

ANNEX A

Implementation of the Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011



RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response to ensure that we handle your response appropriately

1. Name/Organisation

Organisation Name

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Title Mr Ms Mrs Miss Dr Please tick as appropriate

Surname

Dwarakanath

Forename

A. Deepak

2. Postal Address

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

9 Queen Street

Edinburgh

Postcode EH2 1JQ

Phone 0131-247 3608

Email i.lockhart@rcpe.ac.uk

3. Permissions - I am responding as...

Individual

/

Group/Organisation

Please tick as appropriate

(a) Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site)?

Please tick as appropriate

Yes No

(b) Where confidentiality is not requested, we will make your responses available to the public on the following basis

Please tick **ONE** of the following boxes

(c) The name and address of your organisation **will be** made available to the public (in the Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site).

Are you content for your **response** to be made available?

Please tick as appropriate

Yes No

Yes, make my response, name and address all available

or

Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address

or

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

(d) We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Please tick as appropriate

Yes

No

ANNEX B

CONSULTATION RESPONSE TEMPLATE FORM

Please remember to return your response along with the Respondent Information Form at **Annex A**

Question 1: Do you agree that the “not staying registration” (expedited) procedure should only apply in situations where there is a clear rationale for a funeral to proceed within a specific timescale?

Please tick as appropriate Yes No

Additional Comments:

Clear guidance for MRs and the public will be required plus effective quality control to ensure there is no postcode lottery in terms of achieving the expedited procedure.

Question 2: Do you agree that the role of the registrar is to make informants aware, in response to a request, of the “not staying registration” (expedited) procedure?

Please tick as appropriate Yes No

Additional Comments:

It is a difficult time for families registering a death and they may not be fully aware of the option despite written material to this effect.

Question 3: Do you agree that there would be value in having a form for informants to complete in circumstances where the “not staying registration” (expedited) procedure is requested?

Please tick as appropriate Yes No

Additional Comments:

Examples of “special circumstances” within the form may be helpful.

Question 4: Do you agree that these proposed timescales will ensure the system will meet the needs of informants in those circumstances where there is a clear rationale for the funeral to proceed within a specific timescale?

Please tick as appropriate Yes No

Additional Comments:

It would be important to be clear whether a decision will normally be made by the MR within the same day (ie for requests made up to a set time in the morning) or the following morning for requests made later in the day. This will be important to those having to travel significant distances to register the death and may particularly apply in more rural areas of Scotland.

Question 5: Do you agree that it would be useful to set down in Guidance, and on the proposed form, the sort of categories where it may be appropriate to request that registration is not stayed (expedited procedure)?

Please tick as appropriate Yes No

Additional Comments:

This should be made available to MR and the wider public.

Question 6: Do you agree with these categories, and is there anything additional that should be added?

Please tick as appropriate Yes No

Additional Comments:

It would be useful to understand the likely numbers of special requests and therefore the frequency of success ie during the summer season Scotland has many visitors and data on the religious make-up of the population.

The “compassionate” category may present the greatest challenge to ensure consistency across Scotland. The examples selected focus on young people and still birth but there may be equal or more distress in other situations eg where next of kin are particularly vulnerable - an elderly spouse, recent bride or groom or a patient with mental health problems.

Question 7: Do you agree that these approaches are sensible? Is there anything else that should be considered in relation to guidance around the procedure not to stay registration (expedited procedure)?

Please tick as appropriate Yes No

Additional Comments:

Monitoring of the guidance and decisions will be essential to ensure consistency.

The term “**not staying registration**” is not plain English and would benefit from definition or an alternative term in any guidance for the public, particularly given the distressed state of many using the guidance.