

# Birmingham City Council

Register Office

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Superintendent Registrar

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING DEATH REGISTRATIONS**

Legislation has been enacted that changes how deaths and still-births are registered for this pandemic period. This will be effective until further notice.

### **MCCD for registration purposes**

A medical certificate can be accepted from any medical practitioner so long as they are able to state to the best of their knowledge the cause of death.

Registrars can accept MCCDs without referral to the coroner, provided it contains an acceptable cause of death, and indicates that a medical practitioner has seen the deceased either within the 28 days prior to death, or after death (this does not need to be the certifying medical practitioner).

While these provisions are in force, if it is indicated that a patient was seen in the 28 days prior to death by video link (such as skype) this should be accepted as seen. This (video link) does not however meet the requirement for seen after death.

### **Signing of the MCCD**

Provision for any registered medical practitioner to issue a MCCD without having personally attended the deceased, provided they are sufficiently able, from the available information, to ascertain the cause of death.

The declaration on MCCDs will be amended as necessary by certifying doctors. This will show whether or not they have been in medical attendance and if not whether another doctor has seen the deceased after death and/or within 28 days prior to death.

The after-death requirement will be through the existing ringed boxes on the MCCD.

If there is no other reason for the death to be referred to the coroner, the MCCD should be accepted. If possible, registration officers should liaise with their local surgeries and hospitals to ascertain a list of possible signatories and their GMC numbers.

The Bereavement Office or Doctor must follow the procedure below:

- Scan all sides of the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death and email to Birmingham Register Office using the [RORegistrations@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:RORegistrations@birmingham.gov.uk) email address. In the subject line mark the email as **MCCD** and insert the full name of the deceased.

- In the email provide a contact name, telephone number and email address of the informant. The primary informant is still a member of the family.
- Advise the informant to complete the "Pre-Registration Details" form which is on the Register Office website  
[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20210/deaths/386/register\\_a\\_death](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20210/deaths/386/register_a_death)
- If the informant does not have access to the internet their Funeral Director (or some other person) can complete the form on their behalf, giving the informant's details.
- Advise the informant that once this form has been completed and submitted, a Registrar will contact the family by telephone to complete the registration.
- As soon as possible after the registration has taken place, the 'Green' disposal form will be scanned and emailed direct to the families nominated Funeral Director (Unless The Coroner's Office has issued a document directly to the Funeral Director instead).
- Please retain the original MCCD securely after scanning until we are through the current pandemic period. After the emergency period, arrangements should be made to have all original forms sent to the register office to be processed in the normal manner.

Yours faithfully

**Andrea Haines**  
**Superintendent Registrar/ Registration Services Manager**  
**Regulation and Enforcement**  
**Neighbourhoods Directorate**  
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For information about Birmingham Register Office Services: [www.birmingham.gov.uk/registeroffice](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/registeroffice)

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