



GILLOTT'S FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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REGISTRATION OF A DEATH

WHILST COVID-19 SPECIAL MEASURES ARE IN PLACE

The Government have enacted special procedures to streamline the Registration of a Death, and to enable the process to continue in line with social distancing measures.

All deaths are now registered by telephone, and the procedure for natural, expected deaths is as follows:

1. The Medical Cause of Death Certificate is completed by a doctor – usually either the deceased's GP if he or she died in the community, or a hospital doctor if they were a hospital inpatient. The doctor or hospital bereavement centre will need to know who will be acting as the applicant to register the death.
2. The doctor or hospital bereavement centre will electronically send the Medical Cause of Death Certificate to the appropriate Registrar's office, along with the contact details of the person who will be the applicant. Whilst it is preferable that the applicant be a family member, a death can be registered by a range of people who hold the correct information, including if necessary a funeral director on their client's behalf.
3. The registrar will contact the applicant and make a telephone appointment to register the death. At that appointment, the registrar will ask the applicant how many copies of the Death Certificate are required. Payment for these certificates, at a cost of £11 per copy, can be made over the phone.
4. The registrar will forward the Registrar's Certificate for Burial or Cremation (which authorises the funeral to take place) to the funeral director electronically and will post the Death Certificates to the applicant.

Deaths which are unnatural or unexpected will be referred to the Coroner, and the procedures for the registration of such deaths will depend upon the outcome of the Coroner's investigation.

If you require any advice or assistance with the registration process, please contact us.