

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

## Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 031663  
Date 10 March 2016

### *Public Health Funerals*

**Request:**

1. Has the Council conducted any public health funerals since 01/10/2015- the present? (by present I mean the date of your response). Can you please include any pending funerals?

Yes - 26

2. If the answer to question 1 is yes, can you send me the deceased's:

a) Full name

b) Date of funeral

c) Whether the Council has located a next of kin?

d) Whether the Council has located a will?

e) Whether details of the estate have been/will be referred to the Government Legal Department?

f) Approximate value of estate (if known)?

g) In each case, has the Council given the information away in another FOI request

No

h) In each case, has the Council passed the information (outside the parameters of FOI) to a probate or genealogy firm? If so which ones and when?

No

i) Does the Council hold any other information the Council about the deceased?

j) If yes, can you provide it?

I regret to inform you the information you requested in question 2 a, b, c, d, e, f, i and j above is being withheld as the Council considers that Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act (Law Enforcement) is applicable in this case, for the reasons outlined below.

Given the sensitivity of the information requested and the risk that its disclosure to the wide world could possibly aid criminal activities, I consider that it would not be in the public interest to release this information.

The Treasury Solicitor may be able to release to you information. You may wish to contact them at:

Freedom of Information Officer  
Treasury Solicitor Department  
1 Kemble Street  
London  
WC2B 4TS  
[foi@tsol.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi@tsol.gsi.gov.uk)

You might also find it helpful to visit their website at:  
[www.bonavacantia.gov.uk](http://www.bonavacantia.gov.uk)

### **Section 31- Law Enforcement**

Section 31 is concerned with protecting a wide range of law enforcement interests and its application turns on whether disclosure would be likely to prejudice those interests.

Some interests that are protected by section 31 are drawn quite widely, for example: the administration of justice, the prevention or detection of crime and the operation of immigration controls. But section 31 also applies where the exercise by any public authority of certain specified functions would be prejudiced by disclosure. Those functions include: ascertaining whether a person is responsible for improper conduct, determining the cause of an accident and ascertaining a person's fitness to carry on a profession