

Statutory Document No. 20XX/XXXX



Coroner of Inquests Act 1987

CORONERS OF INQUESTS (AMENDMENT) RULES 2025

Laid before Tynwald:

Coming into Operation:

The Clerk of the Rolls makes the following Rules under section 21(1) of the Coroner of Inquests Act 1987.

1 Title

These Rules are the Coroners of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025.

2 Commencement

These Rules come into operation on [insert date]¹.

3 Amendment of principal rules

- (1) The Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988² (“the principal Rules”) are amended as follows.
- (2) Every reference hereinafter to a numbered rule or schedule is to the rule or schedule so numbered in the principal Rules.

4 Rule 1 amended

In rule 1, for “doctor”, substitute **“medical practitioner”**.

5 Rule 2 amended

- (1) In rule 2 —
 - (a) for the definition of “the Department”, substitute —

¹ Tynwald procedure – Under section 21(2) of the Coroner of Inquests Act 1988, rules under section 21(1) of that Act shall be laid before Tynwald as soon as practicable after they are made, and if Tynwald at the sitting at which the rules are laid or at the next following sitting resolves that they shall be annulled, they shall cease to have effect.

² GC 1988/0003, as amended by SD 2013/0126.

- ~~“the Department”~~ means the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture; ~~”;~~
- (b) for the definition of “doctor”, substitute —
- ~~“medical practitioner”~~ means a registered medical practitioner as defined in the Health Care Professionals Act 2014; ~~”;~~
- (c) after the definition of “legal proceedings”, insert —
- ~~“material”~~ means organs and tissue as defined in the Human Tissue and Organ Donation Act 2021, that were retrieved from the body of a deceased person during a post-mortem examination and are not —
- (a) a tissue sample for the purposes of section 55 (tissue sample becoming part of medical records of deceased person); or
- (b) bodily fluids (as such as urine or stomach contents); ~~”;~~ and
- (d) in the definition of “post-mortem examination”, for “doctor” substitute ~~“medical practitioner”~~.

6 Rule 2A inserted

After rule 2, insert

~~2A~~ Delegation of administrative functions

The coroner may delegate administrative functions, but not judicial functions, to coroner’s officers and other support staff. ~~”~~.

7 Rule 5 amended

- (1) Rule 5 is amended as follows.
- (2) In the heading for rule 5, for “doctor”, substitute ~~“medical practitioner”~~.
- (3) In the opening paragraph, for “doctor”, substitute ~~“medical practitioner”~~.
- (4) In subparagraph (b) —
- (i) for “the murder, manslaughter or infanticide of the deceased”, substitute ~~“an offence under section 13(1)(a) of the Act”~~; and
- (ii) for “doctor”, substitute ~~“medical practitioner”~~.

8 Rule 6 amended

- (1) Rule 6 is amended as follows.
- (2) In paragraph (1), for “doctor”, substitute ~~“medical practitioner”~~.

- (3) In paragraph (2), before sub-paragraph (a) insert —
- ⁶⁶(aa) the next of kin or personal representative of the deceased who has notified the coroner in advance of his or her desire to be represented at the post-mortem examination;⁶⁷
- (4) In paragraph (3) —
- (i) for “examination by a doctor”, substitute ⁶⁸examination by a medical practitioner⁶⁹; and
- (ii) for “person is a doctor he is entitled”, substitute ⁶⁸person is a medical practitioner he or she is entitled⁶⁹.

9 Rules 7 and 8 substituted

For rules 7 and 8, substitute —

⁶⁶7 Preservation of material

- (1) Where a medical practitioner conducts a post-mortem examination under section 14 or 15 of the Act and the medical practitioner preserves or retains material which, in the medical practitioner’s opinion, relates to the cause of death or identity of the deceased, the medical practitioner must provide the coroner with written notification of that fact.
- (2) A medical practitioner who preserves or retains material under paragraph (1) must provide the coroner with written notification that —
- (a) identifies the material being preserved or retained; and
- (b) explains why that medical practitioner is of the opinion set out in paragraph (1).
- (3) A written notification under paragraph (2) may —
- (a) specify the period of time for which the medical practitioner believes the material should be preserved or retained;
- (b) specify different periods of time in relation to different preserved or retained material.
- (4) On receiving a notification under paragraph (1), the coroner must notify the medical practitioner of the period of time for which the coroner requires the material to be preserved or retained for the purposes of the coroner fulfilling his or her duties under the Act.
- (5) On making a notification under paragraph (4), the coroner must also notify any person who was notified under rule (6)(2)(aa) and
- (a) that —
- (a) the material is being preserved or retained;

- (b) the period or periods for which the material is required to be preserved or retained; and
 - (c) the options for dealing with the material under paragraph (8) once the period or periods of preservation or retention has or have expired.
- (6) A coroner may from time to time vary a period notified under paragraph (4) and must notify both the medical practitioner and any person notified under paragraph (5) of the variation.
- (7) Where a medical practitioner has retained material in accordance with a notification under paragraph (4), and the period notified under that paragraph has expired, that medical practitioner must record the fact that —
 - (a) the material has been disposed of by the medical practitioner or on behalf of the medical practitioner;
 - (b) the material has been delivered into the possession of a specified person; or
 - (c) the material has been dealt with in accordance with paragraph (8).
- (8) The options for dealing with material are —
 - (a) disposal of the material by burial, cremation or other lawful disposal by the medical practitioner;
 - (b) return of the material to any person notified under rule 6(2)(aa) and (a);
 - (c) retention of the material where the subsequent use of the material for research, education or training is authorised in accordance with section 58, 59, 60, 61 or 62 of the Human Tissue and Organ Donation Act 2021, as the case requires.

8 Report on post-mortem

- (1) A medical practitioner, on completion of a post-mortem examination, must report to the coroner as soon as practicable after the examination has been made.
- (2) The medical practitioner making the post-mortem examination report must include, as relevant to that post-mortem examination, the information specified in Schedule 1 (post-mortem examination report).
- (3) The medical practitioner making the post-mortem examination report may include, as relevant to that post-mortem examination, a written notification of the preservation of material in accordance with rule 7 of these Rules.

- (4) The report of the medical practitioner must not be disclosed to any person without the permission of either the coroner or the Chief Registrar. **22**.

10 Rule 22 amended

In rule 22, after “certificate of the fact of death”, insert **22** containing the information specified in Schedule 3 (interim certificate of fact of death) to these Rules **22**.

11 Rule 27A inserted

After rule 27, insert —

22 27A Evidence to be given on oath or affirmation


- (1) A witness providing evidence at an inquest hearing must be examined by the coroner on oath or affirmation.
- (2) A person who is —
 - (a) under the age of 14; or
 - (b) aged 14 or over and is considered by the coroner to be unable to understand the nature of an oath or affirmation,may, on promising to tell the truth, be permitted to give unsworn evidence. **22**.

12 Rule 33 amended

For rule 33, substitute —

22 33 Verdict

- (1) No verdict shall be framed in such a way as to appear to determine any question of —
 - (a) criminal liability on the part of any person; or
 - (b) civil liability.
- (2) A coroner may either —
 - (a) issue a verdict in the following short form —
 - (i) accident;
 - (ii) misadventure;
 - (iii) alcohol related;
 - (iv) disease related;
 - (v) industrial disease related;
 - (vi) lawful killing;

- (vii) unlawful killing;
 - (viii) natural causes;
 - (ix) open;
 - (x) road traffic collision;
 - (xi) stillbirth; or
 - (xii) suicide; or
- (b) make a brief narrative conclusion. .

13 Rules 21, 26, 29 and 39 omitted

Rules 21, 26, 29 and 39 are omitted.

14 Schedules 1, 2 and 3 substituted

- (1) The Schedules to the Rules are substituted as follows.
- (2) Substitute Schedule 1 with that set out in Schedule 1 to these Rules.
- (3) Substitute Schedule 2 with that set out in Schedule 2 to these Rules.
- (4) Substitute Schedule 3 with that set out in Schedule 3 to these Rules.

MADE

A T K CORLETT

His Majesty's First Deemster and Clerk of the Rolls

SCHEDULE 1*[rule 15]***SCHEDULE 1 SUBSTITUTED****❏ SCHEDULE 1***[rule 8]***POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION REPORT****1 General information**

The post-mortem examination report must include the following information, where known —

- (a) the name of the deceased;
- (b) the address of the deceased;
- (c) the date and time of the post-mortem examination; and
- (d) the name of any observer or observers present at the post-mortem examination.

2 External examination

(1) The post-mortem examination report must include the following information, where known —

- (a) the stated or estimated date and time of death of the deceased;
- (b) the stated or apparent age of the deceased;

(2) The post-mortem examination report must include a description, photo or other record of the deceased's—

- (a) nourishment;
- (b) identification marks, including any tattoos and old scars;
- (c) body surface and musculo-skeletal system, including injuries; and
- (d) injuries or complex pathology, or both.

3 Internal examination

The post-mortem examination report must include a description, photo or other record of the medical practitioner's examination of the deceased's —

- (a) central nervous system, comprising the —
 - (i) skull;

- (ii) brain;
- (iii) meninges; and
- (iv) cerebral vessels;
- (b) respiratory system, comprising the —
 - (i) larynx;
 - (ii) trachea;
 - (iii) bronchi;
 - (iv) plurae; and
 - (v) lung parenchyma;
- (c) cardio-vascular system, comprising the —
 - (i) heart (including its weight, valves, myocardium and pericardium);
 - (ii) coronary arteries; and
 - (iii) great vessels;
- (d) alimentary system, comprising the —
 - (i) mouth;
 - (ii) tongue;
 - (iii) oesophagus;
 - (iv) stomach and contents;
 - (v) duodenum;
 - (vi) intestines;
 - (vii) liver and gall bladder;
 - (viii) pancreas; and
 - (ix) peritoneum;
- (e) the genito-urinary system, comprising the —
 - (i) kidneys and ureters;
 - (ii) bladder and urine; and
 - (iii) generative organs;
- (f) the reticulo-endothelial system, comprising the —
 - (i) spleen;
 - (ii) lymph nodes; and
 - (iii) thymus;
- (g) the endocrine system, comprising the —

- (i) thyroid;
- (ii) pituitary; and
- (iii) adrenals.

4 Opinion of the medical practitioner on the cause of death

- (1) The post-mortem examination report must include the opinion of the medical practitioner, as to any disease, injury or complication that caused the death of the deceased.
- (2) The opinion of medical practitioner may include a finding —
 - (a) on the underlying cause, or causes, of the disease, injury or complication that caused the death;
 - (b) on the antecedent cause, or causes, of the underlying cause, or causes, of the disease, injury or complication that caused the death;
 - (c) any disease or condition that did not cause death, but contributed to it in some way; and
 - (d) any morbid conditions present that, in the medical practitioner's opinion, did not contribute to the death.

5 Statements

The post-mortem examination report must include a statement—

- (a) as to whether or not a further laboratory examination is to be made and whether or not that laboratory examination may affect the cause of death; and
- (b) as to whether or not, to the best of the knowledge of the medical practitioner, a cardiac pacemaker remains in the body.

6 Signature and qualifications

The post-mortem examination report must include —

- (a) the name of the medical practitioner in block capital letters;
- (b) the qualifications of the medical practitioner; and
- (c) the signature of the medical practitioner.

SCHEDULE 2*[rule 16]***SCHEDULE 2 SUBSTITUTED****☒ SCHEDULE 2***[rule 35]***REGISTER OF DEATHS REPORTED TO CORONER**

The register of deaths reported to the coroner must include the following information, where known —

- (d) the date on which the death of the deceased was reported to the coroner;
- (e) the particulars of the deceased person, being —
 - (i) the name of the deceased person;
 - (ii) the address of the deceased person;
 - (iii) the age of the deceased person;
 - (iv) the sex of the deceased person;
- (f) the cause of death of the deceased person;
- (g) whether the case was disposed of by using —
 - (i) Form A;
 - (ii) Form B; or
 - (iii) the holding of an inquest; and
- (h) the verdict at inquest, if any inquest was held. ☒.

SCHEDULE 3*[rule 17]***SCHEDULE 3 SUBSTITUED****❷ SCHEDULE 3***[rule 22]***INTERIM CERTIFICATE OF FACT OF DEATH**

- (1) Any interim certificate of fact of death issued further to rule 22 of these Rules must contain the following information, where known —
 - (a) the name of the deceased person;
 - (b) the address of the deceased person;
 - (c) the date on which the deceased person has died;
- (2) The interim certificate of death must also state, as appropriate —
 - (a) that the precise medical cause of death has yet to be established;
or
 - (b) a description of the cause, or causes, of death. **❷**.

Keeling schedule of proposed amendments to the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 by the draft Coroner of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025 [v02], 10th March 2025

For reference:

Text in blue, or boxed in blue, is that which has been *omitted* as a consequence of the changes proposed in v01 and v02 of the amendment rules.

Text in red is that which has been *inserted* as consequence of the changes proposed in v01 and retained in v02 of the amendment rules.

Text in green is that which has been *inserted* as a consequence of the changes made by v02 of the amendment rules.

CORONERS OF INQUESTS RULES 1988

Approved by Tynwald: 17 February 1988

Coming into Operation: 1 March 1988

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Clerk of the Rolls by section 21(1) of the Coroners of Inquests Act 1987 , and of all other enabling powers, the following Rules are hereby made:-.

PART I

GENERAL

1 Citation, commencement and application

- (1) These Rules may be cited as the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 and, subject to section 21(2) of the Act, shall come into operation on the 1st March 1988.
- (2) These Rules do not have effect in relation to any inquest begun before the 1st March 1988 or to any post-mortem examination which, before that date, a coroner has directed or requested a ~~doctor~~ **medical practitioner**¹ to make.

2 Interpretation

In these Rules —

“the Act” means the Coroners of Inquests Act 1987;

“coroner” means a coroner of inquests, and includes a deputy coroner and an acting coroner;

“deceased” means the person upon whose body a post-mortem examination is made or touching whose death an inquest is held or the person whose death is reported to the coroner, as the case may be;

“the Department” means the **Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture**² ~~Department of Local Government and the Environment~~;

~~“doctor” means a legally qualified medical practitioner;~~

“medical practitioner” means a registered medical practitioner as defined in the Health Care Professionals Act 2014;³

¹ Substituted by rule 4 of v02 of the amendment rules.

² Substitution by rule 4(1)(a) of the amendment rules.

³ Substitution by rule 4(1)(b) of the amendment rules and revised in v02 of the amendment rules

Keeling schedule of proposed amendments to the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 by the draft Coroner of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025 [v02], 10th March 2025

“**enforcing authority**” has the meaning given by section 18(7) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (an Act of Parliament), as it has effect in the Island;

“**hospital**” means any institution for the reception and treatment of persons suffering from illness or mental disorder, any maternity home, and any institution for the reception and treatment of persons during convalescence;

“**industrial disease**” means a disease prescribed under section 76 of the Social Security Act 1975 (an Act of Parliament), as it has effect in the Island⁵ ; “**inquest**” means an inquest of death;

“**inspector**” means an inspector appointed under section 19 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (an Act of Parliament), as it has effect in the Island;

“**legal proceedings**” includes proceedings for the purpose of obtaining any benefit or other payments under the provisions relating to industrial injuries of the Social Security Act 1975 (an Act of Parliament), as it has effect in the Island;

“**material**” means organs and tissue as defined in the Human Tissue and Organ Donation Act 2021, that were retrieved from the body of a deceased person during a post-mortem examination and are not —

- (a) a tissue sample for the purposes of section 55 (tissue sample becoming part of medical records of deceased person); or
- (b) bodily fluids (as such as urine or stomach contents);⁴

“**post-mortem examination**” means a post-mortem examination which a ~~doctor~~ medical practitioner⁵ is directed or requested by a coroner to make under section 14 or 15 of the Act;

“**registrar**” means a registrar of deaths.

2A Delegation of administrative functions

The coroner may delegate administrative functions, but not judicial functions, to coroner’s officers and other support staff.⁶

3 Revocation

The Coroners Rules 1961 are revoked.

PART II

POST-MORTEM EXAMINATIONS

4 Delay in making post-mortem to be avoided

Where a coroner directs or requests that a post-mortem examination shall be made, it shall be made as soon after the death of the deceased as is reasonably practicable.

⁴ Inserted by rule 4(1)(c) of the amendment rules and revised in v02 of the amendment rules

⁵ Substituted by rule 5 of v02 of the amendment rules.

⁶ Inserted by rule 5 of the amendment rules.

Keeling schedule of proposed amendments to the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 by the draft Coroner of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025 [v02], 10th March 2025

5 ~~doctor~~ Medical practitioner⁷ making post-mortem

In deciding what ~~doctor~~ medical practitioner⁸ shall be directed or requested by the coroner to make a post-mortem examination the coroner shall have regard to the following considerations —

- (a) the post-mortem examination should be made, whenever practicable, by a pathologist with suitable qualifications and having access to laboratory facilities;
- (b) if the coroner is informed by the Chief Constable that a person may be charged with the murder, manslaughter or infanticide of the deceased, the coroner should consult the Chief Constable regarding the ~~doctor~~ medical practitioner⁹ who is to make the post-mortem examination;
- (c) if the deceased died in a hospital, the coroner should not direct or request a pathologist on the staff of or associated with that hospital to make a post-mortem examination if —
 - (i) that pathologist does not desire to make the examination, or
 - (ii) the conduct of any member of the hospital staff is likely to be called into question, or
 - (iii) any relative of the deceased asks the coroner that the examination be not made by such a pathologist,

unless the obtaining of another pathologist with suitable qualifications and experience would cause the examination to be unduly delayed.

6 Coroner to notify persons of post-mortem to be made

- (1) Where a coroner directs or requests a ~~doctor~~ medical practitioner¹⁰ to make a post-mortem examination, the coroner shall notify the persons and bodies specified in paragraph (2) of the time and place at which the examination will be made, unless it is impracticable to notify any such persons or bodies or to do so would cause the examination to be unduly delayed.
- (2) The persons and bodies to be notified by the coroner are —
 - (a) any relative of the deceased who has notified the coroner of his desire to attend or be represented at the post-mortem examination;
 - (aa) the next of kin or personal representative of the deceased¹¹ who has notified the coroner of his desire to attend or be represented at the post-mortem examination;¹²
 - (b) the deceased's regular medical attendant;
 - (c) if the death of the deceased may have been caused by any accident or disease notice of which is required by or under any statutory provision to be given to an inspector or to an enforcing authority, the Department.

⁷ Substituted by rule 7 of v02 of the amendment rules.

⁸ Substituted by rule 7 of v02 of the amendment rules.

⁹ Substituted by rule 7 of v02 of the amendment rules.

¹⁰ Substituted by rule 8 of v02 of the amendment rules.

¹¹ Inserted by rule 6 of the amendment rules.

¹² Inserted by rule 6 of the amendment rule V02 at request of High Bailiff.

Keeling schedule of proposed amendments to the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 by the draft Coroner of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025 [v02], 10th March 2025

- (3) Any person or body mentioned in paragraph (2) is entitled to be represented at a post-mortem examination by a ~~doctor~~ medical practitioner¹³, and if any such person is a ~~doctor~~ medical practitioner he or she¹⁴ is entitled to attend the examination in person.
- (4) Nothing in this rule limits the discretion of the coroner to notify any person of the time and place at which a post-mortem examination will be held and to permit him to attend the examination.
- (5) A person attending a post-mortem examination by virtue of paragraphs (3) or (4) shall not interfere with the performance of the examination.

~~7~~ ~~Preservation of material~~

~~A person making a post-mortem examination shall make provision, so far as possible, for the preservation of material which appears to him to bear upon the cause of death, for such period as the coroner thinks fit.~~

~~8~~ ~~Report on post-mortem~~

~~The person making a post-mortem examination shall report to the coroner in the form set out in Schedule 1.~~

7 Preservation of material

- (1) Where a medical practitioner conducts a post-mortem examination under section 14 or 15 of the Act and the medical practitioner preserves or retains material which, in the medical practitioner's opinion, relates to the cause of death or identity of the deceased, the medical practitioner must provide the coroner with written notification of that fact.
- (2) A medical practitioner who preserves or retains material under paragraph (1) must provide the coroner with written notification that —
 - (a) identifies the material being preserved or retained; and
 - (b) explains why that medical practitioner is of the opinion set out in paragraph (1).
- (3) A written notification under paragraph (2) may —
 - (a) specify the period of time for which the medical practitioner believes the material should be preserved or retained;
 - (b) specify different periods of time in relation to different preserved or retained material.
- (4) On receiving a notification under paragraph (1), the coroner must notify the medical practitioner of the period of time for which the coroner requires the material to be preserved or retained for the purposes of the coroner fulfilling his or her duties under the Act.
- (5) On making a notification under paragraph (4), the coroner must also notify any person who was notified under rule (6)(2)(aa) and (a) that —
 - (a) the material is being preserved or retained;
 - (b) the period or periods for which the material is required to be preserved or retained; and

¹³ Substituted by rule 8 of v02 of the amendment rules.

¹⁴ Substituted by rule 8 of v02 of the amendment rules.

Keeling schedule of proposed amendments to the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 by the draft Coroner of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025 [v02], 10th March 2025

- (c) the options for dealing with the material under paragraph (8) once the period or periods of preservation or retention has or have expired.
- (6) A coroner may from time to time vary a period notified under paragraph (4) and must notify both the medical practitioner and any person notified under paragraph (5) of the variation.
- (7) Where a medical practitioner has retained material in accordance with a notification under paragraph (4), and the period notified under that paragraph has expired, that medical practitioner must record the fact that —
 - (a) the material has been disposed of by the medical practitioner or on behalf of the medical practitioner;
 - (b) the material has been delivered into the possession of a specified person; or
 - (c) the material has been dealt with in accordance with paragraph (8).
- (8) The options for dealing with material are —
 - (a) disposal of the material by burial, cremation or other lawful disposal by the medical practitioner;
 - (b) return of the material to any person notified under rule 6(2)(aa) and (a);
 - (c) retention of the material where the subsequent use of the material for research, education or training is authorised in accordance with section 58, 59, 60, 61 or 62 of the Human Tissue and Organ Donation Act 2021, as the case requires.¹⁵

8 Report on post-mortem

- (1) A medical practitioner, on completion of a post-mortem examination, must report to the coroner as soon as practicable after the examination has been made.
- (2) The medical practitioner making the post-mortem examination report must include, as relevant to that post-mortem examination, the information specified in Schedule 1 (post-mortem examination report).¹⁶
- (3) The medical practitioner making the post-mortem examination report may include, as relevant to that post-mortem examination, a written notification of the preservation of material in accordance with rule 7 of these Rules.
- (4) The report of the medical practitioner must not be disclosed to any person without the permission of either the coroner or the Chief Registrar.¹⁷

9 Premises for post-mortem

- (1) No post-mortem examination shall be made in a dwellinghouse or in licenced premises.
- (2) Every post-mortem examination shall be made in premises which are adequately equipped for the purpose of the examination.

¹⁵ Inserted by rule 7 of the amendment rules.

¹⁶ Inserted by rule 7 of the amendment rules.

¹⁷ Inserted by rule 7 of the amendment rules v02

Keeling schedule of proposed amendments to the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 by the draft Coroner of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025 [v02], 10th March 2025

- (3) Where the deceased died in a hospital possessing premises so equipped, the post-mortem examination shall, with the consent of the hospital authority, be made in those premises unless the coroner otherwise decides.
- (4) For the purpose of this rule no premises shall be deemed to be adequately equipped for the purpose of post-mortem examinations unless they are supplied with running water, proper heating and lighting facilities, and containers for the storing and preservation of material.

PART III

BURIAL ORDERS

10 Issue of burial order

An order of a coroner authorising the burial of a body shall not be issued unless the coroner has opened an inquest touching the death.

11 Burial order where certificate for disposal issued

Where a coroner is satisfied that a certificate for the disposal of a body has been issued by a registrar, the coroner shall not issue an order authorising the burial of the body unless the certificate has been surrendered to him; and he shall on issuing the order send the certificate to the registrar and inform him of the issue of the order.

PART IV

INQUESTS

12 Procedure

- (1) Every inquest shall be opened, adjourned and closed in a formal manner.
- (2) Every inquest shall be held in public; provided that the coroner may direct that the public be excluded from an inquest or any part of an inquest if he considers that it would be in the interest of national security to do so.
- (3) An inquest shall not be held on Christmas Day, Good Friday or a bank holiday unless the coroner thinks it necessary on the grounds of urgency, and no inquest shall be held on a Sunday.
- (4) Where an inquest is required to be held with a jury, the coroner may receive evidence as to the matters specified in rule 27(1)(a) and (c) before the jury is summoned.

13 Coroner to notify persons of arrangements

The coroner shall notify the time and place of an inquest to —

- (a) the spouse or a near relative or personal representative of the deceased whose name and address are known to the coroner; and
- (b) any other person who appears to the coroner to be within rule 14(2), and has asked the coroner to notify him of the time and place of the inquest, and has supplied the coroner with a telephone number or address for the purpose of so notifying him.

Keeling schedule of proposed amendments to the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 by the draft Coroner of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025 [v02], 10th March 2025

14 Entitlement to examine witnesses

- (1) Without prejudice to any enactment regarding the examination of witnesses at an inquest, any person who satisfies the coroner that he is within paragraph (2) shall be entitled to examine any witness at an inquest either in person or by an advocate; but —
 - (a) the Chief Constable, unless interested otherwise than in that capacity, shall only be entitled to examine a witness by an advocate;
 - (b) the coroner shall disallow any question which in his opinion is not relevant or is otherwise not a proper question.
- (2) Each of the following persons shall have the rights referred to in paragraph (1) —
 - (a) a parent, child, spouse and any personal representative of the deceased;
 - (b) any beneficiary under a policy of assurance issued on the life of the deceased;
 - (c) any insurer who issued a policy of assurance;
 - (d) any person whose act or omission or that of his agent may in the opinion of the coroner have caused or contributed to the death of the deceased;
 - (e) if the death of the deceased may have been caused by an injury received in the course of his employment or by an industrial disease, any person appointed by a trade union to which the deceased belonged at the time of his death;
 - (f) an inspector;
 - (g) any person appointed by a Department or a Statutory Board to attend the inquest;
 - (h) the Chief Constable;
 - (i) any other person who appears to the coroner to be a properly interested person.

15 Examination of witnesses

- (1) Unless the coroner otherwise determines, at an inquest the coroner shall receive the evidence of a witness, and the witness shall be examined first by the coroner and, if he is represented at the inquest, lastly by his representative.
- (2) No witness at an inquest shall be obliged to answer any question tending to incriminate himself.
- (3) Where it appears to the coroner that a witness has been asked such a question, the coroner shall inform the witness that he may refuse to answer.

16 Adjournment where inspector is not present

Where a coroner holds an inquest touching the death of a person which may have been caused by an accident or disease notice of which is required to be given to an inspector or to an enforcing authority, he shall adjourn the inquest unless an inspector is present to watch the proceedings and shall, at least 3 days before holding the adjourned inquest, give to the Department notice of the time and place of holding the adjourned inquest.

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17 Person whose conduct is likely to be called in question

- (1) If it appears to the coroner that the conduct of any person is likely to be called in question at an inquest, he shall, if not duly summoned to give evidence at the inquest, be given reasonable notice of the time and place at which the inquest will be held.
- (2) If the conduct of any person is called in question at an inquest on grounds which the coroner thinks substantial and which relate to any matter referred to in rule 27, and that person is not present at the inquest and has not been duly summoned to attend or otherwise given notice of the holding of the inquest, the inquest shall be adjourned to enable him to be present if he so desires.

18 Request by Chief Constable for adjournment

- (1) If the Chief Constable requests a coroner to adjourn an inquest on the ground that a person may be charged with an offence within section 13(1)(a) of the Act, the coroner shall adjourn the inquest for 28 days or for such longer period as he may think fit.
- (2) At any time before the date fixed for the holding of the adjourned inquest, the Chief Constable may ask the coroner for a further adjournment, and the coroner may comply with the request.

19 Request by Attorney General for adjournment

- (1) If the Attorney General requests a coroner to adjourn an inquest on the ground that a person may be charged with an offence within section 13(1)(b) of the Act, the coroner shall adjourn the inquest for 28 days or for such longer period as he may think fit.
- (2) At any time before the date fixed for the holding of the adjourned inquest, the Attorney General may ask the coroner for a further adjustment, and the coroner may comply with the request.

20 Adjournment in other cases

- (1) If during the course of an inquest evidence is given from which it appears to the coroner that the death of the deceased is likely to be due to an offence within section 13(1)(a) of the Act and that a person might be charged with such offence, the coroner, unless he has previously been notified by the Attorney General that adjournment is unnecessary, shall adjourn the inquest for 14 days or for such longer period as he may think fit and send to the Attorney General particulars of that evidence.
- (2) At any time before the date fixed for the holding of the adjourned inquest, the Attorney General may ask the coroner for a further adjournment and the coroner may comply with his request.

~~**21 Coroner to furnish certificate after adjournment**~~

~~A certificate by a coroner under section 25(3) of the Civil Registration Act 1984 shall be furnished to the registrar within 5 days from the date on which the inquest is adjourned.¹⁸~~

¹⁸ Omitted by rule 8 of the amendment rules.

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22 Coroner's interim certificate of death

Where an inquest has been adjourned for any reason and section 25(3) of the Civil Registration Act 1984 does not apply, the coroner shall on application supply to any person who appears to him to be a properly interested person an interim certificate of the fact of death **containing the information specified in Schedule 4 (interim certificate of fact of death) to these Rules¹⁹.**

23 Coroner to furnish certificate of result of criminal proceedings

A certificate by a coroner under section 25(4) or (4A) of the Civil Registration Act 1984 shall be furnished —

- (a) within 28 days from the date on which he is notified of the result of the proceedings under section 13(7) or (8) of the Act, or
- (b) if the person charged with an offence before a court of summary jurisdiction as mentioned in section 13(6) of the Act is not committed for trial to a Court of General Gaol Delivery, within 28 days from the date on which he is notified under the said section 13(6) of the result of the proceedings in the court of summary jurisdiction.

24 Effect of institution of criminal proceedings

Subject to section 13 of the Act, an inquest shall not be adjourned solely by reason of the institution of criminal proceedings arising out of the death of the deceased.

25 Coroner to notify persons of resumption of inquest etc.

- (1) If an inquest which has been adjourned in pursuance of section 13 of the Act is not to be resumed, the coroner shall notify the persons to whom this rule applies.
- (2) If an inquest which has been so adjourned is to be resumed, the coroner shall give reasonable notice of the time and place at which the inquest will be resumed to the persons to whom this rule applies.
- (3) Where the coroner has fixed a time or place for the holding of an inquest adjourned for any reason, he may, at any time before the time so fixed, alter the time or place fixed and shall then give reasonable notice to the persons to whom this rule applies.
- (4) This rule applies to —
 - (a) the members of the jury (if any);
 - (b) the witnesses;
 - (c) the Chief Constable;
 - (d) any person notified under rule 13 or 17(1); and
 - (e) any other person appearing in person or represented at the inquest.

~~**26 Coroner to notify Chief Registrar of adjournment**~~

¹⁹ Inserted by rule 9 of the amendment rules.

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~~Where a person charged with an offence within section 13(1)(a) of the Act is committed for trial to a Court of General Gaol Delivery, the coroner who has adjourned an inquest in pursuance of section 13 of the Act shall inform the Chief Registrar.²⁰~~

27 Matters to be ascertained at inquest

- (1) The proceedings and evidence at an inquest shall be directed solely to ascertaining the following matters —
 - (a) who the deceased was;
 - (b) how, when and where the deceased came by his death;
 - (c) the particulars for the time being required by the Civil Registration Act 1984 to be registered concerning the death.
- (2) Neither the coroner nor the jury shall express any opinion on any other matters.

27A Evidence to be given on oath or affirmation

- (1) A witness providing evidence at an inquest ~~hearing²¹ must be examined by the coroner on oath or affirmation as set out in paragraph 3 (oath of witness) of Schedule 3 (oaths) to these Rules²².~~
- (2) A person who is —
 - (a) under the age of 14; or
 - (b) aged 14 or over and is considered by the coroner to be unable to understand the nature of an oath or affirmation,may, on promising to tell the truth, be permitted to give unsworn evidence.²³

28 Documentary evidence

- (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (4), the coroner may admit at an inquest documentary evidence relevant to the purposes of the inquest from any living person which appears to him to be unlikely to be disputed, unless a person appearing to the coroner to be within rule 14(2) objects to the documentary evidence being admitted.
- (2) Documentary evidence so objected to may be admitted if it appears to the coroner that the maker of the document is unable to give oral evidence within a reasonable period.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (4), before admitting such documentary evidence the coroner shall at the beginning of the inquest announce publicly —
 - (a) that the documentary evidence may be admitted;

²⁰ Omitted by rule 10 of the amendment rules.

²¹ Inserted by rule 11 of the amendment rules v02.

²² Omitted in rule 13 (rule 27A inserted) of v02 of the amendment rules as a consequence of Schedule 3's substitution.

²³ Inserted by rule 11 of the amendment rules.

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- (b) the full name of the maker of the document to be admitted in evidence and a brief account of the document;
 - (c) that any person appearing to the coroner to be within rule 14(2) may object to the admission of any such documentary evidence; and
 - (d) that any such person is entitled to see a copy of any such documentary evidence if he so wishes.
- (4) If during the course of an inquest it appears to the coroner that there is available at the inquest documentary evidence which is relevant to the purposes of the inquest, but the maker of the document is not present and in the opinion of the coroner the content of the evidence is unlikely to be disputed, the coroner shall at the earliest opportunity during the course of the inquest comply with paragraph (3).
- (5) A coroner may admit as evidence at an inquest any document made by a deceased person if it appears to him that the contents of the document are relevant to the purposes of the inquest.
- (6) Any documentary evidence admitted under this rule shall, unless the coroner otherwise directs, be read aloud at the inquest.
- (7) Where any documentary evidence admitted under this rule is not read aloud, the coroner shall mark the document accordingly.

~~29~~ Exhibits

~~All exhibits produced in evidence at an inquest shall be marked with consecutive numbers preceded by the letter "C".²⁴~~

30 Record of evidence

The coroner must, in a document, keep a record of the evidence given at every inquest.

31 No addresses as to facts

No person shall be allowed to address the coroner or the jury as to the facts.

32 Summing up and direction to jury

Where the coroner sits with a jury, he shall sum up the evidence to the jury and direct them as to the law before they consider their verdict, and shall draw their attention to rules 27(2) and 33.

~~33~~ Verdict

~~No verdict shall be framed in such a way as to appear to determine any question of~~

~~(a) criminal liability on the part of any person; or~~

²⁴ Omitted by rule 29 of the amendment rules.

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~~(b) civil liability.~~

33 Verdict

- (1) No verdict shall be framed in such a way as to appear to determine any question of —
- (a) criminal liability on the part of any person; or
 - (b) civil liability.
- (2) A coroner may either —
- (a) issue a verdict in the following short form —
 - (i) accident;
 - (ii) misadventure;
 - (iii) alcohol related;
 - (iv) disease related;
 - (v) industrial disease related;
 - (vi) lawful killing;
 - (vii) unlawful killing;
 - (viii) natural causes;
 - (ix) open;
 - (x) road traffic collision;
 - (xi) stillbirth; or
 - (xii) suicide; or
 - (b) make a brief narrative conclusion.²⁵

34 Prevention of similar fatalities

A coroner who believes that action should be taken to prevent to recurrence of fatalities similar to that in respect of which the inquest is being held may announce at the inquest that he is reporting the matter in writing to the person or authority who may have power to take such action, and he may report the matter accordingly.

PART V

RECORDS, DOCUMENTS, EXHIBITS AND FORMS

35 Register of deaths

²⁵ Inserted as per rule 15 of v02 of the amendment rules.

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A coroner shall keep an indexed register of all deaths reported to him, or to a deputy or acting coroner, which shall contain the particulars specified in Schedule 2.

36 Delivery of records etc. to Chief Registrar

- (1) The following documents —
 - (a) the record of the evidence given at an inquest,
 - (b) any report of a post-mortem examination in the possession of a coroner in connection with an inquest, and
 - (c) any document put in evidence at an inquest (other than an exhibit),
 - (d) the inquisition certifying the verdict at an inquest, shall be delivered to the Chief Registrar who shall, unless a court otherwise directs, retain it for at least 15 years.
- (2) The Chief Registrar shall on application allow any person appearing to him to be a properly interested person to inspect any such document, and shall on payment of the prescribed fee (if any) supply to him a copy thereof.
- (3) Every exhibit at an inquest shall be delivered to the Chief Registrar who shall, unless a court otherwise directs, retain it until he is satisfied that is not likely to be, or will no longer be, required for the purposes of any other legal proceedings.
- (4) The Chief Registrar shall then, if a request for the delivery of such an exhibit has been made by a person appearing to him to be entitled to possession thereof, deliver it to him or, if no such request has been made, cause it to be destroyed or otherwise disposed of as the Chief Registrar thinks fit.

37 Other documents

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the coroner shall, unless a court otherwise directs, retain for at least 15 years any document (other than a document mentioned in rule 36) in his possession in connection with an inquest or post-mortem examination.
- (2) The coroner may, unless a court otherwise directs, deliver any such document to any person appearing to him to be a proper person to have possession of it.
- (3) The coroner shall on application allow any person appearing to him to be a properly interested person to inspect any report of a post-mortem examination made under section 15 of the Act and shall on payment of the prescribed fee (if any) supply to such a person a copy thereof.

38 Deputy or acting coroner to sign in own name

Where a deputy or acting coroner signs a document, he shall sign it in his own name as such.

39 Forms

~~The forms set out in Schedule 3 may be used for the purposes for which they are expressed to be applicable.~~

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MADE 6 JANUARY 1988

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SCHEDULE 1

Rule 8

SCHEDULE 1

[rule 8]

POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION REPORT

1 General information

The post-mortem examination report must include the following information, where known —

- (a) the name of the deceased;
- (b) the address of the deceased;
- (c) the date and time of the post-mortem examination; and
- (d) the name of any observer or observers present at the post-mortem examination.

2 External examination

(1) The post-mortem examination report must include the following information, where known —

- (a) the stated or estimated date and time of death of the deceased;
- (b) the stated or apparent age of the deceased;

(2) The post-mortem examination report must include a description, photo or other record of the deceased's—

- (a) nourishment;
- (b) identification marks, including any tattoos and old scars;
- (c) body surface and musculo-skeletal system, including injuries; and
- (d) injuries or complex pathology, or both.

3 Internal examination

The post-mortem examination report must include a description, photo or other record of the medical practitioner's examination of the deceased's —

- (a) central nervous system, comprising the —
 - (i) skull;
 - (ii) brain;
 - (iii) meninges; and
 - (iv) cerebral vessels;
- (b) respiratory system, comprising the —
 - (i) larynx;
 - (ii) trachea;
 - (iii) bronchi;

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- (iv) plurae; and
- (v) lung parenchyma;
- (c) cardio-vascular system, comprising the —
 - (i) heart (including its weight, valves, myocardium and pericardium);
 - (ii) coronary arteries; and
 - (iii) great vessels;
- (d) alimentary system, comprising the —
 - (i) mouth;
 - (ii) tongue;
 - (iii) oesophagus;
 - (iv) stomach and contents;
 - (v) duodenum;
 - (vi) intestines;
 - (vii) liver and gall bladder;
 - (viii) pancreas; and
 - (ix) peritoneum;
- (e) the genito-urinary system, comprising the —
 - (i) kidneys and ureters;
 - (ii) bladder and urine; and
 - (iii) generative organs;
- (f) the reticulo-endothelial system, comprising the —
 - (i) spleen;
 - (ii) lymph nodes; and
 - (iii) thymus;
- (g) the endocrine system, comprising the —
 - (i) thyroid;
 - (ii) pituitary; and
 - (iii) adrenals.

4 Opinion of the medical practitioner on the cause of death

- (1) The post-mortem examination report must include the opinion of the medical practitioner, as to any disease, injury or complication that caused the death of the deceased.
- (2) The opinion of medical practitioner, may include a finding —

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- (a) on the underlying cause, or causes, of the disease, injury or complication that caused the death;
- (b) on the antecedent cause, or causes, of the underlying cause, or causes, of the disease, injury or complication that caused the death;
- (c) any disease or condition that did not cause death, but contributed to it in some way; and
- (d) any morbid conditions present that, in the medical practitioner's opinion, did not contribute to the death.

5 Statements

The post-mortem examination report must include a statement —

- (a) as to whether or not a further laboratory examination is to be made and whether or not that laboratory examination may affect the cause of death; and
- (b) as to whether or not, to the best of the knowledge of the medical practitioner, a cardiac pacemaker remains in the body.

6 Signature and qualifications

The post-mortem examination report must include —

- (a) the name of the medical practitioner in block capital letters;
- (b) the qualifications of the medical practitioner; and
- (c) the signature of the medical practitioner.²⁶

²⁶ Substituted by rule 14 of v02 of the amendment rules.

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POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION REPORT

THIS REPORT IS CONFIDENTIAL.
IT MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED TO ANY PERSON WITHOUT THE PERMISSION
OF THE CORONER OF INQUESTS OR THE CHIEF REGISTRAR

POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION REPORT

Serial No.

Name of deceased:

Address (if known):

Identified by:

Place of examination:

Date and time of examination:

Observers present at examination:

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION¹

Stated/estimated date and time of death:|

Stated/apparent age:

Nourishment:

Marks of identification:
(tattoos, old scars etc.)

Body surface and musculo-skeletal
system, including injuries:

¹Descriptions of injuries or of complex pathology may be attached on a separate sheet, provided it is properly identified and signed.

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INTERNAL EXAMINATION

```

)   Central nervous system
)
Cranial )   Skull:
cavity  )   Brain:
)       )   Meninges:
)       )   Cerebral vessels:
)
)   Respiratory system
)
)   Larynx:
)   Trachaea
)   Bronchi
)   Plurae
)   Lung parenchyma
Thoracic )
cavity   )   Cardio-vascular system
)
)   Heart:
)       )   Weight:
)       )   Valves:
)       )   Myocardium:
)       )   Pericardium:
)   Coronary arteries
)   Great vessels
)
)   Alimentary system
)
)   Mouth:
)   Tongue
)   Oesophagus:
)
)   Stomach and contents:
)   Duodenum:
)   Intestines:
)   Liver and gall bladder:
)   Pancreas
Abdominal )
cavity    )   Peritoneum
)
)   Genito-urinary system
)
)   Kidneys and ureters:
)   Bladder and urine:
)   Generative organs:
)
)   Reticulo-endothelial system
)
)   Spleen:
)   Lymph Nodes
)   Thymus:
```

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Endocrine system

Thyroid:
Pituitary:
Adrenals:

In my opinion the cause of death was:

| | |
|---|--|
| I | I |
| Disease or condition directly leading to death ² | (a) due to (or as a consequence of) |
| Antecedent causes | (b)..... |
| Morbid conditions, if any, giving rise to the above cause (stating the underlying condition last) | due to (or as a consequence of) (c)..... |
| II | II |

Other significant conditions contributing to the death but NOT related to the disease or condition causing it²

Morbid conditions present but in the pathologist's opinion *NOT* contributing to the death:

Is any further laboratory examination to be made which may affect the cause of death? YES/NO

Comments:

To the best of my knowledge no cardiac pacemaker remains in the body.

Signature and qualifications:

Name (in block letters):

²This does not mean the mode of dying, such as (eg.) heart failure, asphyxia, asthenia etc. It means the disease, injury or complication which caused the death.
³Conditions which did not in the pathologist's opinion contribute materially to the death should NOT be included under this heading but under the next heading.

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Schedule 2

Rule 35

REGISTER OF DEATHS REPORTED TO CORONER

The register of deaths reported to the coroner must include the following information, where known –

- (a) the date on which the death of the deceased was reported to the coroner;
- (b) the particulars of the deceased person, being –
 - (i) the name of the deceased person;
 - (ii) the address of the deceased person;
 - (iii) the age of the deceased person;
 - (iv) the sex of the deceased person;
- (c) the cause of death of the deceased person;
- (d) whether the case was disposed of by using –
 - (i) Form A;
 - (ii) Form B; or
 - (iii) the holding of an inquest; and
- (e) the verdict at inquest, if any inquest was held.²⁷

| REGISTER OF DEATHS REPORTED TO CORONER | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----|-----|----------------|--|---------------------------|
| Date on which death reported to coroner | Particulars of deceased | | | Cause of death | Whether case disposed of by using Pink Form A or B or inquest held | Verdict at inquest if any |
| | Full name and address | Age | Sex | | | |
| | | | | | | |

²⁷ Table substituted by text further to rule 14 and Schedule 1 to v02 the amendment rules.

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Schedule 3

Forms

Rule 39

1

Form of oath to juror

~~I swear by almighty god that I will diligently inquire on behalf of our Sovereign lady the Queen our Sovereign King Charles the Third²⁸ into the death of C. D. and give a true verdict according to the evidence.~~

~~NOTE: If a person wishes to affirm, or swear in any other form authorised by law, this oath shall be modified accordingly.~~

2

Summons to witness

To:

~~You are hereby summoned to appear before me on _____ day the _____ day of~~

~~_____ 19 20 at _____ a.m. / p.m. at~~

~~to give evidence touching the death of C. D.~~

~~Dated _____ 19 20 _____.~~

Coroner of Inquests

²⁸ Substituted by rule 14(3) of the amendment rules. n.b. original rules as published stated “our Sovereign”.

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3

Oath of witness

~~I swear by Almighty God that the evidence I shall give in this inquiry²⁹ shall be³⁰ the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.~~

~~NOTE: If a person wishes to affirm, or swear in any other form authorised by law, this oath shall be modified accordingly.~~

4

Notice of inquest

To:

~~I give you notice that the inquest touching the death of C. D. will take place on _____ day the _____ day of _____ 19 20 at a.m. / p.m. at~~

~~Dated _____ 19 20.~~

Coroner of Inquests

5

Interim certificate of fact of death

To whom it may concern

~~C. D. of (address) died on _____ 19 20.~~

~~The precise medical cause of death *has yet to be established / was as follows:~~

~~Dated _____ 19 20.~~

Coroner of Inquests

~~*Delete whichever is inapplicable~~

~~21~~

²⁹ Inserted by rule 14(4) of the amendment rules.

³⁰ Typo corrected.

³¹ Omitted by rule 14(5) of the amendment rules.

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6

Notice that inquest adjourned under s. 13 will not be resumed

To:

I hereby give you notice that the inquest touching the death of C. D. will not be resumed.

Dated _____ 19 20 _____.

Coroner of Inquests

7

Notice that inquest adjourned under s.13 will be resumed

To:

I hereby give you notice that the inquest touching the death of C.D. will be resumed on _____ day the _____ day of _____ 19 20 _____ at _____ (and that you attendance thereat is required).

Dated _____ 19 20 _____.

Coroner of Inquests

8

Notice that attendance of witness will not be required at adjourned inquest

To:

I hereby give you notice that your attendance at the adjourned inquest touching the death of C. D. will be held on the _____ day of _____ 19 20 _____ will not be required

Dated _____ 19 20 _____.

Coroner of Inquests

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9

Notice of alteration of time or place of adjourned inquest

To:

I hereby give you notice that the time/date fixed for the holding of the adjourned inquest touching the death of C. D. has been altered, and that the adjourned inquest will be held on _____ day the _____ day of 19 20 _____ at _____ a.m. / p.m. at _____ (and that your attendance thereat is required)

Dated _____ 19 20 _____.

Coroner of Inquests

10

Coroner's order for burial

I hereby authorise the burial of the body of C. D. aged _____ late of _____ who died at _____ on 19 20 _____.

Dated _____ 19 20 _____.

Coroner of Inquests

11

Inquisition

An inquisition taken for our Sovereign Lady the Queen our Sovereign King Charles the Third³² at in the Isle of Man on the _____ day of _____ 19 20 [and by adjournment on the _____ day of _____ 19 20] before and by me A. B., Coroner of Inquests [and the undermentioned jurors] [touching the dead of C. D.] [concerning a stillbirth]

The following matters are found:

1. Name of deceased (if known):
2. Injury of disease causing death:
3. Time, place and circumstances at or in which injury was sustained;
4. Conclusion of the jury/coroner as to the death:

³² Substituted by rule 14(6) of the amendment rules.

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5. Particulars for the time being required by the Civil Registration Act 1984 to be registered concerning the death:

| Date and place of death | Name and surname of deceased | Sex | Maiden surname of woman who has married | Date and place of birth | Occupation and usual address |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Signature of coroner (and jurors):

NOTES

¹Modify as necessary according to whether the inquest is held with or without, or partly with and partly without, a jury.

²In the case of a death from natural causes or from industrial disease, want of attention at birth, or dependence on or non-dependent abuse of drugs, insert the immediate cause of death and the morbid conditions (if any) giving rise to the immediate cause of death.

³Omit if the cause of death is one within note 2.

⁴Where the cause of death is one to which note 2 applies, it is suggested that one of the following forms be adopted:-

C.D. died from natural causes
 C.D. died from the industrial disease of
 C.D. died from [dependence on][non-dependent abuse of] drugs
 C.D. died from want of attention at birth

In any of the above cases "and the cause of death was aggravated by [lack of care][self-neglect]" may be added, where appropriate.

In any other case except murder, manslaughter, infanticide or stillbirth, it is suggested that one of the following forms be adopted:

C.D. killed himself [while the balance of his mind was disturbed]
 C.D. died as a result of an [attempted][self-induced] abortion
 C.D. died as a result of an [accident][misadventure],
 Execution of sentence of death
 C.D. was killed lawfully
 Open verdict, namely, the evidence did not fully or further disclose the means whereby the cause of death arose.

In the case of murder, manslaughter or infanticide, it is suggested that the form "C.D. was killed unlawfully" be adopted.

In the case of a stillbirth, insert "stillbirth" and do not complete the remainder of the form.

³³ Substituted with new Schedule 3 below as per rule 14 of v02 of the amendment Rules.

Keeling schedule of proposed amendments to the Coroners of Inquests Rules 1988 by the draft Coroner of Inquests (Amendment) Rules 2025 [v02], 10th March 2025

SCHEDULE 3³⁴ 4

[rule 22]

INTERIM CERTIFICATE OF FACT OF DEATH

- (1) Any interim certificate of fact of death issued further to rule 22 of these Rules must contain the following information, where known –
- (a) the name of the deceased person;
 - (b) the address of the deceased person;
 - (c) the date on which the deceased person has died;
- (2) The interim certificate of death must also state, as appropriate –
- (a) that the precise medical cause of death has yet to be established; or
 - (b) a description of the cause, or causes, of death.³⁵

³⁴ Now substituted as per rules 4 & 14 of, and Schedule 3 to, v02 of the amendment rules.

³⁵ Inserted by rule 14 of, and Schedule 2 to, the amendment rules.