

NWF Statement on Cultural and Spiritual Principles for Burial and Cremation

NWF is deeply committed to serving the diverse needs of our community with the utmost respect and sensitivity. We understand the profound importance of cultural and spiritual practices, especially in times of loss and remembrance.

Our dedication to inclusivity and understanding is at the heart of our operations, ensuring that every individual and family we serve feels respected, supported, and understood. By embracing the rich tapestry of cultural and spiritual traditions within our community, we strive to provide services that are not only accommodating but also celebratory of the unique values and beliefs that enrich our collective experience.

NWF's commitment to ongoing dialogue, education, and adaptation reflects our pledge to meet and exceed the cultural and spiritual requirements of our community, ensuring that every person's final journey is honoured according to their personal and communal traditions.

NWF Statement on Aboriginal Cultural and Spiritual Principles for Burial and Cremation

In alignment with our commitment to respect and upholding the cultural and spiritual practices of Aboriginal communities, NWF adheres to the established guidelines for burial and cremation in New South Wales.

These guidelines underscore the importance of:

- **Respecting Aboriginal Connections to Country:** Recognising the deep spiritual connection Aboriginal people have with their traditional lands and ensuring burial or cremation practices honour this relationship.
- **Involving Community and Elders:** Engaging with local Aboriginal communities and Elders to ensure practices are carried out in a manner that is respectful and culturally appropriate.
- **Customary Practices:** Facilitating the inclusion of traditional Aboriginal customs in burial and cremation ceremonies, including but not limited to, smoking ceremonies, singing, and dancing, to honour the deceased and support the grieving process.
- **Environmental Considerations:** Ensuring that burial sites and practices are in harmony with the natural environment, reflecting the Aboriginal ethos of living in balance with nature.
- **Flexibility and Sensitivity:** Offering flexible arrangements that cater to the diverse needs and preferences of Aboriginal families and communities, acknowledging the variations in cultural practices among different groups.

NWF is dedicated to facilitating ceremonies that reflect the deep respect for the land, the people, and the ancestral connections that define Aboriginal spirituality. We pledge to work closely with Aboriginal families and communities to ensure that their cultural and spiritual requirements are met with the utmost sensitivity and respect, providing a supportive and understanding environment during times of loss.