

Department of Education

STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE

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11 October 2018

Ruth McArdle  
Deputy Secretary  
DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

### **FEEDBACK ON THE DRAFT BURIAL AND CREMATION AMENDMENT BILL 2018**

Thank you for providing the Department of Education (DoE) with the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Burial and Cremation Amendment Bill 2018 (the Amendment Bill).

In 2010, a human skull was found at Albuera Street Primary School during excavation works. The school partially lies on an abandoned 19<sup>th</sup> century graveyard and the remains were believed to be historical.

DoE seeks clarification about the requirements under the *Burial and Cremation Act 2002* (the Act) for this site:

- Would this site be considered a 'closed cemetery' under section 29B?
- If this site is to be considered a 'closed cemetery' under the Act, what would be the implications with regard to its ongoing management and potential future development or sale?

As far as we are aware, there are no other sites owned by DoE that are known to intersect historical cemeteries. However, we would like to clarify what the implications would be if historical human remains are found at another DoE owned site in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy".

Wendy Spencer  
ACTING DEPUTY SECRETARY