ANNEX A

REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS (1)

NOTE: This form is to be used after an inquest.

REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS

THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:

1.

Casualty Investigation Manager
Casualty Reduction Team
Staffordshire County Council
Block A Wedgwood Building
Tipping Street
STAFFORD
ST16 2DH

1 CORONER

I am David James, assistant coroner, for the coroner area of Stoke-on-Trent and North Staffordshire.

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.

3 INVESTIGATION and INQUEST

On 10th April 2013 I commenced an investigation into the death of Harold Gordon Henshall, aged 86 years. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 29th April 2014. The conclusion of the inquest was Road Traffic Collision. The medical cause of death was 1a Pulmonary thromboembolism with pulmonary infarct 1b Suspected deep vein thrombosis II Immobility resulting from traumatic subarachnoid and epidural haemorrhage, haemorrhagic brain contusions, fractured ribs and fractured right scapula.

4 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH

At approximately 7.30pm on 17th February 2013 at A53, Church Street, Leek, Staffordshire, adjacent to St. Edwards Church this elderly man with limited mobility that required the use of a stick to assist with walking left St. Edwards Church. His intention was to cross the road from the church to the nearby car park. As Mr Henshall crossed the road from the church towards Market Square he was in collision with the front nearside of a vehicle travelling in the Macclesfield bound lane. Mr Henshall suffered multiple injuries and following treatment at the scene was admitted to the University Hospital of North Staffordshire as an emergency. He remained gravely ill and died at 8.10am on 27th March 2013 at the University Hospital of North Staffordshire.

5 CORONER'S CONCERNS

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.

a) That the level of street lighting on Church Street, Leek in the vicinity of St Edwards

Church is inadequate generally and particularly on the nearside of the Macclesfield bound carriageway. Evidence at the inquest from local residents familiar with the location and police evidence suggested that the street lighting was poor and patchy, thus increasing the risk to pedestrians who choose to cross to the nearby car park upon leaving church. It is particularly relevant to church users who are predominantly elderly.

- b) That the crossing facilities available on Church Street, Leek in the vicinity of St Edwards Church are inadequate generally but with particular reference to church users who are predominantly elderly. This is mindful of:
 - i. the gradient of the road in both directions from the church to the nearest pedestrian crossing facility.
 - ii. The interference with visibility caused to drivers in the Macclesfield bound direction by the gradient of the road and, particularly at night, the lights of on-coming vehicles.

6 ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN

In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you and your organisation] 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 11th July 2014. 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 persons:-

 Collision Investigation Unit, Stafford Police Station Eastgate Street STAFFORD ST16 2DO

2.

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.

9

