



Patron: His Excellency General the Honourable  
Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)

6 May 2015

Deputy Commissioner Lucinda Nolan  
Deputy Commissioner, Regional Operations  
Victoria Police  
Victoria Police Centre  
637 Flinders Street  
DOCKLANDS VIC 3008



Dear Deputy Commissioner

I recently received correspondence from the Coroners Court of Victoria with a finding prepared by Coroner Caitlin English in relation to the death of James Tomlinson on April 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

In the finding, Coroner English describes the death by suicide of an elderly man who was due to face criminal charges involving child related sex offences in the Melbourne Magistrates Court. The finding goes on to describe a concerning number of deaths by suicide of men in similar circumstances in recent years, and makes a number of recommendations about ways to reduce the risk of suicide for such people.

**In Recommendation 2 of the finding, Coroner English states:-**

*'A pamphlet is currently provided by Victoria Police to suspects regarding support information. This pamphlet should also include information about the police investigation, the judicial process regarding police charges, the potential involvement of other agencies, and how to seek appropriate assistance for wellbeing and mental health.*

*Victoria Police is the obvious point of dissemination for such a pamphlet; however the material should be prepared in conjunction with relevant bodies, such as the Law Institute of Victoria, Victoria Legal Aid, and agencies such as Suicide Prevention Australia and beyondblue'*

I am writing to offer Victoria Police any assistance that may be useful in this matter. As you know, *beyondblue* are committed to supporting all people in Australia to achieve their best possible mental

**Beyond Blue Limited**  
ABN 87 093 865 840

PO Box 6100 Hawthorn West Victoria 3122  
T 03 9810 6100  
F 03 9810 6111  
E [bb@beyondblue.org.au](mailto:bb@beyondblue.org.au)  
W [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)

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health. A critical aspect of this is to support and safeguard those who are at risk of self-harm and death by suicide.

Please contact me directly if we can help you with any mental health or suicide prevention related content or indeed contact points for *beyondblue* support services available to all Victorians.

Yours sincerely



**Georgie Harman**  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: **Coroners Court of Victoria**  
Law Institute of Victoria  
Victorian Legal Aid  
Suicide Prevention Australia