NHS Ayrshire and Arran

Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Bill

NHS Ayrshire and Arran report no concerns with carrying out its duties as described in this legislative framework.

In relation to sections 50-55 of the Bill (losses during pregnancy) it may be helpful to differentiate between termination of pregnancy and spontaneous abortion before or at the 24th week. Consent to dispose of the remains would normally be sought at the time of a termination of pregnancy because engagement of women with services can be difficult following discharge. However, following a spontaneous abortion (or termination for foetal abnormality), women often need more time to consider the options for disposal and are more likely to willingly engage with services, as per the terms of the Bill.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran