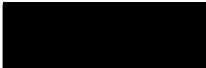


REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS (1)

	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <p>[REDACTED] Interim Director of Environment, Transport and Development County Hall Martineau Lane Norwich NR1 2SG</p>
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am JACQUELINE LAKE, Senior Coroner, for the coroner area of NORFOLK</p>
2	<p>CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS</p> <p>I make this report under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013.</p>
3	<p>INVESTIGATION and INQUEST</p> <p>On 15 January 2014 I commenced an investigation into the death of MARTHA ANNE SEAWARD, AGE 15 YEARS. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 28 January 2015. The conclusion of the inquest was Medical Cause of Death: 1a) Extensive soft tissue and bone injuries b) Road traffic collision. Conclusion: on 10 January 2014 Martha Seaward alighted from a bus at Lodge Hill intending to cross the A148 to reach the village of West Beckham. As she crossed the A148 she was hit by a lorry and she died as a result of the injuries she sustained.</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>Martha Seaward got off a bus at Lodge Hill, at the junction of B1157 and A148. She was crossing the A148 intending to walk to West Beckham. As she crossed the road a Scania lorry drove along the A148 striking Miss Seaward. She died as a result of her injuries.</p>
5	<p><u>CORONER'S CONCERNS</u></p> <p>During the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to concern. In my opinion there is a risk that future deaths will occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.</p> <p>The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) The bus stop at Lodge Hill is regarded as busy by Norfolk County Council (NCC) with 778 passengers in 2014. There used to be an hourly service from this stop into West Beckham until 2006 when it was stopped due to it being too dangerous for the bus to travel across the A148. There is now a service 1 per day - 3 days per week. The bus stop services a local tourist attraction as well as the nearby village of West Beckham.(2) Concerns have been raised with the NCC on two occasions in the past 2 years (unrelated to this incident) with regard to the dangers of this bus stop/stretch of road.

	<p>(3) There has been communication between NCC and Norman Lamb MP regarding a feasibility study carried out for safety measures to be introduced in respect of this area. No action has been taken since May 2014. The outcome of this Inquest has been awaited before taking any further action.</p> <p>(4) Matters which have been considered but in respect of which no action has been taken include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Affordable options to improve safety for pedestrians crossing the A148, such as a pedestrian refuge; 2. Improvements to visibility; 3. Bus stop arrangements such as a lay-by 4. Speed limit.
6	<p>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe your organisation has the power to take such action.</p>
7	<p>YOUR RESPONSE</p> <p>You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by 30 March 2015, I, the coroner, may extend the period.</p> <p>Your response must contain details of action taken or proposed to be taken, setting out the timetable for action. Otherwise you must explain why no action is proposed.</p>
8	<p>COPIES and PUBLICATION</p> <p>I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to the following Interested Persons:</p> <p>██████████ (parents)</p> <p>and to the LOCAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD (where the deceased was under 18)]</p> <p>I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response.</p> <p>The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. He may send a copy of this report to any person who he believes may find it useful or of interest. You may make representations to me, the coroner, at the time of your response, about the release or the publication of your response by the Chief Coroner.</p>
9	<p>2 February 2015</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  Senior Coroner for Norfolk </p>