

From: [REDACTED]
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Memorial Park
Date: Thursday, 4 April 2019 7:59:53 AM

To the members of the Independent Planning Commission,

We strongly support the proposed Wallacia Memorial Park (A084-18 Crown Cemetery Development, Wallacia) by the Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust (CMCT).

One of the most important roles for all levels of government is to provide the essential infrastructure needed to support the growing population in the Penrith region with the necessary hospitals, schools, aged care, transport and services. This also includes the provision of cemeteries for the community long into the future.

There is currently no Crown cemetery available in the region. The only choice available to locals is the out of area Pinegrove Memorial Park that opened in 1962 and is operated by publicly listed company Invocare, the rural cemetery at Kemps Creek or the small Penrith City Council operated cemeteries that does not allow families to pre-purchase. Families in the local area also have no choice when it comes to suitable venues for the funeral or wake that are modern, comfortable and offer the latest conveniences.

Max Perrams Funerals conduct the highest amount of funeral services through CMCT at both Liverpool and Kemps Creek Cemeteries. We service the Assyrian and Mandaean communities who have their own lawns at Kemps Creek and continue to have a cultural preference for burial services. We have been advised that the cemetery will be at capacity in approximately 10 years' times and Liverpool Cemetery in 5 years' time and these community leaders are rightly asking what happens then?

The Cemeteries and Crematoria Act states that respect for the beliefs of all religious and cultural groups and equal access to interment services is provided for all in the community. By not approving new cemetery space, less well-off families in Penrith would effectively be priced out of cemeteries close to their homes, meaning they would not be able to visit their loved ones and would have to travel long distances to cemeteries out of the local area. This travel is even more difficult for the elderly and the disabled.

In summary, we strongly support the development for Wallacia Memorial Park to combat the shortage of burial space in western Sydney, to allow cultural communities to be able to continue to practice their religious beliefs with a proper burial service and offer choice with a Crown land operated cemetery to the people in the Penrith City Council local area.

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Kind Regards,

Sandy Benton



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