

To
Caroline Sumeray
H.M. Senior Coroner for the Isle of Wight
Coroner's Office
Seaclose Offices
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From

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11th February 2019

Dear Ms Sumeray

JACQUELINE VALVONA

I refer to your Regulation 28 Report dated 18th December 2018. I am aware that you also wrote to Island Roads, who are the Isle of Wight Council's Highways PFI Service Provider and that they will respond to you separately.

Following the death of Jacqueline Valvona, Island Roads and the Police undertook a joint visit to determine whether there were any deficiencies in the highway layout which may have contributed to the accident. They found nothing which could have been considered a contributory factor to the accident.

Your report also makes reference to the comment by Police Sergeant Morgan who stated that he would support the proposition that a pedestrian controlled crossing be installed to prevent future deaths. Whilst this would reduce the likelihood of future accidents, deaths can still occur at pedestrian crossings when motorists fail to stop.

Following receipt of your report, a review of the site and the suitability of installing a controlled crossing facility was undertaken by Island Roads on behalf of the Council. The site has therefore been reviewed using the guidance contained within Local Transport Note 1/95.

The Isle of Wight Council instructed Island Roads to undertake a feasibility study and design for a pedestrian controlled crossing at this location. The process established that due to road alignment, nearby junctions and bus lay-by that the only location where a crossing could be accommodated is between the two bus stops. During the feasibility design stage Island Roads observed the area to assess the level of demand for a new pedestrian crossing, and found that pedestrian numbers were well below that where a crossing would be considered. However, the process also identified that most pedestrians crossed close to the Lakeside Hotel access road, and therefore it is probable that the proposed crossing point is unlikely to be used by able bodied persons.

Visibility at the site is good and pedestrians without any obvious mobility impairments did not have to wait long for a suitable gap to cross safely.

At the current time the evidence held by the Council does not indicate that the site meets the criteria to consider a pedestrian controlled crossing but I am aware that the area is likely to experience seasonal variation. Therefore the Council would propose that Island Roads undertakes a further assessment in the summer to determine whether the vehicle and pedestrian numbers indicate that the site should be considered for a new crossing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Marshall".

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INTERIM STRATEGIC MANAGER – HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION