



GLOUCESTERSHIRE MUSLIM BEREAVMENT COUNCIL



Supporting the Muslim Communities in Association with the Mosques in Gloucestershire

WHAT TO DO REGARDING MUSLIM STILLBIRTH

Islamic perspective

In Islam, a foetus is defined as a morsel of flesh/blood/water if less than 120 days (17 weeks) inside a mother's womb. It becomes human after 120 days (17 weeks or more)

Birth is given after 120 days (17 weeks) of pregnancy that is stillborn must be given a name. If it is difficult to determine the sex of the child then a neutral name suitable for both boys and girls must be given.

Both a foetus and a stillborn must be buried. It is important that you do this promptly

Still Birth Before 24 weeks

If a baby is stillborn before 24 weeks of pregnancy it is treated as a “non-viable foetus”. The midwife or doctor will give you a form recording the details of the non-viable foetus.

You do not however need to register the death of a nonviable foetus with the Registrar of Deaths; no other paperwork is involved

Stillbirth after 24 Weeks

If a baby is stillborn (born dead after 24 weeks of pregnancy) you will be given a Medical Certificate of Stillbirth signed by the midwife or doctor, which should be given to the Registrar of Deaths.

Summary of paperwork needed for burial

	Doctor/Coroner gives:	Registrar gives:
Stillborn below 24th weeks of pregnancy	Form giving details of stillbirth	Nothing further needed for burial
Stillborn in the 24th or higher week of pregnancy	Medical Certificate of Stillbirth	Certificate of Registration of Stillbirth

Contact Details

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