

## **INQUIRY INTO CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA AMENDMENT REGULATION 2018**

**Organisation:** Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW

**Date Received:** 6 September 2018

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## Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW Inc.

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4<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Director,  
Regulation Committee  
Parliament House  
Macquarie St  
SYDNEY. NSW 2000

### Re: Inquiry into Cemeteries and Crematoria Amendment Regulation 2018

We write regarding the Inquiry into Cemeteries and Crematoria Amendment Regulation 2018 and include below our submission for your review and consideration. We welcome the opportunity to make a submission to this Inquiry.

The Ethnic Communities' Council (ECC) NSW, representing over 300 organisational members, is the state-wide peak body for all culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Our core activities include advocacy, community education and community development.

The ECC NSW notes the significance of the matters raised in this Inquiry specific to multicultural communities throughout NSW including members of our organisation. The allocation of adequate burial space, in addition to the conduct of burial practices and ongoing maintenance consistent with the ethnoreligious, cultural and/or religious customs and practices of those of diverse backgrounds is of paramount importance to culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities throughout New South Wales.

It is crucial and necessary that any amendment to or consideration of legislation regarding this sensitive matter account for the requisite catering to the needs and traditions of new, emerging and established CALD communities present in NSW.

The ECC NSW is available in perpetuity as a body that can advise the State Government and appropriate regulatory bodies, agencies, private businesses or individuals on the appropriate community representative and cultural bodies, leaders and individuals with whom to best liaise now and into the future on the conduct of burials and burial practices as regards to specific communities.

Further, the ECC NSW is committed to assisting wherever possible in facilitating appropriate advice and guidance on these matters, and remains an avenue, together with our Federal umbrella body, the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA), for the State Government and necessary services to best source and connect with appropriate representatives from a range of CALD communities.

The ECC NSW is available to provide any further clarification on the above, or to support or advise the Inquiry.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Marta Terracciano  
CHAIR