 

What to do after a loss

If you require further information, please contact Sandwell Valley Crematorium, where the staff will be pleased to assist you**.**

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# Sandwell Bereavement Services Leaflet 2

There are a number of things you need to do after a loss. To help you, we have listed below the main people that you need to contact, and what you should consider.

# It is necessary to inform:-

* The deceased’s doctor
* Relatives and good friends
* The Police (if the death is sudden, accidental or violent)
* A Funeral Director (if required)

# You may consider:-

* Informing the deceased’s Minister of Religion
* If you have found it necessary to contact the Police, do not touch or remove anything in the house, the Police will give you further advice
* The death may be referred to the Coroner (if sudden, accidental or violent), the procedures will be explained to you by the Coroner or the Police

# Questions you need to consider:-

* Has the deceased left a Will?
* Is there an existing grave?
* Did the deceased express a preference to be buried or cremated?

# Funeral arrangements:-

Many people will automatically use the services of a Funeral Director; however, you should discuss your preferences with your Funeral Director, and ensure that you consider all of your options.

Alternatively, it is possible to make your own arrangements for a funeral. To enable you to give this some consideration, and to assist you, please read our leaflet “Guide to Independent Burials in Sandwell”.

# To Register a Death:-

The death must be registered by the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the sub-district in which the death occurred. In Sandwell, the Registrar is located at Sandwell Registrar Office, Highfields, High Street West Bromwich, and they operate an appointment system. The telephone number to book an appointment is 0121 569 2480.

The death must be registered within 5 days. In order to register the death you will require:-

1. A Medical Certificate of Cause of Death, or A form provided by the Coroner
2. The deceased’s National Health Card (if available).

# The Registrar may also require other personal details including:-

1. The deceased’s full name and address
2. Occupation
3. Date of Birth

Once the death has been registered, the Registrar will issue the appropriate certificate to allow for a burial or cremation to take place, together with a Death Certificate