

Department of Transport

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Ref: [Fileit: 21066967]

Coroners Court of Victoria

Attention: Deputy State Coroner, Ms Caitlin English

65 Kavanagh Street SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

via e-mail: cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.aov.au

Dear Deputy State Coroner

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF AC (Court Ref: COR 2019 2531)

I am writing in response to the Deputy Coroner's recommendations made in the finding without inquest into the death of AC.

The recommendation made to Department of Transport (formerly VicRoads) was:

That VicRoads consider reducing the speed limit on the unsealed section of Kulkyne Way, Colignan, approaching Hattah National Park, to 80 kilometres per hour.

The Coroner's recommendations are unable to be implemented by the Department of Transport (DoT) as the collision location falls under the Mildura Rural City Council as the Responsible Road Authority.

Any assessment of speed zones and/or installation of signing should be undertaken by the Council for their local roads. DoT is responsible for approving speed zones.

DoT has liaised with the Council to review the speed zone considering the prevailing road conditions, including the pavement surface and warning signage.

DoT understands Council's preference is to follow best practice applied state-wide on unsealed roads. Council has advised that additional edge marker posts will be installed to enhance delineation through the crash location. However, Council does not support a targeted speed reduction to 80km/h as best practice on unsealed roads requires motorists to adjust their speed and drive to the conditions.

Should you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact Mr Daya Govender, Manager Development, Loddon Mallee Region on daya.govender@roads.vic.gov.au or Tel: 0427 018 479.

Yours sincerely

Melanie Hotton

Director- Loddon Mallee Region.

08 October 2021

