

Human Tissue Authority
151 Buckingham Palace Road
London
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By email to [REDACTED]

Tel 020 7269 1900
Web www.hta.gov.uk
Email enquiries@hta.gov.uk
Date 11 February 2021

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on 20 January 2021. Your email outlined the following request:

The BBC filmed in a mortuary.

From your guidelines

"This guidance is for anyone considering filming or taking photographs of a post-mortem examination or activities taking place within a mortuary setting."

So that filming is subject to your guidelines.

Was permission obtained from all the relatives of people who had died, and were in the mortuary?

Response

We do not hold information about whether permission for filming was obtained from relatives of the deceased.

Consent for filming is outside the HTA's regulatory remit. This is because making and displaying of images (including photographs, films and electronic images) is outside of the scope of the Human Tissue Act 2004.

We have produced [guidance about making and displaying images of post-mortem examinations](#). This is not statutory guidance because the making and displaying of images is outside the scope of the Human Tissue Act 2004.

The guidance about consent in this document relates to filming or photographing post-mortem examinations. The footage you refer to does not include filming or images of post-mortem examinations and does not include information or images that could allow the deceased to be identified.

We provide further information about our regulatory remit in our [guide to the Human Tissue Act 2004](#).

Further information

If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, you may in the first instance ask us for an internal review by writing to us at the above postal or email address.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, at the address below. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

