

59317 Funerals Arranged by the Council

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 17 September 2025?

This information we publish in relation to Section 87 funerals is published quarterly on our website at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/14731/mortonhall-crematorium---burial-and-cremation-act-2016-scotland-section-87>

In each case please disclose:

- a) The name and last residential address of the deceased

Information withheld.

- b) The deceased's dates of birth and death

We record and publish the age at the time of their deaths and their dates of death for each deceased on our web page referenced above. We do not record their dates of birth.

- c) Whether the deceased's next of kin/family members have been traced

We do not hold this information.

- d) Whether the deceased's estate has been referred to the Government Legal Department or elsewhere

Any information shared with the KLTR (King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer) will be published and advertised by them. Further detail is published on their website at:

<https://www.kltr.gov.uk/>

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

The information published on our website is available to all. No other information is shared.

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

There is no Council policy. The law in Scotland states that all deaths where no nearest relative is identified can only be dealt with by National Ultimus Haeres Unit (NUHU), which is part of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS).

Does the Council work with any genealogist?

If so, which?

No, there is no requirement or need to.

Does the Council publish a list of Public Health Funerals it has arranged?

The City of Edinburgh Council does not arrange Public Health funerals. In Scotland we arrange funerals under Section 87 of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016.

If so:

- a) Where is the list published (please provide web url if on-line)?

Please refer to the link provided in A1 above.

- b) How often is the list updated?

Quarterly

- c) When was the list last updated?

First week in January 2026.

Who in the Council is responsible for the Council's Public Health Funerals?

Please advise us of their names and contact details.

Bereavement Service - bereavement@edinburgh.gov.uk