**Buddhist Council of Victoria Protocol on Organ Donation**

***Passed at the Annual General Meeting of the Buddhist Council of Victoria 2020***

***With agreement from Ven. Thich Phuoc Tan
Abbot of the Quang Minh Temple, Braybrook
President of the Buddhist Council of Victoria
Former President of the Australian Sangha Association***

1. Buddhists may elect to have their organs and/or tissues donated after death is medically determined.
2. A potential donor must have identified themselves during their lifetime, or advised their family that they wished to donate.
3. Some Buddhists require a period of at least eight hours chanting near to the body prior to the organs being removed. This requirement must be respected.
4. The doctor who is taking the organs should say out loud to the deceased person that they are fulfilling their vow made in their lifetime to donate the organs.
5. A deceased person must be handled gently and with respect.
6. It is recognised that living donors may be subject to exploitation and that this is unethical.
7. Living donors must have a bill of rights and an advocate to determine that they are not being exploited.
8. Living donors must receive the same standard of medical care as recipients so as to minimise harm.