

A Bereavement Charter for Children and Adults in Scotland

Frequently Asked Questions



**Bereavement
Charter**
FOR SCOTLAND

WHAT IS THE CHARTER?

The Charter provides a set of statements which describe how people and communities who are bereaved in Scotland can be supported. The Charter is accompanied by further Guidance that gives additional information for specific groups and individuals.

WHO IS THE CHARTER FOR?

The Charter is for everyone in Scotland, and it will hopefully make a difference to the experience of people who are facing death, dying and bereavement in their community.

WHAT MIGHT THE CHARTER MEAN TO ME?

Death is something that happens to everyone and is a natural part of living. Every person is unique and will find their own experience of grief different. Many will rely on their culture, beliefs and other sources of support to understand and process their feelings and emotions. The Charter should help to support people and give them the opportunity to talk openly about death, dying and bereavement and how it impacts on all our lives.

WHY WAS THE CHARTER CREATED?

This work has been brought about by a desire to make sure that in Scotland, we can do all that we can to support people who might be facing difficulties following the death of someone they know.

WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF THE CHARTER?

A number of professionals and individuals across a wide range of backgrounds developed the Charter, over a period of eighteen months, to describe what Scotland could be like if we really support those who are experiencing the death of someone. We consulted widely on the content of the statements during this time.

WHO IS THE CHARTER OWNED BY?

The Charter is owned by everyone and not by those who created it. It is a Charter for everyone who experiences death, dying and bereavement in today's Scotland.

WHY BASE THE CHARTER ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES?

The Charter is based on human rights principles as a set of values which means that you are treated with respect and dignity, that your voice is heard, and that if you are facing difficulties, you are able to find a means by which those difficulties can be met.

WHERE MIGHT I FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE CHARTER AND GUIDANCE?

These are available at www.scottishcare.org/bereavement