21 February 2018

Penrith City Council Attn: Clare Aslanis Assessing Officer PO Box 60 PENRITH NSW 2751



DA 17/1092

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Wallacia Memorial Park

We write in support of the Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust's proposal to establish Wallacia Memorial Park to provide much needed multi—denominational cemetery space.

The provision of adequate burial grounds is an issue of pressing concern for our community. It is of particular concern to those members/constituents who are in the older age grouping and wish to receive a full burial in accordance with their beliefs and/or preference.

On present trends, currently available burial grounds will not meet needs beyond 2025. It is important that the voice of our community be heard on this import "end of life" matter.

Our community believes that the need for approval of the proposal put forward by the Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust is vital for our community and the local area as planning and provision for critical burial grounds is within a now-pressing time frame. This is compounded by land acquisition costs increasing rapidly and lead times for approvals and the establishment of this essential infrastructure, considerable.

Further, our community sees much benefit in being part of the wider community and we work harmoniously with a wide range of faith communities across NSW, including to ensure that cemeteries respect and make provision for the various religious and cultural groups.

In recent times, governmental priority has understandably been given to other essential community infrastructure items such as housing, open space recreation and public facilities such as schools and hospitals. It is now critical that cemetery land allocation and development be given higher priority

We believe that the Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust's proposal for the Wallacia Memorial Park development will not only provide much needed burial space for our community, but also enhance the current facilities while protecting the rural views and aspect of the Wallacia area for our communities and families for generations to come.

We respectfully request that the proposal receive your favourable consideration.

Yours sincerely

