FACT SHEET 2

What types of death will a Coroner investigate?

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Coroners do not investigate all deaths, only deaths that are reported to them by law.

These include:

- a death that is unexpected, unnatural or violent, or caused by an accident or injury;
- a death that happens unexpectedly during or after a medical procedure;
- a death that happens when the person who died was in custody or care;
- a death that appears to have been caused or contributed to by any action of a member of the Western Australia Police Force; and
- when the identity of the person, or cause of death, is unknown.

There must also be a connection with Western Australia, such as the death occurring in Western Australia or that the deceased usually lived in Western Australia.

The coroner is not required to investigate a death where the coroner decides the death was caused by natural causes or the death is a "reportable death" only because it had been unexpected.