



Secretary

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

50 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Telephone: 1300 475 170
GPO Box 1774
Melbourne Victoria 3001
www.dffh.vic.gov.au

BAC-CO-59093

Kate Sanderson
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
By email: cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Sanderson,

Investigation into the death of [REDACTED] – COR 2020 002391

I write in response to the findings made by State Coroner Judge Sanger on 11 September 2025 into the death of [REDACTED] and the recommendation made to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (the department).

I would like to extend my deepest condolences to [REDACTED] family and loved ones for their loss.

I respond to the following recommendation addressed to the department and The Hon. Natalie Hutchins, Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence, on behalf of the department and the Minister.

Recommendation (i): That the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing and The Hon. Natalie Hutchins, Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence provide funding for the expansion of co-responder programs across Victoria, noting the numerous coronial recommendations and comments made about the benefits of co-responder models.

The Coroner's recommendation will be implemented in part.

The department supports the recommendation to strengthen multi-agency responses between specialist family violence services and Victoria Police, to deliver programs such as co-response models. The department acknowledges that similar recommendations have been made in previous coronial findings.

The department will fund two new program sites of the Alexis Family Violence Response Model (Alexis-FVRM), with commencement during 2025-26. Alexis-FVRM is a co-response program that embed specialist family violence practitioners into Victoria Police Family Violence Investigation Units (FVIUs) to deliver an assertive approach to risk assessment and management, focusing on high-risk, repeat family violence matters.



OFFICIAL

The Hon. Natalie Hutchins, Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence announced the expansion of the program in a media release on 23 October 2025.

The department will continue to consider options for how this recommendation can be implemented across Victoria, noting that any further expansion of the co-response program is subject to future Victorian Government funding decisions.

If you require further information, please contact Melanie Heenan, Deputy Secretary, Family Safety Victoria [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Peta McCammon
Secretary

12 / 12 / 2025

