



VICTORIA POLICE

Graham Ashton AM
Chief Commissioner of Police

Victoria Police Centre
637 Flinders Street
Docklands Victoria 3008 Australia
Telephone +61 3 9247 6868

P.O. Box 913
Melbourne Victoria 3001 Australia

Our Ref: FF-135397

Coroner Jamieson
Coroners Court Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006



Dear Coroner Jamieson

Subject: Finding into the death of Albert Dean May
Case No: COR 2015 4237
Date of 29 November 2018
Recommendation:

I write in response to recommendation 1 arising from your findings in the inquest into the death of Albert Dean May. I confirm Victoria Police's acceptance of the recommendation and detail below the actions taken by Victoria Police in collaboration with other stakeholders to address the issue both prior and subsequent to receiving your recommendation.

Recommendation 1:

With the aim of improving public health and safety and preventing like deaths, I recommend that the vehicle standards safety bureau, Victoria Police, Bicycle Industries Australia and VicRoads collaboratively consider the circumstances in which Albert May's death occurred and attempt to identify any new countermeasures that could be implemented to improve compliance with laws regarding the operation of electric bicycles, including but not limited to establishing how best to detect and prevent people operating high-powered electric bicycles without licence or registration as if they were power-assisted cycles.

Response:

This recommendation has been implemented.

Prior to receiving the Court's investigation into the death of Mr May, Victoria Police was reviewing the risks to public safety posed by motorised bicycles and liaising with

stakeholders on that issue. On 24 September 2018, Senior Sergeant Stuart Thompson of the Road Policing Strategy Division, Victoria Police notified representatives of VicRoads and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) of concerns held by Victoria Police. On 28 November 2018, representatives of Victoria Police and the ACCC met to further discuss the issue with respect to electric monkey bikes and 'Vespa' style e-bikes. A further meeting was held between Victoria Police and VicRoads on 6 December 2018 where it was resolved that VicRoads would undertake further research to identify the scope of the issue.

On 12 December 2018, Road Policing Command of Victoria Police received the Coroner's findings and liaised with VicRoads and Bicycle Industry Australia to establish the collaborative group to address the Coroner's recommendation. On 29 January 2019, representatives of Victoria Police, VicRoads, Bicycle Industries Australia, and the Transport Accident Commission met to consider the circumstances of Mr May's death and the Coroner's recommendation. The attendees identified a variety of potential countermeasures to be taken to reduce risks to public safety by improved regulation of electric bicycles and means of detection of non-compliant bicycles.

The meeting concluded that the identified countermeasures require further examination before determining which shall be implemented. VicRoads has been nominated as the lead agency in this process. VicRoads is currently generating a matrix identifying the benefits and drawbacks of each countermeasure. VicRoads has prepared a working draft of that matrix, and Victoria Police will continue to offer its assistance to finalise that document and advance the project.

Victoria Police continues to offer its support to VicRoads in the development and implementation of countermeasures to address the risks to public safety identified by the Coroner.

Yours sincerely



Graham Ashton AM
Chief Commissioner

12/3/19

cc. CEO, Vicroads