

Local & National Support



Call us for free on 08088 020 021 between 8am-8pm, weekdays.
Email us on ask@winstonswish.org or fill out our [contact form](#) and we'll reply within two working days.
Chat online between 3-8pm, weekdays by clicking the blue 'Chat with us' button at the bottom right of your screen.
For urgent support, text WW to 85258 to speak with someone from our trusted partner, Shout.

SAMARITANS

Samaritans
29 Harrison Road, Halifax, HX1 2AF
Freephone: 116 123
www.samaritans.org



The Compassionate Friends
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Compassionate Friends - A national self help organisation for bereaved parents
14 New King Street, London, SE8 3HS
Helpline: 03451 232304
www.tcf.org.uk

Calderdale & Greater Huddersfield Medical Examiner Service

Calderdale Royal Hospital
Salterhebble
Halifax
HX3 0PW
Phone: 01484 35 6930 / 6931



Calderdale & Greater Huddersfield Medical Examiner Service

Information for Bereaved Families



What is the Medical Examiner Service?

The death certification system in England and Wales has been the same for over 50 years. The government have made changes to ensure that all deaths are reviewed either by a Medical Examiner or a Coroner.

The Calderdale and Greater Huddersfield Medical Examiner Office is an independent service, hosted by Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust.

Medical Examiners and their staff (known as Medical Examiner's Officers) offer bereaved families and carers an opportunity to raise any questions or concerns. They are trained professionals who are there to guide and help you during this difficult time and will be very understanding.

Who is the Medical Examiner?

Medical Examiners are senior medical doctors, who are contracted for a number of sessions a week, to provide independent scrutiny of the cause of death, outside of their usual clinical duties. They are trained in the legal and clinical elements of death certification processes.

What does the Medical Examiner office do?

Medical examiners and Medical examiner officers:

- Reviews the medical record/care that was provided during the last illness
- Making sure that the cause of death on the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) is accurate
- Decide whether there should be further investigation by the coroner
- Offer an opportunity for relatives to ask questions by contacting the person listed as the 'next of kin'

What does this mean for you?

- The Medical Examiner office is informed of death by the GP practice / Hospice. If you are the person listed as the 'next of kin' :
- You will be contacted by the Medical Examiner team shortly after the death.
- You will be given the opportunity to discuss the cause of death, and care provided during the illness.
- You will be informed whether the death needs to be referred to the coroner for further investigation. If the coroner is involved, the clinicians **will not** be able to issue an MCCD unless the HM Coroner authorises it. More information and contact details are available here:

HM Coroner's Court
Cater Building, 1 Cater Street
Bradford, BD1 5AS
Email: hmc@bradford.gov.uk
Telephone: 01274 438 770

Monday to Friday: 9am to 4pm
Coroner's Officers can be contacted as follows:

Email: coronerswest@westyorkshire.police.uk
Telephone: 01274 438 800

- The Medical Examiner office will let you know when the initial paperwork has been completed and sent to the Registration Office and how to arrange to register the death.

**The Calderdale & Greater Huddersfield Medical Examiner Office is open from
08:00—17:00hrs**

**Monday to Friday (except public holidays)
Telephone: 01484 35 6930 or 01484 35 6931
Email: medical.examiner@cht.nhs.uk**