

30 November 2023

Attn: Prudence Davie
Coroner's Solicitor
Coroner's Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank Victoria 3006

Via email: cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Davie

Investigation into the death of Carl Anthony Van Der Kaay

I write to you on behalf of V/Line in relation to correspondence dated 12 July 2023 and 14 November 2023, regarding the investigation and findings into the death of Mr Carl Anthony Van Der Kaay.

It has been brought to our attention that V/Line has not yet provided a written response by the required date of 12 October 2023. We deeply regret this oversight and greatly appreciate the opportunity to respond.

We acknowledge that the opportunity to respond to Coroner John Olle's proposed recommendations and findings has passed and provide this letter as an update on the steps that V/Line has taken since its initial response to Coroner Olle, dated 6 December 2021.

Passenger health and safety is at the forefront of V/Line's approach to safety. V/Line strives every day to ensure zero rail and coach safety incidents, zero harm to people, and zero harm to our environment.

Noting Coroner Olle's recommendation that V/Line install defibrillators on its trains, I wish to inform you that since our correspondence with the Court in December 2021, V/Line has commenced installing Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) on its trains to provide vital assistance should a passenger go into cardiac arrest while on board a V/Line train service.

The defibrillators are being progressively rolled out on V/Line's different train types over the coming months. As an interim measure, portable defibrillators are located in each train for V/Line staff to access in case of an emergency.

The installation of AEDs on trains follows the roll-out of AEDs at V/Line's regional railway stations in 2018. Now all 47 staffed stations across the regional network have a defibrillator available.

Additional devices have also recently been installed on all V/Line platforms at Southern Cross Station to make them more accessible to staff and members of the public.

We thank you again for the opportunity to provide a response to Coroner Olle.

Please do not hesitate to contact V/Line should you wish to discuss further. The appropriate contact is Lori Burns, Principal Lawyer, [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Matt Carrick
Chief Executive Officer