



VICTORIA POLICE

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Chief Commissioner of Police

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Coroner Simon McGregor
Coroner's Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
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By email only: [REDACTED]

Subject: Investigation into the death of AT – Response to Recommendations
Court reference: COR 2024 007361
Date of finding: 9 June 2026

Dear Coroner Simon McGregor

This document provides the response to a joint recommendation to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing and Victoria Police arising from the Finding into the death of AT, dated 9 June 2026.

Recommendation

The following recommendation was directed to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing and Victoria Police:

- (i) That the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing and Victoria Police work together to explore opportunities for updating information sharing protocols so that relevant firearm licensing data can be made available to improve risk assessments for Child Protection and family violence investigations.

Response to Recommendation

I support this recommendation and consider it has already been implemented.

Victoria Police, Child Protection (CP) and the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) currently have existing mechanisms which are sufficient to facilitate information sharing in relation to firearm licensing information and family violence investigations.

The existing mechanisms are governed by the interagency Protecting Children Protocol (PCP). Relevant provisions of the protocol include:

- Section 8: Victoria Police are both protective interveners and information holders under the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 (CYFA), which enables the free exchange of information in CP matters with CP and Aboriginal Children in Aboriginal Care (ACAC) providers.

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- Section D.8: CP or the ACAC provider can also ask police (including the local uniformed general duties police) if they are aware of any safety issues for CP or ACAC providers attending a client's home. For example, recent police attendance at the house, warnings about firearms, warrants and intervention orders.
- Section F.1: As prescribed Information sharing entities under Part 5A of the Family Violence Protection Act 2008 (**FVPA**), CP and ACAC providers can request copies of intervention orders under Part 5A of the FVPA via the Melbourne Magistrates Court.
- Section F.2: Risk assessment and risk management reports - outlines the process including access to and sharing of the L17 family violence risk assessment with CP and relevant agencies. (Note that the Family Violence Report (L17) includes firearms/weapons related questions - Hazard Assessment: Firearms Present; Firearms Discharged; Other Weapons; Other Hazards; Firearms Present).
- Appendix I: Information sharing - outlines proactive disclosure and information sharing between the two agencies.

Additionally, the Child Information Sharing Scheme (CISS) and the Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme (FVISS), collectively the Inter-Agency Information Sharing Schemes (IISS), facilitate information between CP and Victoria Police. The IISS enables professionals in organisations and services, which are prescribed as information sharing entities, to share information to promote the wellbeing and safety of children. The FVISS enables the sharing of information between authorised organisations to assess and manage family violence risk which can include firearms and weapons related risks. It is noted that Victoria Police responses to CP information requests through the CISS already includes firearms information.

Members of Victoria Police have met with DFFH to provide a consistent approach to this recommendation. Victoria Police and DFFH regularly engage to explore whether there are any further opportunities for improvement or enhancement of information sharing mechanisms and will continue to do so in support of DFFH's efforts to strengthen their CP workforce's awareness of information sharing requests and facilitation of the sharing of relevant information with Victoria Police.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Bush CNZM
Chief Commissioner

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