



ALS

Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Limited

ABN: 93 118 431 066

17 March 2021

Mr Adam Searle MLC
Chair
Parliament House, Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

By email: First.Nations@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Searle,

Additional recommendation to the Committee – Practice Direction for NSW Coroner’s Court

We write to make a further recommendation to the Inquiry in addition to the evidence given and written submissions on behalf of the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) (“ALS”).

In September 2020, the Victorian State Coroner implemented Practice Direction 6 in relation to Indigenous Deaths in Custody. A copy of the Practice Direction can be found on the Victorian Coroners Court website and specifically [here](#).

We recommend a similar model be adopted in NSW to ensure that Recommendation 8 of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC) Report, 1991, is implemented. A Practice Direction is needed to ensure the importance of communication with First Nations families, the cultural understanding of the Court, the efficient use of resources and the need to mandate that the ALS is contacted to provide early advice to the family of the next of kin.

I would welcome an opportunity to discuss this further.

Yours faithfully,

Karly Warner
Chief Executive Officer
Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Limited

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