

IN THE MATTER of the Coroner's Act 2008

and

the death of **JOSHUA GONZALEZ – COR 2020 004903**

RESPONSE BY WESTERN HEALTH

THE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Pursuant to section 72(3) of the Coroner's Act 2008 (Vic), Western Health hereby responds to the following recommendation made by Coroner Paul Lawrie on 14 April 2025:

That Western Health and the Victorian Department of Health (through its Mental Health and Wellbeing Branch, or other appropriate branch) jointly review the practice of allowing only mental health clinicians access to the Mental Health Database with the aim of also permitting access by Emergency Department medical staff where necessary.

STATEMENT OF ACTION IN RELATION TO RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Western Health confirms that it has liaised with the Victorian Department of Health's Legal Services and Integrity Branch in relation to this recommendation.
3. The *Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022* (Vic) grants the Secretary of the Department of Health responsibility over maintaining and having general oversight over CMI/ODS. As such, Western Health refers to the Department of Health's response to this recommendation.



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Shane Crowe
Executive Director, Nursing & Midwifery
Western Health
30 June 2025