



## Secretary

Department of Health

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Coroner Darren J Bracken  
Coroner's Court of Victoria  
**via email:** [cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au](mailto:cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au)

Dear Coroner Bracken

I refer to the letter dated 12 February 2021 (received on 19 February 2021), attaching your findings regarding the fatal head injuries sustained by SJH in a motor vehicle incident (pedestrian) (COR 2019 0504).

The loss of this wee boy was very sad indeed. I note your recommendation that research be undertaken into similar events with the intent of avoiding future such losses.

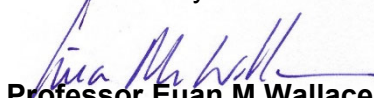
As you may be aware, on 1 February 2021 the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) was separated into two new departments - the Department of Health, and the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing. Given the nature of the incident and your findings, the findings appear most relevant to the Department of Health and our associated administrative office, Safer Care Victoria. Accordingly, as Secretary of the Department of Health, I respond below to the recommendations addressed to DHHS.

I note that those recommendations are also directed to KidSafe Victoria, the Transport Accident Commission, and the Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity (CCOPMM). CCOPMM is hosted by Safer Care Victoria.

I understand that Adjunct Professor Tanya Farrell (Chair, CCOPMM) has committed CCOPMM to undertake a review of similar deaths in the 2015-2019 time period and to share the outcomes of this review with you. I will ensure that my Department works with CCOPMM to consider the implications of their review findings.

With the creation of the new departments, may I advise that any future correspondence from the Coroner's Court relating to the health portfolio should be directed to Jaime de Ano, Executive Director, Cabinet and Parliamentary Services (via email to [cabparl.dhhs.vic.gov](mailto:cabparl.dhhs.vic.gov)).

Yours sincerely

  
**Professor Euan M Wallace AM**  
Secretary

17/05/2021