

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 0316121
Date 22 March 2016

Post Mortem Costs

Request:

I am seeking to establish the costs to your council of coronial post mortems. This is so that I can compare the costs of conventional autopsy to digital autopsy. I would be grateful if you would answer the following questions:

- 1) Do you have a record of the cost to you of providing post mortem services on a per Post Mortem basis? If so what is that cost and what is it made up of (provide a detailed breakdown of costs)?
[In 2015/16 financial year, the overall cost of providing the Wednesfield Public Mortuary service was £112,970 pa for the provision of 345 post mortems – this equates to £327.45 per post mortem.](#)
- 2) Do you have a contract(s) with a NHS hospital provider to carry out post mortems and if so, with whom?
[No, we are a public mortuary.](#)
- 3) How long is the contract for and what is the renewal date?
[n/a](#)
- 4) What is the price you pay per post mortem case?
[n/a](#)
- 5) What do you pay for body storage at the hospital?
[Nil at New Cross Hospital.](#)
- 6) What is the number of post mortem cases you facilitate per annum?
345 in 2015/16
- 7) How many cases do you service from outside of your Local Authority that are chargeable? And what do you charge for this service?
[No cases serviced from outside Wolverhampton.](#)
- 8) What is the overall value of the contract with the hospital provider(s)?
[No contract in place or required.](#)