

27 April 2023

Coroner Simon McGregor  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
65 Kavanagh Street  
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

By email: [cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au](mailto:cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au)

Dear Coroner McGregor

### **Inquest into the Passing of Veronica Nelson – COR 2020 0021**

We refer to the above matter and to your correspondence dated 30 January 2023. As required by s 72(3) of the *Coroners Act 2008* (the Act), the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (**Commission**) is required to provide a written response to the recommendations made by the Court no later than three months from the date of receipt of this letter.

The Coroner's recommendation is currently under consideration.

### **Recommendation 39**

The Commission confirms it has taken steps to implement Recommendation 39:

*No later than 12 months from the date of this Finding, Corrections Victoria, Justice Health and Correct Care Australasia, as public authorities under the Charter request that the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission conduct a review under Section 41(c) of the Charter of any improvements to programmes, practises, and facilities made in response to the recommendations above, and provide an overview of the results of that review for publication on the Coroners Court of Victoria website along with the responses to the Recommendations made in this Finding.*

### **Steps taken**

The Commission has commenced planning what a Review may entail in accordance with s 41(c) of the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* (Vic) (**Charter**).

A part of this process, the Commission recently met with the Department of Justice and Community Safety (**DJCS**) to discuss Recommendation 39 and scope of the Review. Pursuant to s 41(c) of the Charter, the Commission is only able to conduct a Review under the Charter, on the request of the named public authorities.

In the interim, DJCS will work with the Commission to develop an implementation framework that can be used to review the Victorian Government's progress in implementing the

Coroner's recommendations and ensure that the outcomes intended by the recommendations are achieved.

The Commission will continue to progress this work in the coming months.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Aimee Cooper, Head of Legal at the Commission by email at [REDACTED] or by phone on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely



**Ro Allen**  
Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner