

5 February 2026

Mr Niels Gabriels
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
Southbank VIC 3006

Dear Mr Gabriels,

Investigation into the death of Chieu Kheang Chua (COR 2024 002093)

Life Saving Victoria (LSV) acknowledges the tragic circumstances of the death of Mr Chieu Kheang Chua and extends its sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Life Saving Victoria supports all of Coroner Jamieson's recommendations regarding the death of Mr Chieu Kheang Chua and is committed to enhancing water safety across all aquatic environments.

Please find below responses to one recommendation directed specifically to LSV and one that relates directly to LSV in Coroner Jamieson's Finding without inquest.

Recommendation (iv): With the aim of preventing like deaths and promoting public health and safety, I recommend that the Victorian Fisheries Authority consult with Life Saving Victoria regarding incorporating the legislative requirement to wear lifejackets into current compliant static water safety signage at these zones, to avoid the over-saturation of signage and to avoid the risk of temporary signage being damaged or removed.

Response: Supported

Life Saving Victoria supports this recommendation by the Coroner and welcomes continued collaboration with the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) in its implementation.

Life Saving Victoria has worked in consultation with the VFA to provide subject matter expertise and technical input on signage content and placement in line with international signage standards.

The new signage will be simplified and include:

1. the internationally recognised lifejacket symbol (ref: ISO 7010-M053) used as a recognised mandatory action sign (i.e. represented in a blue circle, inclusive of a white pictorial);
2. one line of complementary text (e.g. "Lifejackets must be worn when rock fishing") displayed in English beneath the symbol; and
3. a supportive QR code displayed, that takes users to the rock fishing safety pages on the VFA website (which includes additional safety information and information in alternative languages).

The VFA will also work with LSV, Parks Victoria and other land and waterway managers to incorporate the above information into existing water safety signage at high-risk sites wherever

possible, rather than erecting stand-alone rock fishing signs, to avoid over-saturation of signage in the areas.

Life Saving Victoria recognises that signage is only one element of a broader, systems-based approach to improving water safety and reducing drowning. This position aligns with established evidence, the International Life Saving Federation's drowning prevention framework, and the Australian Water Safety Strategy, all of which emphasise the need for layered and complementary interventions. Accordingly, LSV supports the Victorian Government's approach to integrating on-site signage with broader education and awareness initiatives delivered in multiple languages and formats, along with community-based programs aimed at improving compliance and increasing voluntary lifejacket use among rock fishers.

Recommendation (v): With the aim of preventing like deaths and promoting public health and safety, I recommend that the Minister for Outdoor Education or other appropriate entity explore how real-time hazardous surf and weather conditions could be communicated to those attending high-risk locations, for example through push notification via the VicEmergency App, BeachSafe App or Bureau of Meteorology website.

Response: Supported

Life Saving Victoria supports the exploration of additional mechanisms for communicating real-time hazardous surf and weather warnings to the public. Life Saving Victoria will work with our national body Surf Life Saving Australia, the VFA, and the Bureau of Meteorology to explore whether real-time hazardous weather conditions relevant to rock fishing can be feasibly communicated via the BeachSafe App and/or the Bureau of Meteorology app. Improved digital alerting would strengthen existing public safety messaging and help rock fishers and shoreline users make informed decisions before entering high-risk coastal environments.

Life Saving Victoria remains committed to preventing drowning and enhancing public safety across all Victorian aquatic environments. We value the Coroner's continued focus on rock fishing fatalities, multicultural community vulnerability, and opportunities for cross-agency collaboration.

If you require any further information regarding the responses provided, please contact Adjunct Associate Professor Bernadette Matthews, Head of Research, Evaluation and Insights at LSV,

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