



WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE FORCE  
**OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF POLICE**

POLICE HEADQUARTERS  
2 ADELAIDE TERRACE, EAST PERTH  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6004  
TELEPHONE : (08) 9222 1474

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: fA1456170  
Inquiries: executive.services@police.wa.gov.au

PERTH CORONERS COURT

23 JAN 2018  
RECEIVED

Ms Ros Fogliani  
State Coroner  
Office of the State Coroner  
Level 10 Central Law Courts  
501 Hay Street  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Fogliani

**RECOMMENDATIONS STEMMING FROM THE INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF MS SATWANT KAUR**

I am writing to update you in relation to recommendations made by Deputy State Coroner Evelyn Vicker, on 31 July 2017, following an inquest into the death of Ms Satwant Kaur. The two recommendations for consideration are:

- 1. Bail should only be granted where the residents of the address at which the Bailee intends to reside have been consulted and consent to the Bailee residing at the address;*
- 2. Proper investigation of a threat to kill any person should not be confined to police Family Protection Units (FPU) even when involving intra-familial parties.*

In a letter dated 5 December 2017, Hon. John Quigley MLA, Attorney General, advised your office legislative reform was not supported in relation to recommendation one. The response provided by the Attorney General is supported by the Western Australia Police Force. My advice is therefore restricted to recommendation two.

This recommendation appears to have been formed as a result of information provided to the Deputy State Coroner during the inquest regarding investigative practices within the WA Police Force. It would appear the information provided was not in accordance with policy and procedure relating to the investigation of family violence offences. Investigation of offences are not within the remit of the FPU, rather they are allocated to an investigation team, such as a detective's office or Local Policing Team (LPT).

Since December 2016, the management of information between the Department of Justice and the WA Police Force relating to threats to life has improved. Where threats are reported to the WA Police Force via an intelligence or information stream, an Incident Report is submitted on the agency's primary case file management system and allocated for investigation to the appropriate investigative unit based upon case file allocation rules.

In addition, where threats are made in circumstances of a family relationship, the incident report is reviewed by the relevant Victim Support Unit (Metropolitan Region) or Family Protection Unit (Regional WA), to ensure compliance with legislation and policy and to initiate victim support responses in a co-ordinated, multi-agency approach.

The practices outlined in recommendation two are not part of the WA Police Force response to family violence and current guidelines and policies clearly outline relevant information management and investigative roles and responsibilities. The WA Police Force consider this recommendation no requires action.

Guidelines and policy relating to the recording and investigation made by persons in custody to kill any person have been improved since the death of Ms Kaur and provide for an appropriate, accountable and timely response.

Yours sincerely

CHRIS DAWSON  
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

15 January 2018