



Department of Health & Human Services

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YOUR REF: COR 2009 000715
OUR REF: DHD/15/9074

Ms Freda Villella
Coroners Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank
MELBOURNE VIC 3006

Dear Ms Villella

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF JOHN K NDIRANGU - COURT REF: COR 2009 000715

I refer to your letter to me dated 4 March 2015, received by the Department of Health & Human Services on 11 March 2015. Your letter attached the Finding into Death with Inquest delivered on 3 March 2013 by Coroner Peter White, which contained the following recommendation under section 72(2) of the *Coroner's Act 2008* (Vic):

'That the Department of Sports and Recreation in the State of Victoria, in partnership with the Federal Government Department of Immigration and Citizenship, seeks to examine how members of recently arrived immigrant communities to Victoria, might best be taught how to swim in open water, and continue to provide support for that objective'.

The Coroner's recommendation is directed to 'the Department of Sports and Recreation in the State of Victoria'. Sport and Recreation Victoria (**SRV**) is a branch within the Department of Health & Human Services in the State of Victoria. (Prior to 1 January 2015, SRV was a branch within the former Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure).

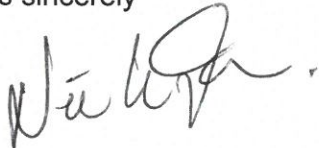
SRV has responsibility for the sport of swimming, primarily support for the construction of community aquatic facilities built by local government and support to Swimming Victoria to grow the sport of swimming. The support and funding of water safety and swimming education in Victoria, on the other hand, is within the responsibility of the Department of Justice and Regulation (formerly, Department of Justice) and the statutory authority Emergency Management Victoria.

The Department of Justice and Regulation's responsibility in this area is reflected at paragraph 37 of the Coroner's Finding, where it is noted that until 2011 the Department of Justice had funded the 'On the same wave' project, which aimed to support lifesaving clubs with the resources and connections to culturally and linguistically diverse (**CALD**) communities to run culturally inclusive programmes with CALD communities.

As such, I consider that the Department of Justice and Regulation will be best placed to consider and implement the Coroner's recommendation in this matter.

Should you have any questions, please contact Michael Cahill, Manager, Research and Performance, Sport and Recreation, Department of Health & Human Services on 9096 9869 or by email at Michael.Cahill@sport.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Nick Foa
Acting General Manager
Sport and Recreation Victoria
Mental Health, Wellbeing, Social Capital and Ageing

19 MAY 2015