



Ref: FoL/11/6921

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

Dear Coroner Spooner,

**Subject: Court References 2038/09, 2039/09, 2040/09**

I refer to my letter dated 22 June 2011, in which I detailed activities Transport Safety Victoria (TSV) would be undertaking to action your recommendations stemming from the inquest into the deaths of Sabina Brady, Madison Dobie and Justin Pomery.

I also advised that I would report on TSV's progress in the completion of each activity.

On 6 July 2011 TSV facilitated a workshop which included representatives from Victoria Police, Transport Accident Commission, BusVic and industry to discuss the following Coroner's recommendations:

- Recommendation 3  
That the BIC & TSV develop a policy for drivers to communicate to passengers the requirement to fasten seatbelts on all buses fitted with seatbelts and that penalties apply,
- Recommendation 4  
That the BIC & TSV develop a policy for stickers to be provided on all seats of buses fitted with seatbelts emphasising their importance in reducing the risk of injury, and that penalties apply,
- Recommendation 7  
That TSV & relevant road safety agencies such as VicPol and VicRoads, ensure that a comprehensive strategy is developed to improve seatbelt compliance and passenger awareness.

After considering feedback from workshop participants TSV:

- will correspond to BusVic and request they encourage their members to consider implementing processes to communicate to bus passengers both verbally and by signage of the requirement to wear seat belts. TSV will also promote this activity via its next edition of the Bus Safety News letter,
- notes the significant limitations to having an effective strategy to improve seatbelt compliance and passenger awareness when there is an inconsistent approach to the fitting of seatbelts in buses. Consequently TSV will not be implementing any strategy to action this recommendation.

TSV had experienced delays in engaging a consultant to undertake an impact assessment in relation to recommendation 5, "that TSV introduce a requirement for child restraints to be made available on all buses subject to ADR68/00". As a consequence TSV will not have the consultant's report until the end of January 2012.

PO Box 2797, Melbourne Vic 3001 [www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au](http://www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au)

Bus and Rail T. (03) 9655 8949 | F. (03) 9655 8929 | E. [information@ptsv.vic.gov.au](mailto:information@ptsv.vic.gov.au)  
Maritime T. 1800 223 022 | F. (03) 9655 6611 | E. [marinesafety@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:marinesafety@transport.vic.gov.au)

Once the consultant's report is received TSV will consult with relevant stakeholders and consider the most appropriate response to this issue by end of April 2012.

As advised in my previous response, it is not TSV's role to monitor seat belt compliance in buses, however TSV would provide you with contact details for the relevant person to consider recommendation 8 "that TSV monitor seatbelt compliance rates to evaluate the effectiveness of initiatives taken".

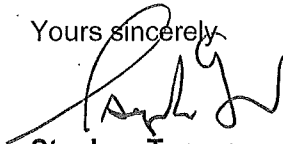
The relevant person's contact details are as follows:

Lisa Keyte  
Road Policing Strategy Group  
Victoria Police  
Level 3 Tower 1 637 Flinders Street  
Docklands Vic 3008

Telephone: (03) 9247 5763  
Fax: (03) 9247 5776  
Email: [lisa.keyte@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:lisa.keyte@police.vic.gov.au)

In you have any queries please contact Andrew Chlebica on telephone 9655 6873 or email [andrew.chlebica@transportsafety.vic.gov.au](mailto:andrew.chlebica@transportsafety.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,



**Stephen Turner**  
Director, Bus Safety  
Transport Safety Victoria

Dated: 12 October 2011