



We are sorry for your loss

Our aim is to help **you** find support in the time and way that feels right for **you** and those around **you**



What happens when someone dies?

Expected death

If the death was expected and the cause of death is clear, the process should be quite straightforward:

- You need to contact the funeral director to make arrangements to transfer the deceased to their care.
- In all cases the death is reviewed by a Medical Examiner, following referral from and completion of the Death Certificate by the Doctor who cared for the deceased prior to their death. They will talk to you about the cause of death, the Death Certificate and any concerns you may have.
- The Medical Examiner will countersign the Death Certificate for you. This will be emailed directly to the local Registrar.
- You will also be given instructions on how to register the death. This is usually via the council website.

- When contacted, the Registrar will provide the information and forms you need to make the funeral arrangements.
- When all the paperwork has been completed you can start making the funeral arrangements.

Unexpected death

If the death was unexpected and/or the cause of death is unclear:

- The Doctor will report the death to the Coroner.
- The Coroner will liaise with you and the referring Doctor to ascertain the cause of death. In some circumstances this may be after an inquest.
- The Coroner's Office will keep you informed of everything that is happening.

Information about what needs to happen when someone in the UK dies can be found at: www.gov.uk/after-a-death

Bereavement Support

These resources may be of help to you now or later in your bereavement journey.

If you are bereaved and would like to speak with someone, your GP practice may be able to help, but you can also call:

- Cruse Bereavement Care www.cruse.org.uk
Tel: 0808 808 1677
- Brigitte Trust www.brigitte-trust.org
Surrey only Tel: 01306 881816
- Child Bereavement UK provides support for families and professionals when a child dies or when a child grieves.
www.childbereavementuk.org/
- Helpline: 0800 028 8840
- Marie Curie www.mariecurie.org.uk/help/support/bereaved-family-friends
Tel: 0800 090 2309
- At a Loss provides useful bereavement resources
www.ataloss.org

- **Thames Hospice** provides pre and post bereavement services, including specific services for children and young people. www.thameshospice.org.uk/patients-emotional-support Tel: 01753 842121
- **Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care** provides support to those whose loved ones have died under the care of Phyllis Tuckwell. www.pth.org.uk Tel: 01252 729400
- **Independent Age** provides a range of information and advice, including welfare, legal and financial. www.independentage.org/information/personal-life/when-someone-dies Tel: 0800 3196789
- **A Child of Mine** provides emotional and practical support to bereaved parents and families. www.achildofmine.org.uk Tel: 01785 283434
- **Daisy's Dream** provides support and information to bereaved children and families, working predominantly in Berkshire and the surrounding areas. www.daisysdream.org.uk Tel: 0118 934 2604
- **Shooting Star Children's Hospice** provides bereavement support to families across Surrey. www.shootingstar.org.uk Tel: 01483 230960
- **Naomi House & Jacks Place** provide one-to-one counselling and bereavement support in a number of areas including Hampshire, Berkshire and Surrey www.naomihouse.org.uk Tel: 01962 760060
- **Alexander Devine Children's Hospice** provides support to bereaved families and the wider community across Berkshire and surrounding areas. www.alexanderdevine.org Tel: 01628 822777