STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2026 No. 30

CIVIL REGISTRATION

The Deaths and Still-Births (Signing of Certificates) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026

Made - - - -	*26th February 2026*
Coming into operation	*23rd March 2026*

The Department of Finance(**a**), in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 15(4)(za) and 25(2A) of the Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976(**b**), makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Deaths and Still-Births (Signing of Certificates) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2026 and shall come into operation on 23rd March 2026.

2. In these Regulations "the Order" means the Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976.

Signing of Certificate of Still-Birth

3. A certificate of still-birth, under Article 15(3) of the Order, may be signed by a registered medical practitioner or a registered midwife in the following manner:

(a) approved electronic means; or

(b) signed in ink.

Signing of Medical Certificate of Cause of Death

4. A medical certificate of cause of death, under Article 25(2) of the Order, may be signed by a registered medical practitioner in the following manner:

(a) approved electronic means; or

(b) signed in ink.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance on 26th February 2026.

(**a**) Formerly the Department of Finance and Personnel; see 2016 c. 5 (N.I.) s.1(4)

(**b**) S.I. 1976/1041 (N.I. 14) in which Articles 15(4)(za) and 25(2A) were inserted by sections 3(3) and 4(4) of the Deaths, Still-Births and Baby Loss Act (Northern Ireland) 2026 (2026 c.2 (NI))

L.S.

P. D. Wales
A senior officer of the Department of Finance

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations prescribe the manner for the signing of a certificate of still-birth by a registered medical practitioner or a registered midwife.

They also provide the manner for the signing of a medical certificate of cause of death by a registered medical practitioner.

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