

From: "Fiona E Dowsley (DJCS)" <Fiona.Dowsley@crimestatistics.vic.gov.au>
Date: Friday, 22 May 2020 at 1:30 pm
To: JA team <justiceactionteam@gmail.com>
Cc: Brett Collins <brett@justiceaction.org.au>
Subject: RE: To replace the previous email: National Deaths in Custody Proposal

Dear Ms Kam

Thank you for providing a copy of Justice Action's National Deaths in Custody Database Proposal (13/02/2020). We have reviewed the proposal, and provide the following response in addition to advice previously provided on 13 February 2020:

The National Coronial Information System (NCIS) Unit **does not support** the proposed national database for the following reasons:

- **A national database already exists.** The NCIS is a secure, national database of information on deaths reported to a coroner in Australia and New Zealand intended to support death and injury prevention.
- **The NCIS Unit has no mandate to monitor court processes or outcomes.** Governance of the NCIS and the role of the NCIS Unit is underpinned by the NCIS licence agreements held with each jurisdiction and the NCIS Memorandum of understanding held with Victoria.
 - The NCIS Unit is authorised to collect, organise and quality assure Australian and New Zealand coronial data for the purpose of the NCIS database.
 - The NCIS Unit is authorised to produce statistical [reports](#) that may be used in coronial investigations and research into preventable death and injury.
- **The NCIS does not form part of the coronial process.** The NCIS is considered a supporting research resource for coroners. The NCIS Unit does not comment on coronial legislation, how it is applied by the courts, or court processes. The NCIS Unit also does not comment on the relationship between coroners across Australia or jurisdictional corrective services.

Additionally, the NCIS Unit **does not consent** to being named as an ally by Justice Action in this proposal.

There are number of inaccurate statements regarding in the NCIS in your proposal. Feedback is provided in the attached document.

Regards

Fiona Dowsley



Fiona Dowsley
Director
National Coronial Information System

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From: Ja Team <justiceaction.team@gmail.com> **On Behalf Of** Justice Action
Sent: Thursday, 13 February 2020 4:01 PM
To: Fiona E Dowsley (DJCS) <Fiona.Dowsley@crimestatistics.vic.gov.au>
Cc: brett Collins <brett@justiceaction.org.au>
Subject: National Deaths in Custody Proposal

Fiona Dowsley
Director
National Coronial Information System

Dear Ms. Dowsley,

We are aware as per the phone conversation between Justice Action and NCIS dating 31/01/2020 that we are yet to expect a response to our email (24/01/2020) regarding the death of David Dungay in custody.

However, working, with a sense of urgency towards this grave concern, we have, with the support of Dungay's family, produced a proposal on the implementation of a National Deaths in Custody Database for which we seek your support.

In the process of our research it was discovered that David Dungay's death was completely unnecessary and wouldn't have occurred if former coronial recommendations into previous deaths in custody in Australia were appropriately disseminated and changes adopted. The NCIS plays a particularly crucial role in this.

Please find the report attached to this email, along with our findings and recommendations. Would you support the concept?

Please acknowledge upon receipt.

Thank you in advance,

Rebeka Aleksandra and the Justice Action Team.

JUSTICE ACTION

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