



Your Ref: 2208-2022
Our Ref: fA2922781
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WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE FORCE

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Ms Dawn Wright
Manager Listings
Level 10, Central Law Courts
501 Hay Street
PERTH WA 6000

BY EMAIL: coroner@justice.wa.gov.au

Dear Ms Wright

INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF SEAN THEO WINMAR

I write to you regarding the Coronial Inquest (Inquest) which was heard before Coroner Linton regarding the death of Sean Theo Winmar.

I have been informed that the coroner has made the below recommendation.

"WA Police and the Department of Justice staff involved in supervising persons on HRSO Act orders should receive regular training in culturally safe and trauma informed interactions, above and beyond the standard cultural awareness training provided to staff as part of their standard agency induction and training."

Having reviewed the recommendation and circumstances around this incident, it is my position that Western Australia Police Force training is currently sufficient. The training recommended in this matter, is more appropriate for the Department of Justice, given its responsibility for offender case management and its access to psychologists and specialist staff who work directly with the High Risk Serious Offender cohort.

Western Australia Police Force officers already undertake mandatory Aboriginal Cultural Awareness, trauma informed response training and communication training as part of core policing requirements. These programs ensure officers engage professionally, respectfully and safely during compliance activities.

As the Department of Justice leads the rehabilitative, therapeutic and case management functions identified in the Coroner's findings, the WA Police Force does not consider additional training of this type to be a requirement for police.

In conclusion, I thank the State Coroner for the inquest into the tragic death of Sean Theo Winmar, her findings and subsequent recommendation. I advise that current training is appropriate and therefore I do not support the Proposed Recommendation being made for Western Australia Police Force personnel.

Yours sincerely

COL BLANCH APM
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

13 March 2025