



Treasury
Solicitor's
Department

Bona Vacantia Division (BVD)
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Our reference: BVFOI/307/13 re Barbara Govan O'Keefe

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request

You asked for the following information from the Treasury Solicitor's Department ("the Department"):

Please could I have any information regarding the case of Barbara Govan O'Keefe (nee Watson) BV933357/1, all information you have on her would be gratefully received.

Your request will be dealt with by the Bona Vacantia Division ("the Division") under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Division holds some of the information that you have requested.

The Division holds information relating to the date and place of the birth of the deceased, her last address and her husband's name. This information can be found on the death certificate of the deceased. The deceased died on 28/12/1991 in Kettering. Certificates can be obtained from the local Registrar where the event took place or from the General Registrar Office (GRO), PO Box 2, Southport, Merseyside, PR8 2JD or by telephoning 0845 603 7788. Further details can be obtained from the GRO's website at www.direct.gov.uk/gro. The information is reasonably accessible to you by other means and is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Act. This exemption confers absolute exemption from the requirement to provide information pursuant to section 1(1)(b) of the Act.

The Division holds information about possible relatives of the deceased. The Division considers that the information was received in confidence, and that to reveal the information would constitute an actionable breach of that duty. Accordingly the information is exempt from disclosure under section 41(1) of the Act.

In considering whether disclosure would be an actionable breach of confidence the Division has considered whether there is a public interest in disclosing the information that would outweigh the public interest in keeping the information confidential.

There is a strong public interest in keeping confidential information that has been disclosed in confidence, and in this case there is no specific reason in favour of disclosure of the information. Disclosure would not protect public safety, nor would it expose wrongdoing such as misfeasance, maladministration, negligence or other iniquity on the part of the Division. In this case the Division considers that the public interest in keeping the information confidential outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

