

Australian Capital Territory

# Cemeteries and Crematoria (Fees) Determination 2021 (No 1)

**Disallowable Instrument DI2021–248**

made under the

**Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2020, s 128 (Determination of fees)**

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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The *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2020* (the Act) regulates the operation of cemeteries and crematoria. Section 128 of the Act provides the Minister with the power to determine fees for the purposes of the Act.

Public cemeteries and crematoria are managed by the Cemeteries and Crematoria Authority (the Authority). The Authority is required to operate on a sound financial basis.

The determination revokes the *Cemeteries and Crematoria (Fees) Determination 2020 (No 1)* (DI2020-308).

This determination increases fees by approximately 4.75% for the majority of burial services provided. This increase incorporates costs incurred by the Authority due to a recent actuarial review of the PCT which noted that significant increases in the contribution from the Authority into the PCT will be required to meet the ongoing maintenance obligations. Also included in the 4.75% is an increase of 1.75% for Wage Price Index (WPI) which the Treasurer determined for 2021-22 (Treasury Budget Memo 2021/08).

However, fees for Christ the Redeemer Mausoleum (Mausoleum) and plaque services will only increase by the WPI increase. This is to support sales of high end Mausoleum products and because revenue from plaque services do not attract contributions to the Trust.

Fees for burials in the Babies Rose Gardens (perinatal cases) will decrease. This is at the request of community groups sympathetic to families who are young and may have limited means given the purchase is unplanned.

Fees for crematorium services, and in particular services for children aged 1 to 17 years, will increase. These fees are based on a cost recovery pricing model that has been endorsed by the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission as being compliant with the ACT Competitive Neutrality Policy.

All fees are rounded for cash handling purposes.

The determination takes effect on 1 October 2021.