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NSW Police Force

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

24 January 2025

F/2024/54455

The Hon. Michael Daley MP
Attorney General
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Dear Attorney

On 6 August 2024, NSW Deputy State Coroner Magistrate Harriet Grahame finalised the inquest into the death of Mr Dion Moore.

Magistrate Grahame made two recommendations to the NSW Police Force (NSWPF) under the provisions of section 82 of the Coroners Act 2009.

These recommendations, along with the NSWPF position on each of the recommendations, are included in the attached table.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Webb APM
Commissioner of Police

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NSW Police Force (NSWPF) response - Inquest into the death of DION MOORE

Recommendations	NSWPF response
<p>a) The Commissioner examine the QLD Police Force's search and rescue (SAR) command structure and consider implementing an equivalent command structure (described in this inquest in the evidence of Mr James Whitehead), within the NSWPF. This would provide for the SAR command assuming responsibility for managing a police response to a missing person report where the person is suspected of being potentially lost or in difficulty in a rural or non-urban environment that may be hazardous owing to its location, terrain and/or the temperatures at the time.</p>	<p>Not supported.</p> <p>The NSWPF has officers accredited as National Search Advisors adhering to National guidelines and protocols. The NSWPF is also an active participant in the National Search & Rescue Council.</p> <p>It is considered that out of area SAR officers brought in for the purpose of a search, would not be in a better position than local police to understand a local area, its community, and the resources available.</p>
<p>b) The Commissioner give consideration to providing police in the Bourke local area additional cultural awareness training. The expertise of the Aboriginal Training Coordinator from the Aboriginal Coordination Team in the NSWPF should be sought and the facts of this inquest could be considered as a case study.</p>	<p>Supported.</p> <p>All student police undertake a compulsory '<i>Working with Aboriginal Communities</i>' workshop which includes training in Aboriginal kinship practices, sorry business, intergenerational trauma, unconscious bias, effective communication, Aboriginal English, and respectful behaviour and language.</p> <p>An '<i>Engaging with Aboriginal Communities</i>' training package is available to all NSWPF employees. It includes gratuitous concurrence, health considerations, trauma informed communication and the requirements of the NSWPF Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer role.</p> <p>The NSWPF delivers a '<i>Working with Aboriginal Communities - Local Immersion</i>' package which is compulsory for all staff working in a Command with high Aboriginal populations.</p> <p>The recommendations of the Dion Moore coronial inquest will be considered as a case study in future cultural awareness training.</p>