 [www.caringtogether.org](http://www.caringtogether.org)
- Age UK: Tel 0800 055 6112 [www.ageuk.org.uk](http://www.ageuk.org.uk)
- DWP Bereavement Service: Tel 0800 7310469 option 2
- Bereavement support services from your council: <https://www.gov.uk/>

## What to do after someone has died at home



This leaflet provides practical information that you will need when someone dies at home

## **When death occurs**

First of all take your time, there is no need to rush to contact anyone. When you are ready, call the GP surgery during working hours and they will arrange to come out to the home to certify the death. It may take some time before they visit.

If the death occurs out of GP working hours, over night, at the weekend or on a bank holiday please call the GP out of hours service on Tel: 111

You may also like to contact your District Nursing Team. Whoever you contact, please explain that “*the death was expected*”.

Other things to inform the DN or GP at this stage include:

- If the deceased person had wanted to donate their body for medical science.
- If there are any religious or cultural priorities and / or needs.

## **After death has been certified**

The next step will be to contact the funeral director of your choice. Again there is no immediate rush to do this. Funeral directors will visit to collect the deceased person at any time during the day or night once the death has been certified by the doctor.

## **The medical certificate**

From September 2024 there has been a change in the process of death certification. The GP surgery will contact the local Medical Examiner Office to inform them of the death and to propose a cause of death. The Medical Examiner will then conduct an independent scrutiny of the medical notes and speak with the GP to determine the cause of death for the medical certificate. The Medical Examiner team will also speak to the relatives to check there were no concerns and to explain the cause of death. Your GP surgery can give you the contact number for the relevant Medical Examiner service.

Under some circumstances a referral to the Coroner may be needed, for example in the case of industrial diseases e.g. mesothelioma this is routine practice.

The Medical certificate will then be sent electronically to the Registrar.

## **Registering the death**

The death must be registered by contacting, by phone, the nearest Register Office in the district where the death occurred. This should usually happen within 5 working days of the registrar receiving the

Medical Certificate. An appointment will then be made for the registration to be completed face to face.

The payment for the certificates is made during the appointment at a cost of £12.50 each and are printed off to be taken away on the day of the appointment. It is possible to purchase additional certificates at a later date at the same cost. There may be however a delay of up to 7 working days to process this. The Certificate for burial or cremation allowing the funeral to go ahead will then be sent electronically to the relevant office.

## **Who should register the death**

You are eligible to register the death if you are:

- a relative or partner (this is preferred)
- a person present at the death
- a manager of the establishment where the death occurred (for example - care home, hospital)
- a person appointed by and acting on behalf of the deceased person's family (for example - solicitor)
- the person arranging the funeral (not the funeral director)

## **Tell us once**

The Registration Team will start to guide you through the process of alerting the appropriate official government bodies in one go. At the present time, the service will have to be completed using the dedicated TUO Telephony Line or online. The team will help you decide which is best for you.

## **Local Register Offices**

Cambridgeshire Registration Service

Telephone 0345 045 1363

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/births-deaths-and-marriages/deaths/registering-a-death](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/births-deaths-and-marriages/deaths/registering-a-death)

Peterborough Register Office

Telephone 01733 864646

[www.peterborough.gov.uk/appointment](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/appointment)

Lincolnshire Registry Office

Telephone 01522 782244

[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/deaths/register-death](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/deaths/register-death)

North Northamptonshire Council

Telephone 0300 126 1000

[www.northnorthants.gov.uk/deaths/register-death](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/deaths/register-death)