

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:

Staying of registration should only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Allowing some faith groups to always request a stay of registration is going to discriminate against others who are unaware that they can request this. In some parts of Scotland it is common place for burials to take place very quickly and culturally this is the norm so should this be a reason for not staying registration in every case? If people are aware they can expedite proceedings they will request this.

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:

The registrar should confirm not staying registration is available but if the informant is aware they can expedite procedures then surely they will request this happens.

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:

There is a requirement to have a formal application with space to outline why this case should be expedited. It will be very easy for anyone to request expedited procedures on compassionate grounds as grief affects people in many different ways.

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 is of concern that the deceased may be moved abroad or possibly cremated before the review is completed.

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:

By suggesting categories of people who may be eligible for expedited procedure you are may find that funeral directors will encourage families where the deceased falls into any of the categories that they request that registration is not stayed. There does need to be clear guidance for those cases where the person is donating tissue for transplant or research where time is of importance. Whole body donation will also require clear guidance as to how approval can be granted for preservation of tissues.

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:

There may be many cases where an expedited review would be beneficial so being prescriptive might not be of value. By publishing categories then anyone who falls into the category may reasonable expect to qualify for an expedited review. It would be expected in many of the suggested categories there would be Procurator fiscal involvement which should mean no need for further review.

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:

Where disposal is to be by cremation or the deceased is leaving the country

expedited procedures should not be allowed unless circumstances are exceptional.