



## *Birthplace of Our Nation*

07 June 2019

Our Ref: OCR 2019 4191

Local Government NSW  
C/ CR Linda Scott

Email: [lgnsw@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:lgnsw@lgnsw.org.au)

Dear Ms Scott

**Re: Review of Costs and Pricing for Interment in NSW Cemeteries**

Council acknowledges receipt of your correspondence emailed on Thursday, 16 May 2019 in relation to providing a response to LGNSW's submission on the review of costs and pricing for interment in NSW Cemeteries.

Council believes that the proposed pricing principles for interment should take into consideration the range of beliefs and be based more around interment prices that reflect the desires of individuals with a variety of choices for interment to match individual capacity to pay and personal preferences.

The Crown Cemetery Levy fund should only be paid by Local Government if it provides some tangible benefit to the community and given that Local Councils and Private Cemetery's operate to support market demand and community sentiment, the charter of the CCNSW is irrelevant other than imposing another layer of administration for issues not experienced outside greater Sydney area.

*All correspondence should be addressed to:*

**The General Manager**

**Tenterfield Shire Council**

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ABN: 85 010 810 083

Provisions should be made for individuals to have a choice on the level of services i.e. the higher the level of maintenance, embellishment and perceived location value should be taken into consideration (if the demand is high in one area the price should also be high). Market mechanisms need to be available as there is a high level of personal choice in where to be interred and different levels of service attract different levels of cost. Council believes that the fees for interment rights should vary with available cemetery capacity.

When deciding on which community impacts should be considered as part of this review, it is challenging to determine as the use and expectancy around cemeteries are very different. The impact is usually assessed as some right to be buried close to your place of residence or identified community. Hence we see people interred in various locations based on their wishes or of the family. What is the appropriate distance for family to travel to visit graves and affiliations should form some part of the review.

For Historical closed cemeteries the cost of interment is no longer an issue, however the cost of perpetual maintenance, highest and best use of the land and historical value are all considerations that council would need to take into account.

Should you require any further information or clarification with the above-mentioned please do not hesitate to contacting Council on 02 6736 6002.

Yours sincerely



Kylie Smith

**Chief Corporate Officer**