

Corryong Cemeteries Trust – People Without Means

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| Responsible officer: | Director Corporate and Organisational Development |
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| Approved by: | Corryong Cemeteries Trust |
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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 “People without Means” 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 recognises its responsibility to comply with the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003* (the *Act*) and this policy ensures 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 2003*;
- To ensure the burial of all people without means is carried out with dignity and respect; and
- To provide consistency in our processes with regard 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 an order requiring a cemetery trust to either:

- cremate and then inter the cremated human remains of a person without means free of charge; or
- inter the bodily remains of a person without means 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 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 Corporate and Organisational Development is responsible for implementing this Policy.

Relevant Legislation

Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003

Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2015

Results

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



Authorised by:

Juliana Phelps
Chief Executive Officer

SCHEDULE A: PEOPLE WITHOUT MEANS – AGENCIES PROVIDING FUNERAL ASSISTANCE:

Bereavement Assistance Ltd:

This is a charitable organisation that provides funeral services for people who are unable to meet funeral costs.

- Contact: 03 9564 7778 (24 hours)
- Website: bereavementassistance.org.au
- Email: info@bereavementassistance.org.au

Services Australia

Services Australia may be able to assist with bereavement payments and support.

- Contact: 13 23 00 (older Australians line) or 13 62 40 (general enquiries)
- Website: www.servicesaustralia.gov.au
In the search bar type the word bereavement, then click on looking glass.

Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA):

This Department provides financial assistance and support to families of Australian war veterans.

- Contact: 1800 838 372
- Website: dva.gov.au (general)
On the home page click on Support for Families
Scroll down to the heading **Bereavement payments** and click on this for further information

Office of Australian War Graves (DVA):

The Office of Australian War Graves assists with the official commemoration of Australian war veterans either at their site of interment or by way of a plaque in their Garden of Remembrance.

- Contact: 1800 838 372
- Website: dva.gov.au/wargraves
- Email: wargraves@dva.gov.au

State Trustees:

Where a family is unable to pay the costs of a funeral, the agency assesses each case and if the criteria are met will assist with the costs of the funeral.

- Contact: 1300 138 672
- Website: statetrustees.com.au
- Email: Online enquiry form