

Hon Luke Donnellan MP

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Ms Laura Royce Coroners Registrar Coroners Court of Victoria 65 Kavanagh Street SOUTHBANK VIC 3006



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Dear Ms Royce

Thank you for your letter dated 6 July 2016, addressed to The Hon Jacinta Allan MP, Minister for Transport, regarding the investigation into the death of Mr James Sawbridgeworth. As the matter falls within my portfolio responsibilities, it has been referred to me for response. I apologise for the delay in responding.

Coroner Spanos recommended that the Transport Industry Safety Group considers the particular challenges to pedestrian safety – especially those older and more vulnerable pedestrians – posed by trucks and heavy vehicles with limited forward visibility and considers developing a strategy to highlight this road safety issue to the public at large, and to truck and heavy vehicle operators and drivers in particular.

This recommendation will be implemented.

The Transport Industry Safety Group's purpose is to improve road and occupational safety within the road transport industry, by identifying issues and promoting good practices for parties in the transport chain and road user groups.

This report will be considered by the Transport Industry Safety Group at its next meeting to occur in late 2016. This serious issue will also be raised at the next Victorian Road Freight Advisory Council meeting on the 17 November 2018.

VicRoads has developed the Travel Happy – Share the Road campaign, which is aimed at creating awareness for road users to share the road safely, and encourages motorists, cyclists, motorcyclists, truck drivers and pedestrians to look out for each other on the roads to make travelling happier, more courteous and safer for everyone. Further information can be found at <www.travelhappy.vic.gov.au>.



A second phase of the Travel Happy campaign will commence in February 2017. This will incorporate key messaging and a call to action for truck drivers, pedestrians and all other road users to improve respectfulness on the road. Messages will cover heavy vehicle blind spot awareness, for both motorists and pedestrians, and how to increase their likelihood of being seen by truck drivers.

Yours sincerely

Hon Luke Donnellan MP

Minister for Roads and Road Safety

7/10/2016