



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 25/26-314, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

1. Does your local authority use a professional genealogy or heir tracing service to locate next of kin in any of the following circumstances:
 - Where an individual has died intestate or with no known next of kin;
 - Where the local authority has arranged a public health funeral under its statutory duties?
2. If so, please could you provide the name(s) of the genealogy firm(s) or individual genealogist(s) your authority has used for this purpose in the past five years?
3. If your authority maintains a list or panel of approved genealogists or firms for such services, I would also like to request information on how my firm can apply to be considered for inclusion on that list.
4. If you do not work with genealogist, can you confirm that should you be unable to locate next of kin, you then refer details straight to the Treasury Solicitor without the involvement of any professional genealogist?

Response:

1. Yes, occasionally.
2. On an ad hoc basis we may approach or be approached by companies such as Genealogy Matters, Thames Probate, Finders etc.
3. n/a
4. Information about the estate, where relevant, is passed to The Treasury Solicitor.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 25/26-314.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.