

COR 2015 004327 COR 2016 002914 COR 2017 001028 COR 2017 002630

cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Investigation into the deaths of Child 1, Child 2, Child 3 & Child 4

VACCA response to the Coroner's Recommendations:

Recommendation 1

b) DFFH and VACCA to publish an update about the outcome of the Aboriginal-led State-wide Cultural Planning Forum, and any outcomes relevant to these findings.

There are unresolved issues with the Coroner's recommendation that needs to be addressed.

A State-wide Cultural Planning Forum was held in February and August of 2024. The forums were co-hosted by Bendigo District Aboriginal Cooperative and Wathaurong Cooperation respectively. The forums provided an opportunity for Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) to come together and reflect on their different approaches to cultural planning and identify the challenges and opportunities to increase quality and compliance of initial and review plans and to support culturally appropriate implementation.

Following on from the work done at the August Forum, the Statewide Co-ordinator Aboriginal Cultural Planning, has facilitated two further online workshops with Senior Advisors to review the themes from the forums and present some of the ideas on a proposed new process. The next steps are to engage the CEOs of ACCOs on the proposed new process to ensure that the model for Cultural Planning is ACCO led.

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VACCA Preston (Head Office)

340 Bell Street, Preston VIC 3072 P.O. Box 494, Northcote Plaza, Northcote VIC 3070

p. (03) 9287 8800 **f.** (03) 9287 8999 **w.** vacca.org **e.** vacca@vacca.org

