

**From:** Foi Enquiries  
**Sent:** 13 August 2019 12:24  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** EIR-19-0967 - Public Health Funerals  
**Attachments:** V3 - Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your information request of 15 July 2019. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested. Our response is now detailed below.

**1. How many public health funerals were carried out in the financial year 2018/19?**

38

**2. What was the total cost of public health funerals to the Local Authority in 2018/19?**

£36,077.34

**3. If you recovered funeral costs in 2018/19, what was the total amount that was recovered?**

£5,280.92

**4. What was the most common reason for the council performing a public health funeral in 2018/19? (Choose one option below)**

- o The deceased had no family**
- o The deceased's family were unable to pay for the funeral**
- o The deceased's family were unwilling to pay for the funeral**

The reason for the Council performing a public health funeral is not recorded. Although this is not recorded it has been estimated that "unwilling to pay" would be the most common reason.

Please note that in Scotland, where the deceased had no family, the case is referred to the National Ultimus Haeres Unit, Procurator Fiscal Office, Cameronian House, 3/5 Almada Street, Hamilton, ML3 0HG

ACC is unable to provide you with information on the most common reason for the council performing a public health funeral in 2018/19 as it is not held by the Council. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Regulation 10(4)(a) - Information Not Held - of the EIRs, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it. ACC is required by Regulation 10(1)(b) of the EIRs to inform you as to why in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining this exception outweighs the public interest in disclosing this information to you. ACC is satisfied that it does not hold this information and considers that, as there is no information held, the public interest lies with the exception.

**5. Are family members allowed to attend the public health funeral? Please answer Yes or No**

Yes

**6a. If the funeral is a cremation funeral, are the ashes returned to the family? Please answer Yes or No**

Yes, if this is their wishes.

**6a. If you answered YES to 6a, was there a cost to the family to have the ashes returned to them?**

There is no cost for returning ashes.

**7a. How many public health funerals in 2018/19 were burial funerals?**

3

**7b. How many public health funerals in 2018/19 were cremation funerals?**

35

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST**

As the information which you requested is environmental information, as defined under Regulation 2(1) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (the EIRs), ACC considered that it was exempt from release through FOISA, and must therefore give you notice that we are refusing your request under Section 39(2) of FOISA (Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002). However, you have a separate right to access the information which you have requested under Regulation 5 of the EIRs, under which ACC has handled your request. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under the EIRs.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,



**Tomina Egbuson** | Access to Information Officer

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