

Dear Assessing Officer,

Wallacia Memorial Park - DA: 17/1092

We write in strong support of the Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust's proposal to establish Wallacia Memorial Park to provide much needed burial space in western Sydney. The provision of adequate burial space is an ongoing concern to all especially those in the Muslim community - who can only be buried in accordance with our religious and cultural beliefs. Our community are concerned about the critical shortage of affordable burial space across Sydney.

As the population continues to grow in metropolitan western Sydney, so does the requirement for essential infrastructure such as hospitals, schools and cemeteries. With very limited availability of appropriate burial sites, the greatest and most urgent issue facing the Australian Muslims is the severe deficiency of burial sites. It is important that cemetery allocation and development be given priority, to provide assurance to our community members that affordable and attractive burial options will be available both in the short and long term.

A cemetery by its nature is provided in perpetuity, which will protect the land from any further development. It will also provide local jobs, as well as public recreational space that all in the Wallacia area can use.

We believe the proposal for the Wallacia Memorial Park development will provide much needed burial space for all in the community, enhance the current facilities on site and also protect the rural aspect of the Wallacia area.

Yours sincerely,