



VICTORIA POLICE

15 June 2012

Judge John Olle
Coroners Court of Victoria
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Melbourne VIC 3000

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Dear Mr Olle,

Reference Coronial Inquest into the death of Hayley (Reference 3573/09)

On 19 January 2012, Victoria Police provided a response to your recommendations pertaining to the death of Hayley.

One of your recommendations was that the *Protecting Children Protocol* between the Department of Human Services (DHS) and Victoria Police be revised and updated to reflect the current roles and responsibilities of both agencies.

I am pleased to inform you that this Protocol has now been finalised and endorsed by Victoria Police and DHS. Key revisions include:

- greater clarity in relation to the role and responsibilities of Police and Child Protection workers
- a more detailed explanation of expectations in relation to joint investigation planning
- updates to incorporate revised provisions of the *Family Violence Protection Act 2008* and the *Children Youth and Families Act 2005*
- the importance of information sharing, including providing simplified guidance for both agencies about information able to be shared and the need for timeliness in the provision of information.

I am confident that the revisions to the Protocol will contribute to improved collaboration between Victoria Police and DHS in responding to vulnerable children.

Should you wish to discuss the enclosed response, please contact Detective Superintendent Rodney Jouning, Sexual and Family Violence, Crime Department on (03) 9611 8815.

Yours sincerely,


Ken LAY
Chief Commissioner
Victoria Police