

24 December 2025

Mr Niels Gabriels
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank VIC 3006

Dear Mr Gabriels,

Investigation into the death of Shuyang Wang (COR 2023 007204)

We firstly wish to acknowledge the continued grief of all affected by this tragic incident, particularly Shuyang Wang's family and loved ones, and offer our sincere condolences to them.

Please find below Life Saving Victoria's (LSV) response to the two recommendations directed to us in Coroner Jamieson's Finding without inquest into the death of Shuyang Wang (COR 2023 007204)

Recommendation 1: With the aim of preventing like deaths and promoting public health and safety, I recommend that the Victorian Water Safety Coordination Forum with the support of Emergency Management Victoria and Life Saving Victoria, develop a suitable instrument, subplan or equivalent framework that clearly articulates roles, responsibilities, arrangements and accountability for risk assessment, prevention, operational preparedness and incident control in relation to drowning prevention.

Response:

Life Saving Victoria supports this recommendation by the coroner and will support the Victorian Water Safety Coordination Forum (VWSCF) in its implementation. This recommendation aligns with the recommendations from the Inspector General for Emergency Management's (IGEM) Review into Victoria's Water Safety Arrangements, specifically recommendation 5. Life Saving Victoria supports all the IGEM's recommendations and is committed to enhancing water safety across all aquatic environments. We are continuously reviewing and improving our strategies to adapt to emerging trends and community needs. Our efforts are aligned with the International Lifesaving Federation drowning prevention chain, and the Victorian Water Safety Strategy 2021-25, alongside other relevant guidelines and strategies, to ensure comprehensive safety measures.

The VWSCF has confirmed that a governance framework will be developed which will define water safety roles and responsibilities for community, industry, and government. Life Saving Victoria will assist Emergency Management Victoria in leading development of this framework.

Recommendation 4: With the aim of preventing like deaths and promoting public health and safety, I recommend that the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions works together with Life Saving Victoria and other relevant agencies to include safety warnings and messages in its promotion of aquatic locations.

Response:

Life Saving Victoria supports this recommendation and will collaborate with the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR) regarding provision of appropriate safety warnings and messages in the Departments' promotion of aquatic locations where relevant. This includes work being undertaken with international students through Study Melbourne. LSV and DJSIR have been in contact about this recommendation and intend to continue discussions to determine other appropriate actions.

We recognise the importance of including warnings and safety messages alongside the promotion of aquatic locations, particularly those in drowning blackspots, to ensure potential visitors are clear on the risks.

Life Saving Victoria already works collaboratively with the Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety, specifically the strategic communication team, through the Play It Safe By The Water committee in providing evidence to support the design of their Water Safety Campaign. This ensures water safety campaigns are based on current drowning risks, trends, and requirements for prevention.

If you or any of your team have any questions in relation to the above, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Hannah Graefe, Manager Research and Evaluation at Life Saving Victoria,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Greaves", written in a cursive style.

Catherine Greaves
Chief Executive Officer
Life Saving Victoria