

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## REMEMBRANCE PARK LAUNCHES ADORNMENT POLICY CONSULTATION

Remembrance Parks Central Victoria (RPCV) will commence a consultation process for the review of its Adornment Policy in coming days.

The consultation process invites stakeholders and communities across central Victoria to share insights on what should and shouldn't be in the revised policy and how it should be applied.

The consultation will be overseen by RPCV's new CEO, Lauretta Stace who has designed the process.

"When I was appointed CEO of RPCV I was advised that one of my most important short-term priorities was to ensure that the recommendations of the Robertson Report were comprehensively planned and implemented," Ms Stace said.

"One of the highest priority recommendations related to a review of the Adornment Policy including conducting broad-based community consultation."

"Accepting this recommendation was a given, as the Acting CEO, Maureen O'Keefe and the Chair of the Trust, Marg Lewis had already committed to a review of the policy earlier this year, when the issue emerged of irreplaceable adornments being removed from loved ones' graves by RPCV.

The consultation process will involve a series of interviews with Right of Interment holders at each cemetery, RPCV staff, community groups across central Victoria and industry partners. A survey tool will be developed to facilitate feedback from the broader community.

Following initial input a draft policy will be published for comment prior to the Adornment Policy being finalised.

"I will be posting regular updates on social media on how the community can have a say and we will be reaching out to Right of Interment Holders directly. I will also be hosting meetings with industry and community groups."

"I am looking forward to leading the development of a co-designed Adornment Policy that includes what is most important to the community whilst meeting all of RPCV's legislative and safety requirements," Ms Stace said

- Ends – Media Inquiries - Simone Gandur

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