We are sorry for your loss

Our aim is to help you find support in the time and way that feels right for you and those around you.
What happens when someone dies

**Expected death**

If the death was expected and the cause of death is clear, the process should be quite straightforward:

- You need to contact the funeral director to make arrangements to transfer the deceased to the chapel of rest.
- Once notified of the death, the Doctor will complete a Death Certificate for you to give to your local Registrar. This will happen as soon as possible after the death.
- You will also be given instructions on how to register the death and confirmation that the death certificate has been signed.
- If in hospital, the death is reviewed by a Medical Examiner. They will talk to you about the cause of death, the Medical Certificate and any concerns you may have before they send it to the Registrar. They will also explain the process to register the death.

When contacted, the Registrar will provide the information and forms you need to make the funeral arrangements.

- When all the paperwork has been completed you can start making the funeral arrangements.

**Unexpected death**

If the death was unexpected and the cause of death is unclear:

- The Doctor will report the death to the Coroner.
- The Coroner will certify the cause of death after an inquest.
- The Doctor will arrange for the transfer of the deceased to the Coroner’s office.
- The Coroner will keep you informed of everything that is happening.

Information about what needs to happen when someone in the UK dies can be found at: [www.gov.uk/after-a-death](http://www.gov.uk/after-a-death)
These resources may be of help to you now or later in your bereavement journey.

If you are bereaved and would like to speak with someone, your GP may be able to help, but you can also call:

- **Cruse Bereavement Care** [www.cruse.org.uk](http://www.cruse.org.uk)
  Surrey Heath and Farnham tel: 01483 565660
  Hart and Rushmoor tel: 01264 336006/01264 335569
  Thames Valley Berkshire (Wokingham, Bracknell, Slough, East & Central Reading, Windsor, Maidenhead and surrounding areas) tel: 01344 411919

- **Brigitte Trust** [www.brigittetrust.org](http://www.brigittetrust.org)
  Surrey Heath and Farnham tel: 01306 881816

- **Child Bereavement UK** provides support for families and professionals when a child dies or when a child grieves.
  [www.childbereavementuk.org/](http://www.childbereavementuk.org/)
  Helpline: 0800 028 8840

- **Marie Curie** [www.mariecurie.org.uk/help/support/bereaved-family-friends](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/help/support/bereaved-family-friends)
  tel: 0800 090 2309

- **At a Loss** provides useful bereavement resources
  [www.ataloss.org](http://www.ataloss.org)
• **Thames Hospice** provides pre and post bereavement services, including specific services for children and young people.
  www.thameshospice.org.uk/patients-emotional-support

• **Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care** provides support to those whose loved ones have died under the care of Phyllis Tuckwell. tel: 01252 729430 email: pafs@pth.org.uk

• **Independent Age** provides a range of information and advice, including welfare, legal and financial.
  www.independentage.org/information/personal-life/when-someone-dies tel: 0800 319 6789

• **A Child of Mine** provides emotional and practical support to bereaved parents and families.
  www.achildofmine.org.uk tel: 07803 751 229

• **Daisy’s Dream** provides support and information to bereaved children and families, working predominantly in Berkshire and the surrounding areas.
  www.daisysdream.org.uk tel: 0118 934 2604

• **Shooting Star Children’s Hospice** provides bereavement support to families across Surrey.
  www.shootingstar.org.uk tel: 01483 230960

• **Naomi House & Jacks Place** provide one-to-one counselling and bereavement support in a number of areas including Hampshire, Berkshire and Surrey
  www.naomihouse.org.uk tel: 01962 760060

• **Alexander Devine Children’s Hospice** provides support to bereaved families and the wider community across Berkshire and surrounding areas.
  www.alexanderdevine.org tel: 01628 822777

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