

28 April 2021

Coroner Bracken
Attention Ms Libby Murphy
Coroner's Solicitor
Coroner's Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank VIC 3006.

Dear Coroner Bracken

Re: Seth HADDOW – Coroner's number 2019 0504, CCOPMM Number 20193008

We write to respond to your recommendation in the finding for the death of Seth Haddow that states, *'The Victorian Department of Health and Human Services, Kidsafe Victoria, the Transport Accident Commission and the Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity (the Organisations) together consider the circumstances of Seth Haddow's death and undertake research to identify the factors that contributed to it and to like deaths between 2015 and 2019'*.

The Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity's Child and Adolescent subcommittee reviewed this case early last year. The following preventable factors identified were similar to the ones mentioned in your findings:

- Parental supervision
- Having sight of children before reversing a car
- The benefits of reversing cameras in modern cars
- Not allowing children to use driveways as a play area

The need for frequent public campaigns to remind parents and carers of the necessity to constantly have sight of children around cars is a matter I recently discussed with Kidsafe Victoria in a meeting we had in February. They are currently working on a campaign regarding vigilant supervision of children. This matter has been on CCOPMM's agenda for many years and will continue to be considered until the time that all cars on the road have reversing cameras and we see a much-anticipated elimination of these types of deaths. This area was a focus in the *Victoria's Mothers, Babies and Children 2012 2013* report.

As per your recommendation, we will conduct a review of all similar deaths in the five-year period from 2015 to 2019 and report a summary of our findings to you by the end of October 2021.

Thank you for raising this important matter us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'T Farrell', is positioned below the text 'Yours sincerely'.

Adjunct Professor Tanya Farrell
Chair, Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity