

Purchasing a Plot in a Council Cemetery

Plots may be reserved at Council cemeteries upon full payment of the plot purchase price and completion of an “Application to Purchase a Cemetery Plot” form, available at Council service centres.

Visit the Council service centre that administers the cemetery you are interested in:

Rangiora Lawn Cemetery	Rangiora Service Centre
Kaiapoi Public Cemetery Kaiapoi Anglican Cemetery	Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre
Oxford Public Cemetery Birch Hill Cemetery Cust Mairaki Cemetery Cust Anglican Cemetery	Oxford Service Centre & Library

Alternatively, a Funeral Director will look after the booking on your behalf.

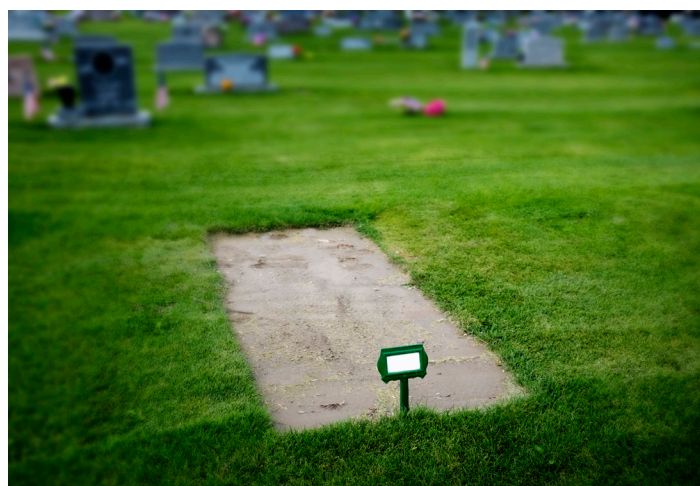
Where a request is made for a particular plot, agreement to such a request is at the sole discretion of the Council. Every effort will be made to accommodate requests providing this does not conflict with the operational management of the cemetery.

Can we purchase a burial plot just for the burial of ashes?

Purpose built gardens and smaller plots are available for the interment of ashes. Due to space limitations, there must be at least one full burial in a burial plot before ashes are interred.

What happens if I do not reserve a plot in advance?

Where a plot has not been reserved, Council staff will allocate a plot while booking the burial. Further plots



can be reserved for a spouse or partner or other family members at the same time.

Once I have paid the purchase price, is there any other cost?

When a plot is purchased, a record fee is charged. The record fee covers the cost of administering the burial booking, notifying the cemetery contractor, entering the record into the cemeteries database and updating the cemetery plans. Each subsequent burial in the same plot will incur a record fee.

If there is a variation to the Cemetery Deed, a fee is charged to cover Council costs to update records.

Note: The cost of installing a memorial is the responsibility of the estate of the deceased.

Please turn over

When there is an interment (burial), an interment fee is charged. This covers the cost of the Council's contractor preparing the grave, completing the burial and reinstating the area afterwards.

The cost of installing a memorial is the responsibility of the estate of the deceased. A Memorial Permit application fee is payable prior to the issue of a permit.

Future burials

If your intention is that other family members be interred in your plot at a later date, you should make your intentions known to the Council when you purchase the plot.

A Warrant to Inter must be completed for every burial in a plot.

Memorial headstone

One memorial headstone is permitted on each plot.

Memorials must be within the size limits allowed by the Council.

Please check with us before you finalise a design. Memorials may only be constructed for persons interred in the cemetery.

Your stone mason will assist you with arranging a permit.

Where ashes are interred in an existing burial plot, a small supplementary plaque may be installed. The size of the supplementary plaque is limited, please check with your local service centre before finalising your plans.

Tributes

Flowers and tributes should be located within the concrete area occupied by the headstone and must not overflow onto the lawn areas or onto neighbouring plots.

Live plantings are not permitted.

The Council may remove any unauthorised memorabilia and tributes from the cemetery.

Is the process the same for veterans interred in the Services Cemetery?

Yes, an interment fee is charged when qualifying veterans are interred in either ashes or burial graves in the Services Cemetery.

Veterans graves are allocated when booking the interment and no plot purchase fee is charged.

Memorials on Services graves are provided by Veterans Affairs and are of a standard design.

What happens if I no longer need my reserved plot?

You can transfer it to another person by completing and signing the "Application to Vary an Existing Cemetery Deed" form, available from Council service centres and paying the current fee.

If the owner of the plot is deceased then an authorised person may complete the transfer documentation. In this case the Next of Kin and immediate family members or Executor of the deceased estate must consent to the transfer.

The Council will purchase back reserved plots that are no longer required for 50% of the current plot purchase price.

Lapse of Right of Interment

The Burial and Cremations Act provides that if no burial has taken place after 60 years from the date of the sale of the exclusive right of interment in a plot, the right lapses and the plot returns to the ownership of the Council.

Find out more at waimakariri.govt.nz or contact Customer Services on 0800 965 468.