

Information for the family of the deceased

As'salamu Alaykum

We offer our sincere condolences at this difficult time and pray Almighty Allah SWT bestows his mercies and blessings upon the deceased and elevates them to the highest of heavens and allows the family to bear their loss with patience.

Burial

The Trustees of Gardens of Peace Muslim Cemetery and Al Madina Mosque Barking work collaboratively to provide burial services to members of the community. However, the ultimate decision as to where to bury is a decision for the family.

Haji Nazir Funeral Directors (HNFD)

Haji Nazir Funeral Directors are the funeral service providers with whom we work. The funeral directors will arrange for collection of the deceased once paperwork has been obtained, HNFD will carry out ghusl consistent with Islamic requirements, provide qualified staff to carry out the ghusl and transportation back to the chosen cemetery for burial.

A restriction will be applied on the number of people permitted during ghusl to four individuals, this is for health and safety reasons and to protect the dignity of the deceased. HNFD will not undertake any embalming and/or other activity connected with the repatriation of the deceased.

All costs incurred for the above services are to be agreed with HNFD and the family of the deceased. The mosque does not charge for use of its facilities.

Whilst the mosque recommends HNFD, the ultimate decision to employ a funeral director and agreement of any costs incurred is an independent contract between the family and HNFD. If the family of the deceased decide to instruct their own funeral director, then they must ensure all necessary arrangements are in place and agreed with the instructed funeral director.

Al Madina Mosque

The Mosque provides all ghusl equipment (washing table, hot and cold-water supply, adequate drainage, shrouding table, cold room) and storage for body washing items (Kaffan and related materials including coffin boxes and trollies), ensures that the room for ghusl is made accessible as and when required, provide all consumables (Kaffan, soap, cotton wool, disposable aprons and gloves, bukhoor, attar), makes sure the room is not hindered in any way to give rise to health and safety issues and make available parking facilities for at least one private ambulance or hearse.

The Mosque's staff are not trained to deal with funerals and will NOT permit any viewing of the deceased without the funeral service directors' consent or presence.

The Mosque will also facilitate the Salaatul Janazah. The funeral prayer will be led by the Imam of Al Madina Mosque, there will be no variation to this and should be fully understood by the family of the deceased prior to agreeing to hold the Janazah at Al Madina.

The above services will be provided by the Mosque free to the family of the deceased. Should the family wish to make a donation it will be accepted as a sadaqa jariya on behalf of the deceased.

Where appropriate the funeral service director and the Mosque staff will assist the family to obtain the necessary paperwork required by law but this responsibility lays primarily with the family of the deceased. Attached for your guidance are new rules explaining the process of obtaining the necessary paperwork post death

Gatherings of Condolences

Should it be required, Al Madina Mosque will further make available space within the Mosque complex for families to gather to receive friends and extended family to offer condolences for their loss and to pray for the deceased.

This will be facilitated around normal Mosque business and will be made available for a maximum of 3 days. This service is provided for free.

Provision of Food

Should the family require facilities to serve food on the first 2 days this will be provided at a charge. Should the family require facilities for the 3rd day Qul, this will also be provided at a charge. The daily charge being £350. (This is a subsidised charge from the normal rate and only applies at time of bereavement)

The Mosque will make tables and chairs available but all other food service and utensil provision along with cleanliness will be the responsibility of the family.

The responsibility of ensuring the food is provided by an approved food service provider is the responsibility of the family. And must be in line with Health & safety requirements.

Please be advised the Mosque has a very busy schedule of activities and events and we will on occasion need to work together to ensure all users are facilitated.

Further information can be obtained from the below named persons.

HNFD	Haji Nazir	07525 640100
Al Madina Mosque	Haji Ashfaq Siddique	07534 927093
	Haji Abdul Majeed	07903 711158
Gardens of Peace cemetery	Haji Mohammed Omer	07773 816905

Medical Examiner Death Certification Process



DEATH OCCURS

Is there an Attending Medical Practitioner who is able to Issue an MCCD

NO

Is any other Medical Practitioner eligible to issue an MCCD?

NO

YES

AP must have attended the deceased at any time during their life.

Coroner decides no duty to investigate

Coroner refers back for Attending Practitioner or ME to complete an MCCD and submit for Medical Examiner scrutiny. Coroner issues FORM CN1A

In exceptional Circumstances, If no Attending Practitioner available, and COD is natural, the Coroner may ask the Medical Examiner to complete MCCD. Coroner ISSUES FORM CN1B

Cause of death is unclear, violent / unnatural, or in custody / detention

Cause of death is clear / natural

ME Completes and sends MCCD

ATTENDING PRACTITIONER

MEDICAL EXAMINER

REGISTRAR

Coroner decides duty to investigate

Coroner Issues Form CN2 (PART B) and Coroners Order for Burial (Form 101)

Death must be registered within 5 days

Body Released to Undertakers for Burial

Completes MCCD, including proposed cause of death. Sends MCCD to Medical Examiner with relevant medical records. AP must have attended the deceased at any time during their life.

Carries out a proportionate review of the MCCD and associated medical records.

MCCD agreed with ME and completed by AP

Discussion, if required

BIMA AND NBC BRIEFING NOTE

STATUTORY MEDICAL EXAMINER SYSTEM COMES INTO FORCE ON 9th SEPTEMBER 2024 in England and Wales

Highlighted below are key changes in the death certification process

What is a Medical Examiner?

Medical Examiners are senior medical doctors, experienced in various medical specialties, who are responsible for independently reviewing and scrutinising the medical causes of death. Their role is crucial in ensuring that death certifications are accurate and that any potential issues surrounding a death are properly identified and addressed. The Medical Examiners will be supported by Medical Examiner Officers who will manage the cases and obtain the relevant information and records.

What Is Changing?

Starting from 9th September 2024, it will be a **legal requirement (in England and Wales) for all deaths to be reported to a Medical Examiner (ME)** to independently scrutinise the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) before it is completed by the Attending Practitioner either a hospital doctor or GP for deaths in the community.

Their responsibility includes:

- **Collaboration with Medical Practitioners who have treated the patient:**
- **Proportionate Review of Medical Records** and any supporting diagnostic information.
- **Agreeing to the Cause of Death** ensuring the accuracy of the **MCCD**.
- **Engagement with Bereaved Families:** Discussing the cause of death and to provide bereaved families with the opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns.
- **Signing off the MCCD**, The Medical Examiner will sign off the MCCD and send it to the Registrars.
- **Acting as a medical advisor** for the local Coroner and respond to any queries raised by the registrar

Who is an Attending Practitioner?

- A Medical Practitioner (MP) will be eligible to be an Attending Practitioner (AP) and complete an MCCD, if they have attended the deceased **in their lifetime**. The attending practitioner will review the circumstance and the history and propose a cause of death to the Medical Examiner, if they can do so, to the best of their knowledge and belief.

What Happens if the Medical / Attending Practitioner is Not Available?

The Death Certification Reforms make it easier to find a suitable attending practitioner, because any doctor who attended the deceased can complete an MCCD if they can state the cause of death to the best of their knowledge and belief.

In exceptional circumstances where either:

- There is no medical practitioner, or
- If an attending practitioner is not available within a reasonable time.

The death can be referred to the Coroner and, in these circumstances, where the coroner decides not to investigate, they would refer the case to the Medical Examiner to certify the death by completing the Medical Examiner MCCD, provided the cause of death can be established from medical records, which would need to be available.

Who Will Report the death to the Medical Examiner?

In most cases the attending Practitioner will report the death to the Medical Examiner, however in some cases the out of hours GP service may notify the ME. If a death occurs in routine core GP hours or overnight in a normal working week (i.e. Monday at 22.00hrs), then the practice should prioritise the process of dealing

with an “urgent” request and ensure that their local ME office is aware of the high priority nature of the case. As with all deaths, the practice will need to ensure that an appropriate GP is available to refer the death to the ME. For all Hospital deaths the attending practitioner will report the death to the ME team. Check with the local trust for local protocols.

What Happens if the ME and AP are Unable to Agree on a Cause of Death

Where the AP and ME are unable to agree on a cause of death, it will be reported to the Coroner. The coroner will review the case and decide whether it is notifiable and if an investigation is required.

If the coroner decides the death is not notifiable, then the case will be returned to the ME and AP to agree on a Cause of Death and issue an MCCD.

Registering the Death

This will remain the same in the main. The registrars will **receive the MCCD from the Medical Examiner** and register as normal, however registrars will no longer make any referrals to the Coroner. Should any queries arise, they will contact the Medical Examiner for further consideration and discussion. As there will be limited interaction between the registrar and coroner in most cases, the need for **the form 100A will no longer exist** and this form will be removed. Coroners will see a new set of forms for interaction with the AP's and ME's.

How Will This Work Out of Hours?

National guidance has been provided to regional leads to ensure that areas make suitable provisions to meet community needs, particularly regarding timely burials.

The indications are that there will be limited provision out of hours and this will vary from town to town. You are therefore advised to check with your local ME office and local health Trust about local out of hours provision.

It is to be noted that in most case the challenges will include:

- **Accessing General Practitioners (GP) out of hours**
- **Time ME office is available out of hours**
- **Aligning availability of registrars and cemetery with ME service.**

Urgent Release

The Medical Examiner has published guidance to address the need for urgent release based on faith or other priorities. The guidance emphasises that MEs should make every effort to expedite the scrutiny of these cases, avoiding unnecessary delays wherever possible. Urgent release also depends on attending practitioners completing MCCDs and sending them to medical examiners as soon as possible. Please check with your Hospital Trust / Mortuary for their processes.

Coronial Process

The attending practitioner or the medical examiner will determine which deaths need to be referred to the coroner.

If the coroner is satisfied that an investigation is not required, then they will inform the attending practitioner or the ME, who can issue an MCCD in circumstances where they are able to determine the cause of death to the best of their knowledge and belief.

If the Coroner intends to carry out an investigation then on conclusion the Coroner will Issue a Form B to the registrars and release the body. Coroners will issue a burial order if they have investigated the death and issue a CN2 Form.

For Further Guidance Please See Below

Contact details for medical examiner offices: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/patient-safety-insight/national-medical-examiner-system/contact-details-for-medical-examiner-offices-in-england/>

What to do when someone dies: step by step: <https://www.gov.uk/when-someone-dies>

National Medical Examiner's guidance: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/national-medical-examiners-guidance-for-england-and-wales/>