



The
United
Reformed
Church

Help and Advice Group

Northern Synod Office, 4 College Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8JJ (0191-232 1168)

Bulletin 37: CORONERS

The Help & Advice Group was set up by Synod in 2009, to support local churches in being informed and effective in their life and mission. The Group is made up of four members of local churches, together with administrative support from the Trust Officer. We are willing to try to provide specific advice or organise training days on particular topics. Please get in touch if you have questions or wish to suggest a training or discussion event.

This article is part of a series giving an overview of particular subjects on interest for local churches. We also circulate general updates from time to time. Bulletins will also be posted on the members' area of the website with direct links to other websites.

Where readers are directed to web-based resources, the Synod Office is willing to respond to reasonable requests for printed out information for readers without web access, although they may find it more satisfactory to follow up their interest through their local library's web access.

Coroners

Ministers and Elders giving pastoral care to bereaved families may find it helpful to refer to the Ministry of Justice's short guide to coroner investigations:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/283937/coroner-investigations-a-short-guide.pdf

This explains the circumstances in which a post-mortem examination or an inquest may be necessary. This happens mainly when a death was violent or unnatural, when the cause of death was unknown, or when the death occurred in custody.

There is also a much more detailed guide to coroner services, which explains the procedures in greater depth:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/283939/guide-to-coroner-service.pdf

andrew.atkinson@urc-northernsynod.org