

Members
Independent Planning Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dated: 3 April 2019

email: ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

Dear Respected Members of the Planning Commission,

Wallacia Memorial Park – A084-18 Crown Cemetery Development, Wallacia

We are writing to you in support of Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust (CMCT) proposed Wallacia Memorial Park - A084-18 Crown Cemetery Development, Wallacia.

The Riverstone Muslim Cemetery Board Inc represents members of numerous Muslim associations across Western Sydney including:

- Afghan Community Support Association, Blacktown
- Islamic Practice & Dawah Circle, St Marys
- Hills Awqaf Trust, Dural
- Indonesian Islamic Association inc, Deewhy
- Iman Islamic Association, Arncliffe
- Western Sydney Islamic Association, Rooty Hill
- Muslim Welfare Society Ltd, Campbelltown
- Al Barakah Association, Quakers Hill
- Masjid Darul Imaan, Wolli Creek


As the population in western Sydney continues to grow, cemetery space is decreasing for everyone. The CMCT have been very supportive of our community needs, allocating a section of cemetery land at Kemps Creek Cemetery for the Muslim community of Sydney. Our religious beliefs require that the dead are buried. Members of the Muslim community are increasingly concerned that affordable burial plots are becoming more difficult to find. They also want to ensure that families can pre purchase plots, so that they can be buried together.

While the Muslim Section at Riverstone Cemetery is almost full (about 20 spots remaining), so we rely on the only space made available by CMCT at Kemps Creek Cemetery. It is hard for us to estimate how long the burial space at Kemps Creek Cemetery will remain available to our community. We estimate it to be at 5-10 years. Planning for the future, more burial space is desperately required. CMCT have worked with us to look after our community in perpetuity, respecting our burial practices and providing plots at a fair price. The site at Wallacia has the capacity to look after the Muslim community for the next century. It is very important that our community be able to continue our religious practices now and in the future.

We strongly support the CMCT development for Wallacia Memorial Park to address the shortage of burial space in western Sydney and to allow our community to continue practicing our religious beliefs.

Thank you for considering our communities ongoing requirements. Recommendation:

Yours sincerely,


Kazi Khalequzzaman Ali
President
Riverstone Muslim Cemetery Board

Ph: 