



## Department of Justice and Community Safety

Secretary

Level 29  
121 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000  
Telephone: (03) 8684 0501  
[justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:justice.vic.gov.au)  
DX: 210077

Our ref: EBC 22031634  
Your ref: COR 2017 422

Coroner Darren Bracken  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
65 Kavanagh Street  
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

Dear Coroner Bracken

I refer to your findings and recommendation delivered on 22 February 2022, about the death of Ms Michelle Hughes at the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre (DPFC) on 26 January 2017 that:

- The Secretary of the Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS) investigate the viability, utility and implementation of a process by which vital signs of prisoners at the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre who are assessed as S1 – S3 can be continuously remotely electronically monitored and recorded in 'real time' and in such a manner that prison guards are immediately alerted to aberrant fluctuation.

DJCS accepts your recommendation and is committed to taking all steps necessary to strengthen its response to reducing the risk of suicide and self-harm in prison custody.

DJCS is examining practices in other state and international jurisdictions and engaging with private sector organisations to determine the most appropriate solution to implement your recommendation.

Should you require any further information, please contact the Justice Assurance and Review Office at [jaro@justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:jaro@justice.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

**Rebecca Falkingham**  
Secretary