### 2015-461 - FOI request - Public health funerals

1. **What happens when a patient dies in the care of the trust and there are no details of the next of kin provided?**  
   - We contact an estate research company.

2. **Who tries to locate/trace the next of kin if the information is unknown? (name, department and contact details)**  
   - Estate research company, also Lisa Diamond Bereavement Officer Royal Bolton Hospital 01204 390807

3. **What are the steps taken to locate the next of kin of the deceased patient?**  
   - As per question 1

4. **What happens when the trust is unable to locate the next of kin?**  
   - We arrange a basic contract funeral.

5. **If the patient dies within the care of the trust and the next of kin cannot be traced, whose responsibility is it to provide a funeral? (name and contact details)**  
   - Mrs Lisa Diamond Bereavement Officer, Royal Bolton Hospital 01204 390807

6. **On how many instances has the trust provided a funeral for a patient (time frame January 2014 to present)?**  
   - 24 up to present day.

7. **Of these public health funerals please provide:**  
   - a) Name of deceased  
   - b) Date of birth and date of death  
   - c) Last residential address  
   - d) Have the next of kin/family members been traced?  
   - e) What date have the details been referred to the QLTR, Bona Vacantia, Treasury Solicitor, Government Legal Department, National Ultimus Haeres, Duchy or Farrer & Co?  
   - Confidential information, under section 41.

8. **Have there been cases where the trust has referred/or plan on referring details of the deceased patient to the Treasury Solicitor/Government Legal Department, Bona Vacantia, National Ultimus Haeres, Crown Solicitor, Duchy Farrer & Co or QLTR?**  
   - Yes

9. **Which other organisations have details (of the deceased with no known kin) been passed to and why?**  
   - None

10. **Does the trust conduct an asset search and/or will search?**  
    - Yes the social services department at the hospital do a protection of property.

11. **Which department deals with the deceased assets? (name and contact details)**  
    - Same answer as number 5

12. **Is the trust responsible for selling the assets in order to compensate for the funeral costs?**  
    - Yes

13. **Does the trust have an Empty Homes department? (name, contact details)**  
    - No

14. **What is the role of the Empty Homes department?**  
    - N/A