

Inquest into the death of Robert Noel Turpin

Robert Noel Turpin was found hanged by police in the bathroom of his mother's residence in Atherton. His partner had called 000 alleging that Mr Turpin had assaulted her and her younger sister. At around the same time, Mr Turpin had taken a belt into the bathroom and locked the door. Police forced entry into the bathroom where they located Mr Turpin. Police initiated CPR while the QAS were en route. Mr Turpin was taken to the Atherton Hospital, but was later flown by CareFlight helicopter to the Cairns Base Hospital Intensive Care Unit. He died 8 days later, on 20 August 2015.

State Coroner Terry Ryan delivered his findings of inquest on 4 May 2017.

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.

Further information relating the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible agency named in the response.

Recommendation 1

The Queensland Police Service continue to prioritise the distribution of QLite devices to front line officers, and that the Queensland Government provide the Queensland Police Service with the necessary resources to enable the rollout of these devices.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Police Service.

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

Over the past three financial years, the Queensland Police Service has invested \$55.4 million into providing mobile data to our officers. Currently, 5,400 QLiTE devices allocated to officers performing frontline operational duties provide an increasing range of capability through a suite of mobile applications.

In addition to capacity to undertake person, vehicle and location searches, report missing persons and issue traffic infringements, recent innovations include ability to deal with good order offences, mental health incidents, and non-reportable sudden deaths. The QTasks application currently being rolled out will also streamline resource allocation through officers being able to access and select non-urgent tasks through the computer aided despatch system.

The QPS remains committed to further enhancing our mobile capability and this initiative will remain at the forefront of QPS' funding priorities into the foreseeable future. The allocation of QLiTE devices is currently being reviewed to ensure the most effective and equitable distribution to frontline officers across the state.