

**Submission
No 86**

**INQUIRY INTO CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA
AMENDMENT REGULATION 2018**

Name: Mr William McGuinness

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In 1989 when my father passed, he was cremated and interred at Beresfield Crematorium after much discussion by the family, this was mum and dads wishes and we were consoled by the fact our parents would be together forever when mum passed. Mum was distressed to learn that the Crematorium had at that time introduced a 25year lease system.I was told by mum in no uncertain terms that it was my responsibility to see that the lease continues.That of course would create issues for the ongoing future for a number of reasons including costs and time, as people forget when leases are due, which family members are responsible.What happens when the lease expires intentionally or not? There is a great deal of history in cemeteries, people get great comfort from finding and visiting relatives, who have been dead for generations.Fortunately Beresfield Crematorium came to realise their policy was wrong and reverted back to interring relatives and friends in perpetuity.That policy was wrong then just as this proposed policy is wrong now, for these reasons and many others In mums final years she got great comfort from me taking her to various cemeteries to visit friends and family who under this policy would likely no longer be there and along with that mum would go into great detail on what that person was like and the times they lived in.