

Death care –

What do I need to know?



This document has been written to provide general information around the death of a loved one, what you need to do, and what you need to consider before making decisions about their death care.

Pop Up Memorials provide unbiased information of a general nature in good faith - based on day-to-day experience within the death care industry and analysis of data available online from Government Agencies, peak bodies and industry groups.

Pop Up Memorials is a family owned and run business - operating since February 2025 - and managed by Joanne Baker - Authorised as a Civil Marriage Celebrant since 2009, who has been working within the death care industry for the past 10 years.

What we ask you to do as you read this information please:

- make your own inquiries
- use this information as a guide, and
- remember to always ask questions when something is not clear or doesn't make sense.

Most important - don't sign any documentation until you are sure about what you want – and what you want is what you can afford.



Someone I love has died – What do I need to know?

If a loved one has died, what should you do next - what is the process, and what should you know before you start making death care arrangements for them.



Sudden death – What do I do?

If you discover someone who has collapsed –

- Don't panic
- Call 000 and ask for ambulance and police to attend
- Listen to and follow their instruction carefully
- Once the first responders arrive, sit down, don't touch anything and make sure you have good emotional support around you.

Depending on the circumstances around the death, determines what will happen next.

Sudden and unexpected death – it is likely the WA State Coroner and WA Police will be involved, and your loved one will be transferred to the State Morgue at Sir Charles Gardner Hospital.

Remember – you can ask questions and make sure everything is being explained to you, so you understand.



Death occurs in a care facility or hospital – What do I do?

- The care or medical team there will assist you.
- They will facilitate space and time for you to spend with your loved one.
- Contact immediate family (if you need) to attend the facility.
- As soon as possible, you will need to consider the nomination of a Funeral Director who will arrange for your loved one to be transferred into their care.



Funeral Directors – Who do I choose?

That is up to you.

A nationwide peak body group - Funerals Australia - can also be a source of information around Funeral Directors and companies - however it is **not mandatory** for a Funeral Director or company to be registered with Funerals Australia.

A link to the Funerals Australia site is here: [Funerals Australia](https://www.funeralsaustralia.org.au/)

There are many great Funeral Directors and companies in Perth – some are small, family-owned operations while some are owned by international interests - if you need help making that decision based on your location, budget, reputation and quality of their service – the team at Pop Up Memorials can assist you.



Let's provide you with some background...

The Metropolitan Cemeteries Board or MCB - is a State Government Agency and some of its primary functions are around the licensing of Funeral Directors in Western Australia, the management of many of the large, metropolitan cemeteries and all of the crematorium facilities in the Perth metropolitan area.

It makes the rules around what can and can't be done – including (but not limited to) cemetery plot leases and renewals, monuments and grave markers – documented in legislation, regulation, policies and other published information.

So, this ensures there is transparency through government oversight – processes, decisions and actions are capable of being reviewed and subject to scrutiny by other oversight governance agencies.

This is a great step forward for transparency and accountability - but what does this all mean?



Funeral Directors Pricing Code of Practice (Western Australia)

Funeral Directors in Western Australia are now required to make pricing details and service inclusion information easily accessible and available to people seeking to undertake their own due diligence - prior to making an appointment with a Funeral company to meet with one of their consultants or Funeral arrangers.

This enables people to review information, make informed decisions - giving due consideration to their own needs and financial situation - without feeling pressure to make a decision on the spot – all when they are grieving the loss of a loved one.

Price shouldn't always be the first consideration – but you need to be aware of what things cost and what you get for your money.

Please find links to Funeral homes pricing information within the Perth Metropolitan area appear at the end of this document.

NOTE: This list is not exhaustive – it is to be used as a guide only – and links are current at the time this document was produced.



Death care – What are my options?

From a Funeral Director's perspective, their first consideration with regards to death care is a decision from you around body disposition.

The two most common options - a burial or cremation.

A Funeral Director - authorised and licensed by the MCB - can make these arrangements for you.

They are authorised to complete all of the required documents, including –

- application for appropriate permits, and
- to request a formal Death Certificate be created and issued by Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) in Western Australia.

If you would like to manage this process yourself - **you can** - and the MCB will need to be contacted so appropriate permits and documentation can be obtained and completed to enable you to act as your own 'Funeral Director'.

Either option you choose – there are some considerations, including (but not limited to):

- an approved coffin or casket be acquired
- appropriate storage of the deceased
- appropriate transportation for the deceased.

You can arrange to have a burial or cremation which can include a formal service or not.

Not having a formal service is referred to as either a **“Direct Cremation”** or an **“Unattended Burial”**.

Some Funeral companies will also refer to these services as **“No Service, Non-Attended”** - meaning there will be no formal service and the means by which you have chosen for body disposition will not be attended by family or friends.

In simple terms - a body will be cremated, or buried, with only Funeral Director staff and/or representatives of the MCB in attendance.



Burials

For a burial, a burial plot will need to be secured at a cemetery of your choice.

*PLEASE NOTE: You do not purchase a plot - **you pay a lease fee** - the lease is for 25 years and will need to be renewed at the end of that lease period.*

Many of the cemeteries within the Perth metropolitan area are managed by the MCB, and can be contacted for guidance, prices and additional information.

When you make your inquiry about a burial plot, give consideration as to whether you want to lease a plot for 1, 2, or 3 people to be buried there.

When a burial plot has already been leased, the lease fee was paid on it being a 1, 2 or 3 plot - meaning you have already specified whether you wanted 1, 2 or 3 burials in that plot.

If you already have a family plot, you will need to contact the MCB or the cemetery directly to establish whether or not there is space in the plot for another burial.

If you leased a plot for a single burial, and a burial has taken place previously, then the plot can't be used again for another burial – *however* - it may be used to inter ashes or cremated remains.

Example - If you leased a plot initially for two burials, and one has taken place, then a second can go ahead - subject to consultation and appropriate arrangements being made with the cemetery.

The MCB can provide more information around lease timeframes, cost and whether or not an existing plot can't be used be used a second or third time.



Cremations

If you decide on a cremation - again - you can choose to have a formal service or not.

You still need to engage a Funeral Director, who will complete the legal documentation to authorise a cremation to be undertaken and a Death Certificate to be produced by Births, Deaths and Marriages (unless you choose to manage this process yourself).

If you choose to have a formal ceremony, arrangements will be made by the Funeral Director for the service at a location of your choice - either their own chapel facility, at an MCB location -

- Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Park
- Karrakatta Cemetery
- Fremantle Cemetery, or
- Rockingham Regional Memorial Park

or another location you choose - which could be subject to approval - depending on legislative/regulation requirements, appropriate permits and health requirements.

Whether a formal service has taken place, or you choose a '**direct delivery**' cremation, the body is transferred to an MCB managed crematorium facility - either at Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Park, Karrakatta Cemetery, Fremantle Cemetery or Rockingham Regional Memorial Park for the purpose of cremation.

Once the cremation is undertaken, the nominated family member or Administrator who has completed and signed the documentation with the Funeral Director is authorised to collect the ashes or cremated remains - and identification need to be provided to them before they will release the ashes to you.



How can Pop Up Memorials help me?

Whether you choose a burial or cremation, attended or not, you can choose whether or not to formally or informally celebrate the life of the person by way of a ceremony of some kind.

This is where the team from Pop up Memorials can assist you.

The team at Pop Up Memorials believe no matter what your circumstance, you should have an opportunity to honour the life of a loved one - whenever, wherever and however YOU choose.

Whether it be:

- a formal or informal ceremony
- if the person is alive –
 - in the case of someone diagnosed with a terminal illness you may consider hosting a living wake or
 - have us sit with someone to write their life story or living eulogy,
- a memorial
- the anniversary of a death, or
- just to recognise a loved one .

It can be a special way to acknowledge that person and their life.

The decision to have a formal ceremony or not is YOUR decision.

The team at Pop Up Memorials respect your right to choose - and want to provide information in a transparent and unbiased way, so you can make informed decisions.

We are trying to affect change, to raise awareness and built confidence within our community to do what is best for them and their family where honouring life is concerned.

There are so many ways to honour and celebrate a life - how you do so is only limited by your own imagination, *and these options don't have to be expensive.*

What the team from Pop Up Memorials can do is provide tangible, cost effective ways to bring your vision to life - we take all of the worry of making arrangements from you and will work with you to honour life as they would want.

We have built meaningful relationships with likeminded professionals in the industry, other services providers and very talented people who care – *deeply* – about ensuring grieving families are taken care of during their time of need.

If you want to know more about what we do, the families we have assisted and the lives we have celebrated so far - please reach out to us for more information.

Funeral Directors – Links to pricing information

NOTE: This list is not exhaustive – it is to be used as a guide only – and links are current at the time this document was produced.

Owned by international interests

Parent company is [Invokecare](#)

- [Mareena Purslowe Funerals](#)
- [Oakwood Funerals](#)
- [Purslowe and Chipper Funerals](#)
- [Simplicity Funerals](#)
- [Christian Funerals](#)

Owned by international interests

Seasons Funerals and Just Cremations

- [Seasons Funerals](#)
- [Just Cremations](#)

Family owned and operated

[Bowra and O'Dea/ Leanne O'Dea Funeral Directors](#)

[Sheridan Funerals](#)

[Closing Circles](#)

[Bare](#)

[Walker Family Funerals](#)

[Remembrance Funerals](#)

[Gift of Grace Funerals](#)

[Silkwood Funerals](#)

[Farewell Cremations](#)

[Greenfields Funerals](#)

[Hetherington Funerals](#)

Perth Cremations and Burials –

[Cremations](#)

[Burials](#)

Mayfair Funeral Directors

[Cremations](#)

[Burials](#)

[William Barrett and Sons](#) – Bunbury, Harvey and Busselton

Owned by the same company

Prosser Scott Funeral Directors and Simple Price Wise Cremations

[Prosser Scott Funeral Directors](#)

[Simple Price Wise Cremations](#)