

May 2012

Dear Mr Fraser

1. *Names of persons who have died in the last 6 months in your NHS trust, that have no known next of kin, who's details have been passed on to either:*

- a The council or other public body for a welfare funeral*
- b The Treasury Solicitor, Bona Vacantia department*
- c Duchy of Lancaster, or*
- d Duchy of Cornwall.*

2. *Date of death of the above persons*
3. *Date of Birth of the person*
4. *Last known addresses of the above persons*
5. *Contact details for the person the details have been passed to.*

Under section 21 of the Act, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. Not all of the information sought is held by Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and most or all of the information can be found elsewhere or is already in public domain.

The Trust passes all such information to the treasury solicitor and so therefore the information is available from: Treasury Solicitor (Bona Vacantia) One Kemble Street, London WC2B 4TS telephone 020 721 03117

Information such as date of birth and last known address are available on the death certificate. The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages should hold this information. For information where the deceased is believed to have died intestate with no known kin, the Treasury Solicitor (Bona Vacantia) website <http://www.bonavacantia.gov.uk/> publishes details of estates valued at £5000+ once their initial enquiries have been completed.

However, they do not advertise all estates referred to them on their website. For example, an estate with assets totalling less than £5000 would not be published or where their initial enquiries locate kin. Therefore all or most of the information is accessible elsewhere and thus exempt from disclosure under section 21.