



20 April 2017

Mr Josh Munro  
Coroner's Registrar  
65 Kavanagh Street  
**SOUTHBANK VIC 3006**

Your Reference: COR 2015 4768

Dear Mr Munro

### **COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CORONERS RECOMMENDATIONS**

I write in response to the recommendations of Coroner Audrey Jamieson in her report into the death of Mr Robert Anstice. The Council has considered the recommendations and provides the following response.

The Council advises that it will establish a program to incorporate a combination of identification mechanisms via the Council's appointed Valuers and Rates Department. It will also further develop existing inspection and enforcement procedures by the Building Department. The specific mechanisms to be introduced are outlined (but not limited to) the below:

- a) Council firstly consider whether it is able to obtain material from its valuers to identify the non-compliant properties
- b) If (a) is achievable, that Council valuers identify properties that have non-complying works during site inspections
- c) The information gathered as part of the valuation inspections to be passed onto the Rates Department and Building Department
- d) A reporting process that enables the Building Department to gather reasonable documentary evidence of the identified illegal and dangerous factors to be recorded against a property address
- e) A risk matrix is developed to classify the identified properties and buildings into high, medium and low risk levels
- f) Standard policies and procedures for following up on risk categories
- g) Educational material for residents in low risk category with information on what approvals are required for works/buildings and what measures can be taken in relation to existing works/buildings without approval to enable residents to become compliant
- h) OH&S Policies and training to address possible aggression that may be encountered by Building Inspectors
- i) A data base to record any threats/violence/aggression by property owners to ensure that there are records to outline why inspections could not be undertaken

The Council wishes to note, that subsequent investigation into some of the affected properties may pose significant OH&S issues to staff and may need to involve accompaniment by Victoria Police.

Additionally, as many of the buildings could be owned or occupied by vulnerable people, the Council will also ensure that information is provided to the occupiers to access assistance by other agencies in finding alternate suitable, legal and safe accommodation due to displacement.

Should you require any further information, please contact the Council's Municipal Building Surveyor, Mr Vin O'Brien on (03) 5832 9791.

Yours sincerely



---

**Peter Harriott**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

M17/20628

CONFIDENTIAL