

Subordinate Local Law No. 1.13 (Undertaking Regulated Activities regarding Human Remains) 2011

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Part 1 Preliminary

1 Short title

This subordinate local law may be cited as *Subordinate Local Law No. 1.13 (Undertaking Regulated Activities regarding Human Remains) 2011*.

2 Purpose and how it is to be achieved

- (1) The purpose of this subordinate local law is to supplement *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011* which provides for a legal and procedural framework for the administration, implementation and enforcement of the local government's local laws, subordinate local laws and other regulatory powers, and for miscellaneous administrative matters.
- (2) The purpose is to be achieved by providing for—
 - (a) various matters regarding the granting of approvals for prescribed activities; and
 - (b) further specification of the definitions relevant to various prescribed activities.
- (3) In particular, the purpose of this subordinate local law is to supplement the legal and procedural framework for the prescribed activity named in schedule 1, section 1.

3 Authorising local law

The making of the provisions in this subordinate local law is authorised by *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011* (the **authorising local law**).

4 Definitions

- (1) Particular words used in this subordinate local law have the same meaning as provided for in the authorising local law.
- (2) The dictionary in schedule 3 defines particular words used in this subordinate local law.

Part 2 Approval for prescribed activity

5 Matters regarding the prescribed activity—Authorising local law, ss 6(3), (4), 8(2)(a), 9(1)(d), 10(3), 12, 13(a), 14(1)(a)

- (1) Schedule 1—
 - (a) names a prescribed activity in section 1; and
 - (b) prescribes the matters specified in this section for the prescribed activity.
- (2) For section 6(3) of the authorising local law, it is declared that section 6(2) of the authorising local law does not apply to the particular activities stated in section 2 of schedule 1.

- (3) For section 6(4) of the authorising local law, it is declared that the prescribed activity named in section 1 of schedule 1 is a category 1 activity.
- (4) For section 8(2)(a) of the authorising local law, the documents and materials that must accompany an application for approval for the prescribed activity are stated in section 3 of schedule 1.
- (5) For section 9(1)(d) of the authorising local law, the local government may only grant an approval for the prescribed activity if it is satisfied the proposed operation and management of the activity would be consistent with the additional criteria prescribed in section 4 of schedule 1.
- (6) For section 10(3) of the authorising local law, the conditions that must be imposed on an approval for the prescribed activity are stated in section 5 of schedule 1.
- (7) For section 10(3) of the authorising local law, the conditions that will ordinarily be imposed on an approval for the prescribed activity are stated in section 6 of schedule 1.
- (8) For section 13(a) of the authorising local law, the term of an approval for the prescribed activity is provided for in section 7 of schedule 1.
- (9) For section 14(1)(a) of the authorising local law, the further term for renewal or extension of an approval for the prescribed activity is provided for in section 8 of schedule 1.
- (10) For section 12 of the authorising local law, this subordinate local law prescribes—
 - (a) the application requirements for which the local government may accept as evidence the certificate of a third party certifier; and
 - (b) the individuals or organisations that are declared to be third party certifiers; and
 - (c) the qualifications that are necessary for an individual or organisation to be a third party certifier.

6 Approvals that are non-transferable—Authorising local law, s 15(2)

For section 15(2) of the authorising local law, it is declared that the categories of approval listed in schedule 2 are non-transferable.

Schedule 1 Undertaking regulated activities regarding human remains

Section 5

1. Prescribed activity

Undertaking regulated activities regarding human remains, including undertaking 1 or more of the following activities—

- (a) disturbance of human remains buried outside a cemetery; and
- (b) burial or disposal of human remains (excluding cremated remains) outside a cemetery; and
- (c) disturbance of human remains in a local government cemetery.

2. Activities that do not require an approval under the authorising local law

No activities stated.

3. Documents and materials that must accompany an application for an approval

- (1) Details of the burial site, niche or other place or proposed burial site, niche or other place at which the human remains are buried or placed, or are proposed to be buried or placed.
- (2) Evidence of the applicant's relationship (if any) with the deceased.
- (3) A certified copy of each approval required (including authority under the *Coroners Act 2003* (if applicable)) for the undertaking of the prescribed activity.
- (4) Details of how and when the prescribed activity is to be undertaken.
- (5) Evidence of the identity of the deceased person.
- (6) Evidence of the wishes of the deceased and the relatives of the deceased.
- (7) If the prescribed activity is the disturbance of human remains buried outside a cemetery—
 - (a) a written statement of the reasons for the proposed disturbance; and
 - (b) the written agreement of the owner of, and anyone else with a registered interest in, the land on which the remains are buried.
- (8) If the prescribed activity is the burial or disposal of human remains outside a cemetery—
 - (a) a written statement of how and when the remains are proposed to be disposed of or buried; and

- (b) the written agreement of the owner of, and anyone else with a registered interest in, the land on which the remains are to be buried or placed to the disposal of the remains on the land; and
 - (c) details of the nature of the ceremony (if any) to be conducted at the time of the burial or disposal.
- (9) If the prescribed activity is the disturbance of human remains in a local government cemetery—
- (a) a written statement of the reasons for the proposed disturbance; and
 - (b) the written approval of the sexton.

4. Additional criteria for the granting of an approval

The undertaking of the prescribed activity must—

- (a) not result in—
 - (i) material harm to health or safety; or
 - (ii) personal injury; or
 - (iii) unreasonable nuisance; or
 - (iv) an unreasonable loss of amenity; and
- (b) comply with the expressed wishes of each of the deceased and the relatives of the deceased; and
- (c) if the prescribed activity involves the opening of a grave in order to bury another deceased person in the grave—comply with the expressed wishes of all of the deceased persons who are buried or will be buried in the grave.

5. Conditions that must be imposed on an approval

No conditions stated.

6. Conditions that will ordinarily be imposed on an approval

- (1) The approval holder must undertake the prescribed activity at a particular time, or during a particular period.
- (2) Any spillage of waste, a contaminant or another material must—
 - (a) be cleaned up immediately; and
 - (b) not be cleaned up by hosing, sweeping or otherwise releasing the waste, contaminant or material to any stormwater system or other waters.
- (3) The approval holder must take specified measures to—

- (a) prevent harm to the health or safety of persons who may be involved in, or effected by, the undertaking of the prescribed activity; and
 - (b) prevent personal injury, property damage or loss of amenity resulting from the undertaking of the prescribed activity; and
 - (c) ensure that there is compliance with the provisions of each local government Act which regulates the undertaking of the prescribed activity.
- (4) If the prescribed activity is the disturbance of human remains buried outside a cemetery—
- (a) the approval holder must permit an authorised person to inspect the site at any time either before or after the disturbance; and
 - (b) the approval holder must prepare the site in accordance with particular standards as directed by the local government; and
 - (c) the prescribed activity must be undertaken by a qualified undertaker.
- (5) If the prescribed activity is the burial or disposal of human remains outside a cemetery—
- (a) the approval holder must ensure that an appropriate identifying memorial is placed on or adjacent to the place of the burial or disposal; and
 - (b) if a development approval is required under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* to erect or install a memorial—the approval holder must not erect or install the memorial without the required development approval.
- (6) If the prescribed activity is the disturbance of human remains in a local government cemetery—
- (a) the prescribed activity must be undertaken by a qualified undertaker; and
 - (b) the approval holder must prepare the site in accordance with particular standards as directed by the local government.

7. Term of an approval

- (1) The term of an approval must be determined by the local government having regard to the information submitted by the applicant.
- (2) The term of the approval must be specified in the approval.

8. Term of renewal of an approval

- (1) The term for which an approval may be renewed or extended must be determined by the local government having regard to the information submitted by the approval holder.

- (2) If the local government grants the application, the local government must specify in the written notice, the term of the renewal or extension.

Schedule 2 Categories of approval that are non-transferable

Section 6

Every approval for the prescribed activity named in schedule 1, section 1 is non-transferable.

Schedule 3 Dictionary

Section 4

development approval has the meaning given in the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*.

memorial includes—

- (a) a headstone; and
- (b) an inscribed plaque or commemorative plate; and
- (c) monumental, ornamental or other structures erected on a grave site; and
- (d) anything else erected or placed to mark the site where human remains have been buried or placed, or to commemorate a deceased person.

qualified undertaker means a person who carries on the business of disposing of human remains.

sexton means a person appointed by the local government to act as the sexton of a local government cemetery.

This and the preceding 8 pages bearing my initials is a certified copy of *Subordinate Local Law No. 1.13 (Undertaking Regulated Activities regarding Human Remains) 2011* made in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* by Townsville City Council by resolution dated the Fifteenth day of December 2011.

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Ray Burton
Chief Executive Officer