

MEMORIAL SAFETY

INSPECTION AND TESTING WORK INSTRUCTION

1. Testing Procedure

- 1.1 All memorials will initially be subject to a hand/palm test and a visual inspection to ascertain for cracks, degree of lean, etc, and to determine whether a pressure test can be safely carried out.

If the hand/palm test reveals an unstable memorial, eg, if it “rocks or wobbles” then the memorial will be deemed to be dangerous and the pressure test will not be carried out.

- 1.2 If safe to carry out the pressure test then a force of up to 35kg will be applied using the Teleshore tester in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions (see Appendix 1).
- 1.3 Very large memorials, statues, obelisks, etc, may have to be assessed by a structural engineer or other specialist person.
- 1.4 For memorials which pass the pressure test a re-inspection date will be determined between 1-5 years depending on the condition of the memorial.
- 1.5 The pressure test details and visual inspection details will be entered into the BACAS palm computer and will be downloaded into the BACAS main computer at the end of that days testing, or the following morning.

2. Make Safe Procedure

- 2.1 If a memorial fails the pressure test or is otherwise deemed dangerous then the following action will take place dependant upon the size, nature and type of memorial:

a) The memorial will be made safe by using a temporary support.

or

b) The memorial will be laid flat.

2.2 Temporary Support Method

Where appropriate, the memorial will be made safe using wooden supports and banding. A notice will be affixed to the memorial (see Appendix 2).

This temporary repair will be carried out as soon as possible, but no later than 5 working days after carrying out the test.

2.3 Laying Flat

Where the memorial is judged not to be capable of being made safe by using the temporary support method, for example, due to shape, size, proximity of kerb sets, or interference with adjacent graves, then there will be no option but to lay the memorial flat. A notice will be affixed to the memorial (see Appendix 3).

3.0 Long Term Repair

- 3.1 Attempts will be made to make contact with the deed of grant owner or other relative willing to accept responsibility for the memorial.
- 3.2 All dangerous memorials will have to be repaired in accordance with NAMM Standards and the Council’s Memorial Mason Registration Scheme.