



Coroner John Olle
Coroner's Court of Victoria
By email: team1@courts.vic.gov.au

Dear Coroner Olle,

Recommendations from Findings into Deaths Without Inquest

Thank you for your letters dated 31 May 2023 and 27 July 2023 in relation to the deaths of Githesh Kirushnaneethan (COR 2021 003948) and Michael Holmes (COR 2020 003017) respectively. I apologise for the considerable delay in my reply and also extend my condolences to the families.

In your Findings into each of these deaths, you included the following recommendation:

...the Australian Building Codes Board commence consultation with other appropriate organisations to consider whether there is a strong rationale to amend the National Construction Code 2019 to require all new residential buildings, regardless of storeys or height, to have fire sprinkler systems installed to significantly reduce the risks and consequences from fire.

I am writing to confirm that I have conveyed your recommendation to the Chair and members of the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCBC).

The ABCBC recently commenced a process of stakeholder and community consultation on the opportunities and challenges related to new buildings in Australia. We have included a topic on Sprinklers, with a particular focus on home sprinklers, within that dialogue and we will work with relevant stakeholders and organisations to consider options.

I thank you for sharing your findings and recommendation with us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Rake', is positioned below the text 'Yours sincerely'.

Gary Rake
Chief Executive Officer

4 October 2023