



24 October 2024

Coroner Catherine Fitzgerald
Coroner's Court of Victoria

Via email: cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Coroner Fitzgerald,

CORONIAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF RYLEIGH JAMES PALLOT – COR 2021 007031

I refer to your letter dated 22 July 2024, regarding the investigation into the death of Ryleigh James Pallot COR 2021 007031. Your letter invites Parks Victoria to make a submission in regard to recommendations in the Finding without Inquest for Mr Pallot's death at Addiscot Beach in the Great Otway National Park on 31 December 2021.

I would like to express my sincere condolences to Mr Pallot's family for their loss.

You have provided two recommendations for consideration. Please find below Parks Victoria's response to those recommendations.

Recommendation (i) I recommend that the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), Parks Victoria and GORCPA consider developing and implementing a state-wide rockfall and landslide assessment and management policy, which includes consideration of implementing risk mitigation commensurate with the level of risk.

This recommendation has progressed.

Parks Victoria acknowledges the coastal cliff risk assessment work being undertaken by DEECA. Parks Victoria will continue to work with DEECA and GORCAPA in rockfall and landslide assessment and implementation of risk mitigation tools across the State.

Recommendation (ii) I recommend that Parks Victoria consider amending the new signage at Addiscot Beach to state that a cliff collapse has led to injury and death to reinforce the danger posed to visitors from cliff collapse.

This recommendation is under consideration by Parks Victoria.

Parks Victoria acknowledges that signage is a recognised risk mitigation tool used to enhance safety in various environments. However, their effectiveness depends on careful consideration of several factors, including the signs' visibility, clarity, placement and visitor behaviour, without regard to which can lead to confusion, complacency or neglect. Therefore, Parks Victoria considers signage as part of its broader risk management strategy to ensure signage serves their intended purpose effectively.

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Parks Victoria will consider new signage at Addiscot Beach within this risk management framework, which will also require specific considerations of other unintended consequences including the risk that signage could lead to traumatisation and re-traumatisation where visitors are of all ages.

Should you require further advice on this matter please contact Frances Li, Executive Director Corporate Services & Chief Financial Officer [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,



Matthew Jackson
Chief Executive Officer

