



**Niall Blair**

Minister for Primary Industries  
Minister for Lands and Water

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NEW STRATEGIC PLAN TO GUIDE MANAGEMENT OF CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA IN NSW**

Minister for Lands, Niall Blair, has announced the release the first strategic plan to provide clear direction for effective management of cemeteries and crematoria in NSW, to better deliver for religious and cultural requirements in our community.

Mr Blair launched the inaugural NSW Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW Strategic Plan at Sydney's historic Waverley Cemetery.

Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW was established as part of the NSW Government's historic reforms in this space, and is the agency with responsibility for regulatory oversight of public and private cemeteries and crematoria in NSW.

The Strategic Plan sets out the Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW key goals, targets and strategies for the next five years in order to meet the expectations of the community of dignity, respect and integrity when providing interment services.

"This Strategic Plan is the result of the most significant reforms to the management of cemeteries and crematoria in NSW in more than 100 years," Mr Blair said

"It implements the four key commitments that the NSW Government made; respect, affordability, sustainability as well as availability and governance of land."

The key goals of Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW support the NSW Government's commitments: fair and transparent pricing, improved choice and to ensure services meet the religious and cultural requirements of the community.

The Strategic Plan will see several initiatives delivered in the next year, including:

- release of a consumer guide to burial and cremation rights
- defining the parts of Sydney facing critical shortages of cemetery space
- development of guidelines for best practice delivery of burial and cremation services.

Mr Blair said, for the first time, the NSW Government implementing consumer protections regarding interment rights and processes across the sector.

"The community expects best-practice interment services and a planned approach to providing for future needs and address shortage of burial space," Mr Blair said.

"Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW is now working to increase the supply of burial space and the sustainability of cemeteries, especially in metropolitan areas, which have diminishing space available."

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