

1. Policy Purpose

The Objective of the policy is to set down guidelines defining relevant criteria to allow burials on private land/property.

2. Policy Scope

This policy will apply to all interments of deceased persons on private land/property not being a public or private cemetery.

3. Definitions

IMMEDIATE FAMILY Parent, sibling, child by blood, adoption or marriage, spouse, grandparent or grandchild.

4. Policy Details

Whilst Council would prefer a person to be buried in a public cemetery, Council does recognise that on occasions requests will be submitted to allow a family member to be buried on private land/property where the deceased person has had an historical association with the land/property.

The operation of the cemetery and interment of deceased persons on private land/property must be approved by Council. No interment shall take place on private land/property unless approval for burial has been issued by Council.

Burials on freehold and leasehold land will only be permitted on site if:

- evidence is provided that the person or their immediate family has or had an historical association with the land: and
- the total landholding must be equal to or exceed fifty (50) hectares; and
- the area should be suitably fenced to delineate the boundaries of the location and secure the location; and
- each grave should be permanently marked with details of the deceased and the boundaries of the grave excavation should also be permanently marked; and
- the burial location site should be described and drawn along with GPS coordinates of the location of the deceased buried in respective sites and a copy should be forwarded to the local authority for placement on the property file and burial register.

Requests which are not supported by historical association in the above circumstances are to be tabled for Council's consideration. To allow peace of mind for family members, Council will consider requests for arrangements for future burials on private land/property.

Notification and details of burials will be submitted electronically to the Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages (RBDM) – Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

5. Related Policies and Legislation

Local Government Act 2009
Land Regulation 2009

Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011
Subordinate Local Law No.1.9 (Operation of Cemeteries) 2011
Subordinate Local Law No.1.13 (Undertaking Regulated Activities regarding Human Remains) 2011
Cemeteries Operations Policy 2014

6. Associated Documents

Maranoa Regional Council Register of Regulatory Fees and Commercial Charges
Cemeteries Burial Booking Procedure 2013
Cemeteries Burial Procedure 2013