

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 002066  
Date            14 March 2018

### ***Public Health Funerals***

#### **Request:**

I would like to know details of anyone who has passed away with no known next of kin, from 01/01/2015 to the date of your reply. If there are any new cases dealt with after this date, please also include details in your response.

Please also supply a list of any Public Health Act Funerals (also known as Welfare or Environmental Health Act funerals) carried out from the above date if this is not forming part of your reply to the above.

If a case is still undecided or awaiting referral, please advise me of the details.

This should include funerals carried out by the council or on behalf of any third party. Please include:

1.    1)    The deceased's full name(s)  
      Please see response provided on page 5.
2.    2)    The date they passed away  
      Please see response provided on page 5.
3.    3)    The approximate value of their Estate  
      In respect of question 3. 3), it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information.

Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

4.    4)    Their dates of birth, or age at death  
      Please see response provided on page 5.

5. 5) Whether or not they were married, divorced, single or widowed.  
In response to question 5 above, your request for information has now been considered and the City of Wolverhampton Council is not obliged to supply the information you requested for the reasons set out below.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires City of Wolverhampton Council, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you, the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies:

In relation to your particular request, the following exemption applies:

**Section 12 - Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit**

We can confirm that the Council holds information falling within the description specified in your request. However, Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows a public authority to refuse a request if the cost of providing the information to the applicant would exceed the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information.

The Regulations provide that the appropriate limit to be applied to requests received by local authorities is £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of work). In estimating the cost of complying with a request for information, an authority can only take into account any reasonable costs incurred in:

- (a) *Determining whether it holds the information,*
  - (b) *Locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,*
  - (c) *Retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information,*
- and*
- (d) *Extracting the information from a document containing it.*

*For the purposes of the estimate the costs of performing these activities should be estimated at a rate of £25 per hour.*

The information appertaining to your request is not easily accessible and as such this information is not held as a distinct set able to be retrieved or reported on. To get the information would require a full-scale look into all individual records. This would be a manual exercise and as such we believe that the aggregated time it would take to collate the information would be in excess of 18 hours (equivalent to a notional cost of £450).

Excess cost removes the City of Wolverhampton Council's obligation under the Freedom of Information, however under Section 16 – (the duty to provide advice and assistance, the Council may be able to provide answers to the request, should you wish to submit a refined request.

6. 6) The maiden surnames of married females or widows

In respect of question 6. 6), it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information.

Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

7. 7) Their address at time of death

In response to question 7. 7) above, the Council will not be disclosing the requested information.

The Council is of the view that this would constitute information whose disclosure to the wider world would raise concerns around the prevention or detection of crime and that Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI, The Act) is engaged.

Section 31(1) states that:

"Information which is not exempt information by virtue of Section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice –

(a) the prevention or detection of crime..."

In considering the public interest for and against disclosure in this case, the Council has considered the public interest in disclosing the last known address of the identified deceased people could aid the resolution of any estate-related queries.

Set against this however, the Council has also considered that disclosure to the wider world (which is how any disclosure made under the provisions of the Act must be judged) may cause harm such as fraud, identity theft, criminal acts and criminal trespass and damage to vacant residential property especially when this information is put together with information that is already in the public domain.

In reaching this conclusion, the Council has taken account of guidance from the Information Commissioners Office and further considers that its approach is in accordance with the decisions reached by the Information Commissioners Office, published in decision notices FS50454267

regarding Westminster City Council – 4 December 2012 and also the decision in relation to Birmingham City Council FS50584670 – 14 October 2015.

In both cases the ICO accepted the arguments put forward by the public authorities in question regarding the application of Section 31 as detailed above.

The Council has also considered the case involving London Borough of Camden versus Mr Yiannis Voyias heard at the Information Tribunal on 22 January 2013 (EA/2011/0007).

In this case the Tribunal accepted the risk attendant in disclosing details regarding vacant properties to the wider world.

8. 8) The date when a referral was made to the Treasury Solicitor or Duchy of Lancaster/Cornwall or any other third party to research or administer, and the name of the third party the Estate was referred to.  
In response to question 8 above, one referral was made to the Treasury on 2 February 2018 for Nellie Betty Wynn. She had no next of kin but the Treasury have confirmed that they located relatives.
9. 9) If a referral to the Treasury Solicitor or Duchy has not been made yet and you are of the belief it may well be, please advise me on this as well.  
Please see response to question 8 above.

**FUNERALS Jan to Dec 2015**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>DOB</u></b>	<b><u>DOD</u></b>
CHURM George	24/11/1935	04/01/2015
EATON Roy	09/08/1951	12/01/2015
BUDEVICS Andrejs	08/11/1918	23/12/2014
SOUTHALL Paul	18/01/1966	10/01/2015
VASQUEX Juanita	11/06/1953	01/03/2015
JOHNSON Clorine	29/07/1959	31/12/2014
HOLDING Keith	08/06/1969	29/01/2015
CULLEN Matthew	22/11/1959	21/01/2015
GRETTON Roy	14/11/1944	17/01/2015
BRADBURY Stuart	03/02/1952	23/01/2015
GILES Alan	06/11/1939	27/01/2015
MIKULINAS Viaceslavas	23/04/1974	07/12/2014
BROOKS-DAVIS Patricia	29/01/1947	07/02/2015
WILDE Anthony	27/03/1946	17/02/2015
BAKER Stewart	29/07/1982	06/03/2015
KENDRICK David	10/07/1938	20/03/2015
STONES Raymond	25/05/1939	30/04/2015
SELLMAN Raymond	29/03/1931	14/05/2015
MARSHALL Kevin	10/01/1957	10/04/2015
HOLMES Michael	10/10/1969	14/03/2015
GUEST John	27/05/1944	09/06/2015
McGREGOR Martin	06/03/1968	29/05/2015
MORGAN Stephen	01/06/1974	14/06/2015
WHEATE Stephen	29/06/1954	04/07/2015
JONES Wendy	10/07/1942	25/07/2015
FAHCEL Osker	02/04/1958	02/03/2015
SZCZEPKOWSKI Janek	24/09/1956	18/06/2015
BOYLE John	13/06/1956	02/04/2015
BUTLER Peter	23/03/1956	06/07/2015
JUDD Alice	12/06/1943	29/08/2015
HADDON Brian	12/09/1952	16/07/2015

DAVIS Robert	06/04/1953	06/07/2015
WATT Roberta	15/04/1947	01/06/2015
CROXFORD Norman	08/10/1935	05/08/2015
WATT James o/w Abdul	11/08/1957	06/07/2015
SARFIELD Christopher	29/01/1949	02/10/2015
LAWRENCE Paul	22/12/1956	29/09/2015
HANCOX John	27/04/1954	23/10/2015
CADDICK Betty	08/09/1936	15/10/2015
DAVIES Iain	08/10/1975	16/10/2015
TAYLOR Edward	20/11/1946	20/11/2015

**FUNERALS Jan to Dec 2016**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>DOB</u></b>	<b><u>DOD</u></b>
CADDICK Graham	29/08/1954	24/11/2015
PRIME Alan	10/02/1947	28/11/2015
TRACEY Patrick	27/11/1947	05/10/2015
WARD David	02/10/1972	13/12/2015
WALKER Huntley	23/08/1947	09/11/2015
MILLS George	10/01/1932	31/12/2015
MITCHELL Edger	13/06/1934	30/12/2015
ROWLEY John	27/11/1944	31/12/2015
NORWOOD Royston	22/12/1947	14/01/2016
MORGAN May	17/09/1927	12/11/2015
HUGHES Geoffrey	16/01/1950	15/12/2015
HILL William Fredrick	10/11/1930	02/02/2016
EDWARDS Graham	29/12/1944	01/02/2016
INGHAM Alan	09/08/1951	10/02/2016
DUNNE Patrick	03/12/1958	08/02/2016
GEE Joseph	13/10/1942	06/03/2016
GRIFFITHS Roger	30/05/1943	04/04/2016
BRADLEY Ronald	23/10/1944	03/03/2016
HUNT Lynn Mary	03/05/1959	07/03/2016
DEAKIN Leslie	20/08/1952	14/03/2016
WORRALL Maurice	13/09/1943	10/04/2016
SKIDMORE Geoffrey	11/12/1938	27/04/2016
COOPER John	17/09/1951	30/04/2016
MORRIS Eric	17/04/1945	09/05/2016
WHEELER Kathryn	25/04/1957	20/06/2016
EVANS Phillip Simon	04/11/1972	11/10/2016
WORTON Diane	18/09/1960	20/06/2016
HARTSHORNE Nicholas	28/01/1975	12/06/2016
JONES David Lloyd	03/12/1941	12/07/2016
HAYWOOD Brenda	13/03/1945	29/06/2016
KOYNE Patrick James	03/09/1944	23/08/2016

JOHNSTON Harold	01/11/1933	03/10/2016
WILLIAMS Michael	09/04/1954	08/10/2016
TURNER Ronald	05/02/1944	16/08/2016
GREEN Peter	08/01/1966	06/10/2016
WALFORD Kelly	01/03/1979	03/11/2016
BAKER Norman	08/02/1937	02/10/2016



**FUNERALS Jan to Dec 2017**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>DOD</u>
HOGAN Margaret Amy	15/08/1929	30/11/2016
HARRISON Stuart	28/11/1947	13/08/2016
THICKETT Robert	07/08/1939	20/11/2016
WILKINSON Stephen Callum	11/08/1977	10/01/2017
DAVIES Maurice Edward	16/02/1945	16/01/2017
DANDO Keith	13/04/1944	15/02/2017
THORNTON Patrick	11/09/1962	13/01/2017
WILLIS Meg	21/05/1931	21/03/2017
STANTON Terence Brian	31/10/1938	17/03/2017
McKEE James Jerry	30/12/1941	14/03/2017
MINIACH Jerzy Edmund	16/11/1953	13/03/2017
WILLIAMS Sadie Lilian	13/01/1937	09/04/2017
WILLIAMS Steven Earl	16/03/1963	24/03/2017
BOWDLER Malcolm	17/05/1939	12/05/2017
FLETCHER Edna	27/08/1925	28/05/2017
BOSTOCK Nellie June	29/06/1938	08/05/2017
ROGERS o/w COCHRANE Susan Jayne	28/04/1959	21/04/2017
JONES Christine	06/03/1945	06/06/2017
TUDOR Melvin David	01/02/1964	15/06/2107
MILLER Robert Charles	22/03/1965	26/06./2017
BOYDEN Barry John	25/05/1969	18/05/2017
SWARRAY Rosaline Yema	16/09/1952	04/07/2017
UZORAS Michal	11/05/1957	05/07/2017
FRENCH John Jonathan William	30/05/1944	29/08/2017
DADE Maurice	10/11/1931	14/08/2017
KELLIE Stephen Mark	03/08/1962	19/09/2017
DAVIES Kevin Frances	12/09/1968	25/10/2017
RILEY Lilian	19/04/1931	16/11/2017

**FUNERALS Jan to 14 Mar 2018**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>DOD</u>
WILLIAMS Victoria	10/05/1945	04/12/2017
EVANS Graham	12/07/1939	04/12/2017
GUEST Edith	15/05/1925	02/12/2017
WYNN Nellie Betty	18/07/1937	25/12/2017
FLETCHER Jean Edna	06/07/1931	22/01/2018
SMITH John James	15/01/1946	25/01/2018
BARNETT Alison Jane	02/02/1959	04/02/2018
GILL Mark	25/07/1970	15/01/2018
WREGGE Jesse Doreen	17/09/1933	13/01/2018
SHEPHERD Susan Ann	31/05/1963	28/12/2017
ADAMSON Christina Baillie	17/10/1948	12/01/2018