



Department of Transport



CPU?

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Our Ref: DOC/11/144022

Ms Heather Spooner
Coroner
Coroners Court of Victoria
Level 11, 222 Exhibition Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Coroner Spooner

CORONER'S RECOMMENDATION IN THE MATTER OF THE FINDING INTO DEATHS OF SABRINA MICHELLE BRADY, MADISON LEE DOBIE AND JUSTIN ROSS POMERY (COURT REFS: 2038/09 – 2040/09)

I refer to your findings made following an inquest into the deaths of Ms Sabrina Michelle Brady, Ms Madison Lee Dobie and Mr Justin Ross Pomery, dated 30 March 2011.

The Department of Transport (**DOT**) has considered the findings and in particular your comments and recommendations in relation to bus passenger safety and the use of seatbelts on buses.

You have recommended that Transport Safety Victoria (**TSV**) introduces a requirement for child restraints to be made available on all buses operating in Victoria that are subject to Australian Design Rule 68/00 (**Recommendation 5**). In the event that child restraints are made mandatory for Victorian buses in accordance with Recommendation 5, you have recommended that DOT reviews the *Road Safety Road Rules 2009* to define the responsibilities for ensuring that a child is suitably restrained in a bus (**Recommendation 6**).

I understand that TSV is currently considering Recommendation 5, and is continuing work on this matter. TSV has agreed to keep DOT informed of its progress. With respect to Recommendation 6, DOT will work with VicRoads to review the *Road Safety Road Rules 2009* if it is appropriate, pending the outcome of the work TSV is leading with respect to Recommendation 5.

I trust that this information satisfies the request for a response to your recommendation, in accordance with the *Coroners Act 2008 (Vic)*. If you have any further queries regarding this matter, please contact Michael Averkiou of DOT Legal on ph. (03) 9655 6167.

Yours sincerely

James Lavery
General Counsel, Executive Director
DOT Legal

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