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**From:** Ron Ward <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, 15 October 2018 10:55 AM  
**To:** Local Government Division (DPaC)  
**Subject:** FW: Burial and Cremation Amendment Bill 2018

**Attn: Alex Tay**  
**Director of Local Government**

Dear Mr Tay,

We refer to your correspondence of 27 September concerning the above Bill. The writer has just realised that due to an internal oversight the Trustees have not as yet provided feedback to the proposed changes to the Act.

Please accept this communication as formal acknowledgment of the invitation to comment and as our interim feedback. A fulsome response will be provided by not later than COB Friday 19 October. The following commentary is based on an preliminary reading of the proposed amendments by myself, plus a brief discussion with the Archbishop. It has yet to be analysed in depth.

#### **FEEDBACK**

On behalf of the Very Reverend Archbishop Julian Porteous DD and the Trustees, I can advise that the Catholic Archdiocese of Hobart has some concerns with elements of the proposed changes and the likely consequences off same. Not the least of those concerns is the potential negative financial impact on parishes and the Church more broadly. On the face of it the cost of plots for burials could be significantly increased.

The proposal to increase the timeframe around closure from 30 to 100 years appears on the surface to be excessive. Amendments to s.19 and 21 introduce restrictions of cemetery mangers and shift obligations which seem almost harsh, and are not in alignment with what occurs in other jurisdictions to my knowledge. I expect in our more detailed response the Archdiocese will be keen to understand why the Government is seeking to be out of step with other State's in this space.

Again we apologise for the late response. We look forward to consulting with your office and the Government on the proposed amendments, to better understand what is driving them and what might be the long term consequences.

Yours sincerely,

**Ron Ward FAICD**  
**Business Manager**

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