Inquest into the death of Jennifer Kohl

On 8 December 2017, Ms Kohl was sitting on the wheel arch of a four-wheel drive mower. The driver of the mower drove the mower down a steep hill, and to slow the mower turned sharply causing the mower to roll and entrap Ms Kohl under the mower.

Coroner Carol Lee delivered the findings of inquest on 1 December 2023.

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 to the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

Recommendation 4

That WHS consider the recommendations arising out of the Western Australia WorkSafe Commissioner's report, to identity if any of the recommendations are applicable for improvements to the framework in Queensland.

Response and action: the recommendation is agreed to and implemented.

Responsible agency: Office of Industrial Relations.

On 10 March 2025 the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations responded:

The Office of Industrial Relations is considering this recommendation together with the findings of the inquest.

On 21 December 2025 the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations responded:

The Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) has considered the recommendations in the Western Australia (WA) Inquiry into the Agricultural Industry. OIR considers that the recommendations from the WA inquiry are reflected in OIRs response to the agricultural sector.

The agriculture industry has been identified as a key industry in both the Workplace Health and Safety (WHSQ) Priority Plan 2024-2030 (the Priority Plan) and in WHSQs Compliance and Field Services Proactive Compliance Program 2024-2027 (the Compliance Program). The Priority Plan sets out evidence-based priorities that guide the regulator's planned interventions. The Compliance Program identifies proactive compliance priorities based on the Priority Plan and operation data. Both the Priority Plan and the Compliance Plan are published on www.worksafe.qld.gov.au

The response of OIR to the agriculture industry includes a focus on improving proactive engagement with the agricultural industry through its dedicated specialist agriculture team. The team is comprised of experienced workplace health and safety inspectors who maintain a proactive focus on industry engagement through activities including:

- the development of guidance material;
- attendance at industry events;
- The development of media safety campaigns;
- attendance at industry events; proactive and reactive inspections; and
- awareness raising for industry on the development of relevant codes of practice.

In addition, OIR's WorkSafe Queensland website (WorkSafe.qld.gov.au) provides comprehensive information and services for work health and safety in Queensland, including guidance material and updates to Codes of Practice (COPs). OIR continues to raise awareness for industry on relevant COPs, including through the development and implementation of the new Rural plant COP released in September 2024. OIR, in collaboration with industry and relevant peak bodies, has been developing a Rural plant COP webinar, which will complement existing guidance on topics specific to different industries within the agricultural sector and raise awareness about the issues and risk controls outlined in the Rural plant COP. OIR will continue to engage with the agricultural industry through these and other initiatives.