

Inquest into the death of Neville Royston Reading

Mr Reading died on 2 November 2013 after he was restrained by members of the community following assaults by him on others. Mr Reading's death was due to cardiac dysrhythmia during restraint against a background of significant conditions of alcohol intoxication and valvular heart disease.

State Coroner Terry Ryan delivered his findings on inquest on 9 June 2015.

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 1

The Commissioner of the Queensland Police Service consider incorporating relevant CPR and other first aid response training into annual operational skills and tactics training provided to police officers.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Police Service.

On 12 January 2016 the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services responded:

The Public Safety Business Agency is compiling a response document addressing the coronial recommendation encompassing research, costings, effects on core business, training implications and implementation recommendations. This document is expected to be finalised by 31 January 2016 for the consideration of the commissioner, Queensland Police Service (QPS) and QPS senior executive.

On 12 July 2016 the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services responded:

The Public Safety Business Agency's (PSBA) Education and Training Group has been engaged in providing advice and recommendation to the QPS to incorporate relevant cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid aspects into annual training for all operational police officers. In principle support for the project has been received from QPS and subject to formal approval, it is intended to progress this initiative to support the certified first aid and CPR training which is already undertaken in compliance with work health and safety legislation.

Formal QPS senior executive approval will be sought to commence the project. Subject to approval, the project is expected to in 2016.

On 27 January 2017 the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services responded:

The People Capability Command in QPS is reviewing the work completed by the Safety and Wellbeing Unit of the Public Safety Business Agency prior to that unit transitioning back to QPS in July 2016.

People Capability Command, which is responsible for all QPS training, is conducting further research, obtaining external expert advice and is considering contemporary training curriculum to support the recommendation. The People Capability Command is endeavouring to have a training curriculum in place for 1 July 2017.

The outcomes of the PSBA Review has impeded on the delivery of the coroner's recommendations and responsibility for this recommendation was transferred from PSBA to QPS in July 2016.

On 9 August 2017 the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services responded:

All police officers will be trained in Tactical First Aid during their annual operational skills and tactics requalification which commenced on 1 July 2017. This training will provide police, who are often first responders to serious incidents, with vital skills and knowledge to appropriately deal with life threatening trauma.

In addition to mandatory CPR and airway components training, police will be provided with new knowledge and skills in the areas of casualty assessment, identifying and treating trauma related injuries and casualty handover.

The principal areas of learning will be treating penetrating trauma, severe haemorrhaging through the use and application of tourniquets, trauma bandaging and chest seals to treat life threatening bleeding and trauma situations. The QPS has purchased the first round of Tactical First Aid Kits to enable police officers to have access to the equipment necessary to provide Tactical First Aid level of treatment.

This training commenced on 1 July 2017 for all police attending annual operational skills and tactics training and is expected to be completed by 31 March 2018, prior to the deployment of police to the Commonwealth Games.