

Inquest into the death of Jay Maree Harmer

Ms Harmer died between 1 July and 2 July 2016 whilst in custody at the Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre. Ms Harmer had a complex medical history and her health deteriorated significantly in the years leading up to her death.

State Coroner Terry Ryan delivered his findings on 10 August 2018.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported.

The departments named in this response will provide implementation updates until the recommendation is delivered. Further information relating the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

Recommendation 2

Queensland Corrective Services develop a formal policy in relation to the selection, training and management of prisoner carers, including a requirement that prisoner carers be trained in the provision of basic first aid.

Response and action: implementation of the recommendation is under consideration.

Responsible agency: Queensland Corrective Services.

On 7 May 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective services responded:

Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) and relevant stakeholders gathered information from correctional centres across the state regarding the current prisoner carer practices, risks, issues, and possible mitigations in relation to this matter.

QCS intends to undertake consultation with relevant stakeholders and correctional centres with a view to assessing the issues, implications, obstacles and the options to address the care of prisoners and explore options for a protective prisoner care model. QCS will identify how sustainable, safe and protective such a model would be.