

# Derek Winter DL Senior Coroner for the City of Sunderland

REGULATION 28 F	REPORT TO	PREVENT	FUTURE DEATHS

#### THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:

Mr Peter McIntyre Executive Director of City Development Sunderland City Council

### 1 CORONER

I am Derek Winter DL, Senior Coroner for the City of Sunderland

### 2 CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS

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. <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/25/schedule/5/paragraph/7">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/25/schedule/5/paragraph/7</a> <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/1629/part/7/made">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/1629/part/7/made</a>

## 3 INVESTIGATION and INQUEST

Gary Ronald Sloan was born on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1980 and died on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2019, aged 38 years. The cause of his death was Multiple Injuries.

I opened and adjourned an Inquest into his death as part of my Investigation on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

The Inquest was heard on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 when I gave a conclusion of Road Traffic Collision and further recorded that: -

'Gary Ronald Sloan died at the scene of a road traffic collision on the A690 Eastbound Houghton Cut Houghton Le Spring having lost control of his vehicle.'

#### 4 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH

Gary Ronald Sloan was driving his motor vehicle on the Eastbound A690 dual carriageway, when it aquaplaned on surface water, span and left the road going down the embankment and then collided with a tree. Speed and an underinflated tyre were factors in the fatal road traffic collision.

### 5 CORONER'S CONCERNS

Following the Police Road Traffic Collision Report, I heard evidence that there were 15 slight injury, 4 serious injury and 2 fatal (including this incident) road traffic collisions on the A690 between the junction with High Lane to the East and A182 to the West between 31st October 2014 and 31st October 2019.

Although this section of the A690 does not automatically qualify for the installation of a safety road restriction system, as this was the second fatal road traffic collision at the exact location and the same tree, the decision may need to be reviewed together with a reassessment of the drainage and clearance of surface water schedule. 6 ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you have the power to take such action. 7 YOUR RESPONSE You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020. I, the Coroner, may extend the period. 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. 8 **COPIES and PUBLICATION** I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to the following Interested Persons: -Family Chief Constable Winton Keenen, Northumbria Police I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response. 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. Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2020 Signature Senior Coroner for the City of Sunderland