

Dear FOI team,

Please could I be provided with the following information:

How much money was spent by the council on contracts with providers of funerals in order to fulfil the provisions of the National Assistance Act 1948 that state that Public Health Funerals should be arranged for individuals

who have died and have no know relatives to arrange or pay for the funeral, or have relatives who are unable/ unwilling to arrange the funeral?

I would like this figure broken down by year for the years: 2017-18, 2016-17, 2015-16, 2014-15.

Could I then have the stats for each year broken down into male and female?

Could you also provide a list of the contractors and how much they were paid for each contract within those years?

Could you also provide the reasons why councils may find themselves providing funerals?

Would you be able to break down the numbers for each year into those which are provided because they have no relatives and those who have relatives but they are unwilling to pay?

If possible, could you provide the documentation or notation given that showed the relatives did not want to pay for the funeral? Could you provide the reasons that these relatives gave for not paying for the funeral?

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information Request.

I am now able to provide you with the information supplied by the relevant department, Please see attached.

Nottinghamshire County Council have a contract with A. W. Lymn. The Council only deals with funerals under the Public Health Act if the deceased has died in a care home and there is no-one else able to make the arrangements. It would be the care home that would notify us. For people dying in their own homes, the district or borough council would make arrangements and for someone dying in hospital it would be the hospital's responsibility.

The other thing people wrongly assume is that they can arrange a funeral and the council will pay or top it up because they can't afford to. In these cases we would refer them to the Direct.gov website for help with funeral costs via the Social Fund and also let them know that most funeral companies will offer a payment plan to spread the cost of the funeral.

I hope this now satisfies your request, and should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me directly on the details below.

In addition to this and for future reference Nottingham County Council regularly publishes previous FOIR,s and answers on its website, under Disclosure logs. (see link)

<http://site.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/>

You can use the search facility using keywords.

If you wish to raise any concerns about the way your request was dealt with, then please write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail [foi@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:foi@nottscc.gov.uk) quoting the reference number above.

Kind Regards

Complaints, Information & Mediation Officer.  
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Chief Executive's Dept  
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