



## Secretary

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

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Kate Sanderson  
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Coroners Court of Victoria

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Dear Ms Sanderson

### **Investigation into the death of 'JZA' (COR 2022 004946)**

I refer to your email of 24 November 2025 to the Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, providing a copy of State Coroner Judge Liberty Sanger's finding without inquest into the death of JZA and recommendations to the Victorian Government.

The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (the department) acknowledges the circumstances leading up to the death of JZA outlined in the Coroner's finding, and I pass on my sincere condolences to her family for their loss.

As Coroner Sanger referenced in her findings, on 2 June 2025 the department responded to former State Coroner Cain's recommendations relating to adult safeguarding in his finding without inquest into the death of CFT. The department noted that recommendations within its portfolio of responsibilities (recommendations 4 to 10) were under consideration while the department assessed and implemented improvements to the existing social services safeguarding approach.

That response remains relevant to State Coroner Sanger's Recommendations 2 to 8 (the recommendations falling within the remit of the department) in relation to the finding without inquest into the death of JZA, as these recommendations align with former State Coroner Caine's recommendations. The recommendations in relation to the investigation into the death of JZA are under consideration.

I note that the Department of Justice and Community Safety will respond separately to Recommendation 1.

The Victorian Government is committed to protecting service users from harm and neglect, and to improving the safeguarding framework so that all Victorians with vulnerabilities can live in safety and with dignity. This includes continuing the department's work to improve social services regulation and considering and responding to the safeguarding recommendations of the Royal Commission into Violence, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (Disability Royal Commission).

Since the department's response to State Coroner Cain's recommendations, the Victorian Government introduced the Social Services Regulation Amendment (Child Safety, Complaints and Worker Regulation) Bill 2025 into Parliament on 12 November 2025.

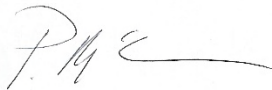
This Bill sought to increase protections for children and people with disability and to merge the functions of the Victorian Disability Worker Commission and Disability Services Commissioner with the Social Services Regulator, simplifying disability regulation and creating a 'one stop shop' for users of state-funded disability services. These planned reforms were highlighted in the department's response to former State Coroner Cain's Finding without inquest into the death of CFT.

The government withdrew the proposed reforms in relation to disability oversight from the Bill in December, to ensure the passage of the critical child safety reforms also included in that Bill, before the end of last year.

The Victorian Government continues to work alongside the Commonwealth Government and the other states and territories through the Disability Reform Ministerial Council to consider specialist and nationally consistent reform options in response to these recommendations to safeguard and support at-risk adults.

I trust this information assists and would like to thank the Coroner for her comprehensive investigation into the death of JZA.

Yours sincerely



**Peta McCammon PSM**  
Secretary

23/02/2026