

# Stirling Council submission of 8 December 2022

## PE1941/K: Stop the destruction of headstones within community cemeteries

In the Stirling Council area, memorial headstones are surveyed and the condition is recorded. Signage is in place at entrances to cemeteries to advise visitors not to touch any memorial and to remain on footpaths at all times. These signs also provide contact information for our Cemeteries Service. An example of the signage is attached.

Where remedial action is required, letters of advice are issued to registered holders of the exclusive right of burial. If, for whatever reason, the lairholder cannot be contacted, all relevant details are recorded within the lair register. Any action taken, to ensure public and employee safety, is proportionate to the risk associated with each unstable memorial. Any headstone of up to 3½ ft. in height is highlighted with printed security tape warning that the memorial is unstable (see Memorial inspection signage section notice attached), any headstone above 3½ ft. is “trenched” which involves digging out the original foundation and burying the headstone to a depth which ensures stability, all efforts are made when trenching to leave any lettering on the headstone visible. No headstones are removed from site or laid flat.

I trust that you will find this information to be helpful.