

Corryong Cemeteries Trust

Deceased Poor Person Policy

Responsible officer:	Director Community and Corporate Services
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Scope

The Corryong Cemeteries Trust recognises that from time to time requests may be received to bury a person who has been deemed a pauper

For the purpose of this document the term "Deceased Poor Person" will be referred to as "Pauper".

Background

Although it is not common, the Corryong Cemeteries Trust has previously received requests to bury a person who has been deemed a pauper.

The Corryong Cemeteries Trust recognizes its responsibility to comply with the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act (the Act) of the day and this policy will ensure the approach to such requests is consistent with the Act.

Objectives

The objectives of this policy are:

- To comply with the Victoria's Cemeteries and Crematoria Act of the day
- To ensure the burial of all deceased poor person(s) is carried out with dignity and respect
- To provide consistency in our processes with regards to individuals with no means to pay for the interment.

Approach

Upon order signed by a Magistrate or Coroner:

Under section 143 of the Act, the Magistrate's Court or a coroner can make order requiring a cemetery trust to either:

- cremate and then inter the cremated human remains of a deceased poor person free of charge; or
- inter the bodily remains of a deceased poor person free of charge.

The order can also provide for a plaque to be placed on the place of interment.

The Corryong Cemeteries Trust will comply with such orders.

Interment of a "Pauper" as bodily remains will be arranged for in the Memorial section of the Corryong Cemetery. Unless by Magistrates Court Order, it is the Trust's preference that ashes remain in the hands of relatives/friends of the "Pauper".

By request (in writing) from Funeral Director or family / friends (No Order):

When approached to arrange the interment of a "Pauper", the Trust will endeavor to assist relatives/friends who have no means to pay for a burial by referring them to the appropriate agencies who may be able to provide Funeral/Bereavement assistance (refer Appendix A).

If no assistance is available, the Trust will consider such requests on a case by case basis.

Deployment

The Director Community and Corporate Services is responsible for implementing this Policy.

Relevant Legislation

Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003

Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2005

Results

The deployment of this policy together with the results achieved will be reviewed at least annually.