

Norfolk Resilience Forum

“Covid-19 Excess Deaths”

Mortality Pathway Delivery Group

May 2020



The Mortality Pathway Delivery Group was set up within the NRF in March 2020 to:  
“coordinate the activities required for dealing with excess deaths arising from the current pandemic of COVID-19  
efficiently and effectively with dignity and respect”

Deliver the objectives:

- 1 Protect the NHS - keep the mortality pathway clear and moving under all circumstances
- 2 Understand the capacity of currently available services then identify and manage pressure points
- 3 Understand the modelling data and provide potential solutions to the issues and problems raised by the assumptions
- 4 Ensure respect and dignity for the deceased and provide information, guidance and support to their families



Identify the activity needed:

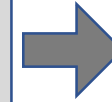
Use case fatality rates and mortality predictions from Public Health to inform both the timing and likely scale of the response required

Work closely with hospital mortuaries, funeral directors, crematoria operators and church, private and council burial grounds to spot possible pressure points or obstacles and take action to resolve

Identify obstacles in the pathway caused by missing advice or information for the public and take action. e.g. registering a death, choosing a funeral director and keeping safe at funerals. Make sure the latest guidance is shared with professional organisations e.g. official PHE guidance on safe body handling and PPE for funeral directors

Identify and reduce obstacles caused by statutory processes: such as verification of death, medical certification, Coronial action or death registration

Set up and operate a temporary mortuary, calling on expertise in transport, health and safety, property and logistics; understand mortuary operations including appropriate care of the deceased and the differing faith requirements



The Delivery Group includes representation from district councils, faith groups, medical and clinical professionals, private organisations as well as County Council run statutory services

There are subject matter experts from several professions, each with their own rules, standards and governance

There is also commercial sensitivity for private businesses concerning operating capacity and numbers

## Reporting & Governance

