



## ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Parliament House  
State Square  
Darwin NT 0800

GPO Box 3146  
Darwin NT 0801

### REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Pursuant to section 46B of the *Coroners Act 1993*

In the matter of the Coroner's Findings and Recommendation regarding the death of  
[REDACTED]

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Under section 46B of the *Coroners Act 1993* (the Act), I provide this Report on the findings and recommendations of Local Court Judge Elisabeth Armitage, Territory Coroner, regarding the death of [REDACTED] (the Deceased) (Attachment A refers).

This Report includes the response to the recommendations of the Territory Coroner, by Ms Gemma Lake PSM, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI).

The Deceased was a 42 year old female who passed away as a result of being involved in a motor vehicle collision, at approximately 8.20 pm on 28 August 2024, on the Stuart Highway, Knuckeyes Lagoon. The cause of death was multiple blunt force injuries from the impact of the motor vehicle crash. At the time of death, the Deceased was heavily intoxicated and under the influence of both alcohol and Cannabis. Due to the Deceased's level of intoxication, the Deceased's judgement, perception of risk, and ability to safely cross the roadway was severely impaired, and is said to have been the cause of the crash. Under section 16(1) of the Act the Coroner decided not to hold an inquest because the investigations into the death disclosed the time, place and cause of death, and the relevant circumstances concerning the death.

### Recommendation of the Territory Coroner

The Territory Coroner made one formal recommendation regarding the death of the Deceased:

1. I recommend that the Department of Infrastructure and Logistics (DLI) within 12 months take all steps necessary to improve pedestrian safety in the vicinity of the Darwin Sobering Up Shelter including on Tivendale Road, Wongabilla Street, the Stuart Highway, Thorak Road and bus stops in that location, with special attention given to the intersections of Tivendale Road and Thorak Road with the Stuart Highway. The improvements should include but are not limited to: a review of the speed limit in combination with improved lighting to ensure vehicles travelling at the speed limit have an opportunity to see and avoid pedestrians; the installation of an Intelligent Transport System;

and/or any other safety measures necessary to improve pedestrian safety and to alert drivers to the presence or likelihood of pedestrians.'

### **Response to Territory Coroner's Recommendation**

A copy of the Coronial Findings was provided to Ms Lake, on 2 June 2026, in accordance with section 46A(1) of the Act.

A written response was received from Ms Lake dated 2 September 2026, as required by section 46B(1) of the Act. The response includes the following:

'I acknowledge the recommendations of the coroner to improve pedestrian road safety on the Northern Territory Government road network in the vicinity of the Darwin Sobering Up Shelter.

I advise that the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (the Department) manages the Stuart Highway and Tivendale Road in the area. The Department is not responsible for management of Thorak Road and Wongabilla Street. These roads are managed by Litchfield Council and City of Palmerston respectively.

The Department has an ongoing practice of reviewing speed limits on the Northern Territory road network to provide credible and compatible speed limits. Further, the Department has developed a plan to improve street lighting on Stuart Highway and Tivendale Road. The design work has been completed and the Department is currently seeking funding from the Australian Government to progress delivery of these works.

The Intelligent Transport System project for improving pedestrian safety at the Stuart Highway and Lagoon Road intersection is progressing. This project is a trial and, if successful, a similar solution may be considered at other locations on a needs-priority basis.'

I am satisfied that the CEO of DLI has considered the recommendation of the Territory Coroner and that the CEO responded to the recommendation.

DATE: - 2 OCT 2026



MARIE-CLARE BOOTHBY

# **ATTACHMENT**

Refer to Findings