



Interested Person Review

What this leaflet is about

The Death Certification Review Service (DCRS), which is part of Healthcare Improvement Scotland, is responsible for reviewing the quality and accuracy of some Medical Certificates of Cause of Death (MCCD), also known as Form 11. This service also carries out *interested person* reviews.

This leaflet explains:

- what an *interested person* review is
- how to apply for an *interested person* review, and
- what happens when an *interested person* review is carried out.

Background

DCRS carries out reviews on randomly selected MCCDs. These reviews are designed to improve the quality and accuracy of MCCDs. They are carried out by medical reviewers, all of whom are experienced doctors. More information can be found in our leaflet “A guide to death certification review in Scotland”.

Interested Person reviews

When you receive the MCCD from a doctor, you should read it carefully and ask any questions you may have about it. If you have questions or concerns about the content of the MCCD after speaking to the doctor, or if these occur to you at a later stage, you can ask DCRS to carry out an *interested person* review.

An *interested person* review does not assess the quality of care provided to the person who has died. It only assesses the accuracy of the information on the certificate.

If you have concerns about the care provided, you should contact the relevant NHS board or the GP practice of the deceased. Information on how to raise concerns or make a complaint can be found at: www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/health-rights/feedback-and-complaints/feedback-complaints-and-your-rights

Key requirements for an MCCD to be eligible for an *interested person* review include that it:

- has not been previously reported to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, and
- must be within three years of the death of the deceased person.

You can apply for an *interested person* review before or after a death is registered. If you apply before registration, registration will not go ahead and the funeral cannot take place until the review is complete. If you apply after registration the funeral arrangements will not be delayed.

The process

To apply for an *interested person* review you must have a clear link to the person who has died, for example you should be:

- a family member
- a healthcare professional involved in their care
- the funeral director who arranged the funeral, or
- the person having charge of the place of disposal.

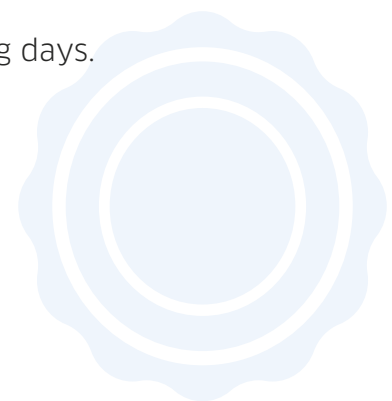
If you would like to apply for an *interested person* review, you need to complete an application form. You can get an application form in the following ways.

- Visit www.healthcareimprovementscotland.scot/inspections-reviews-and-regulation/death-certification-review-service-dcrs and download the application form.
- Telephone DCRS on 0300 123 1898
- Email: his.dcrs@nhs.scot

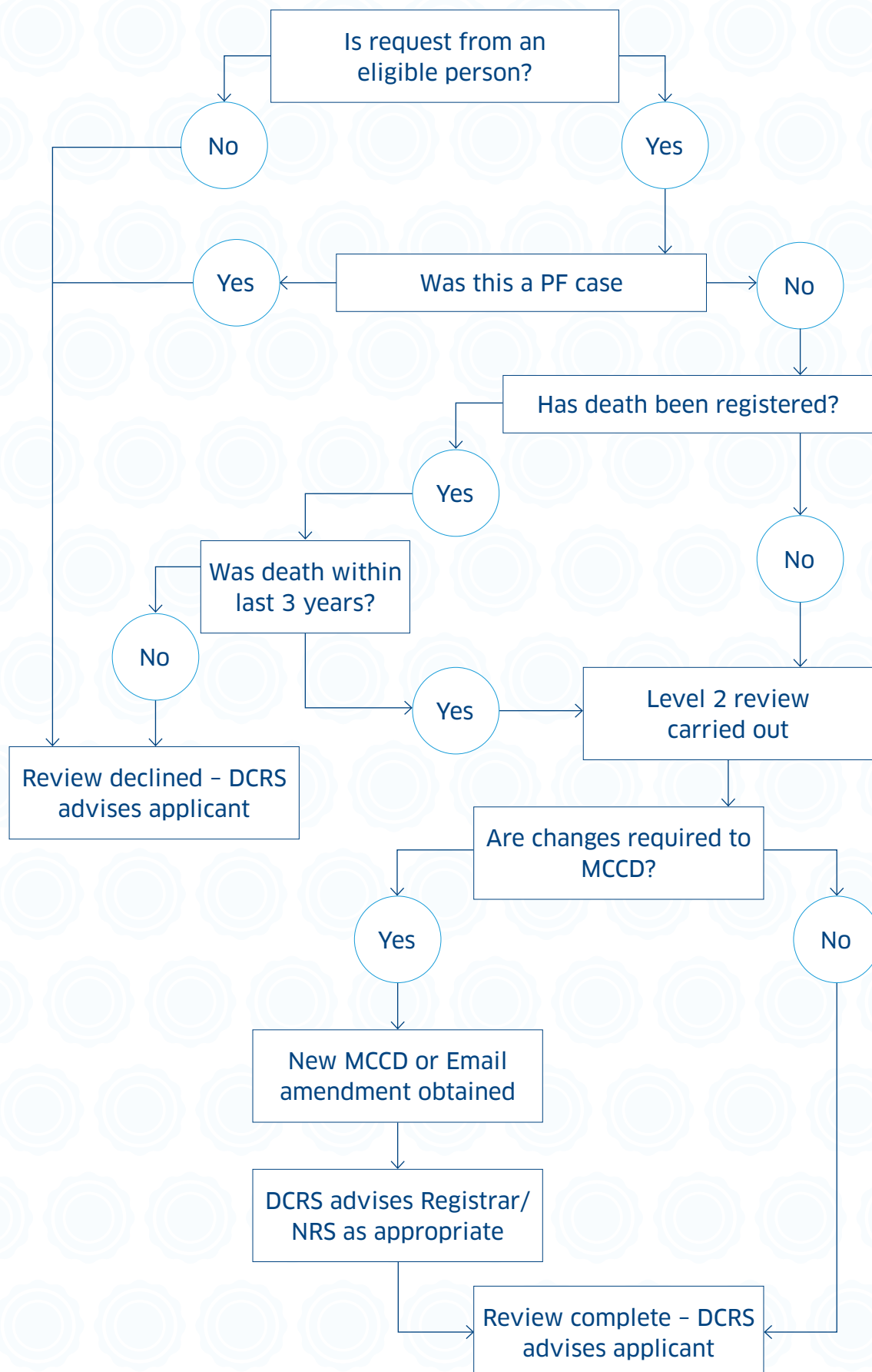
If your application meets the criteria above, the medical reviewer will carry out a Level 2 review, which is a more detailed review of the MCCD. As part of the review, the medical reviewer will have a conversation with the certifying doctor to check the accuracy of the certificate.

Once the review is complete, the medical reviewer will write and let you know the outcome.

The review will normally be completed within 14 working days.



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For more information about DCRS visit our website or contact us:

www.healthcareimprovementscotland.scot/inspections-reviews-and-regulation/death-certification-review-service-dcrs

email: **his.dcrs@nhs.scot**

telephone: **0300 123 1898**

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