#### ANNEX A

## **REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS (1)**

# **REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS** THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO: 1. Project Engineer - Casualty Investigation **Accident Investigation Unit** Staffordshire County Council 1 Staffordshire Place Stafford **ST16 2LP** CORONER I am Anthony Frederick Curzon assistant coroner, for the coroner area of Stoke-on-Trent & North Staffordshire. **CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS** 2 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. **INVESTIGATION and INQUEST** On 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014 I commenced an investigation into the death of Florence Margaret Lowe aged 85 years. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 21st August 2015. The conclusion of the inquest was that Miss Lowe died from multiple chest injuries as a result of a road traffic collision. **CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH** At 10.05pm on 18th November 2014 whilst attempting to cross the A519 Clayton Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme, which at the point of collision is a 3 lane highway, two lanes northbound separated from one lane southbound by a solid white line whilst southbound there is a broken white line. The point of impact was adjacent to a petrol station and a property named 'Fairfield'. She was struck by a vehicle travelling south after walking/running across 2+ lanes. Speed did not play any part in this accident. **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. The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. -1. During the course of the evidence my attention was drawn to the fact that the road is only subject to the statutory limit of 60mph whilst it has residential properties at places along its length, a busy petrol station and large lay-by southbound and a busy hotel northbound on joining the A519 upon leaving the M6 at junction 15. 2. Of the other roads approaching this junction the major one is the A500 dual carriageway, now subject to 50mph due to several fatal accidents, and from the south being 30mph, being 2 lanes only, narrow and houses in close proximity to the road. Approximately a quarter of a mile from this incident northbound the road enters a roundabout with large residential areas accessing from both right and left but no

pedestrian crossing on the south side of the roundabout.

### ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN

In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you and/or your organisation have the power to take such action.

- 1. It appears that the speed limit of 60mph may not be considered appropriate for this area and consideration should be given to reducing it to at least 50mph, if not 40mph.
- 2. Consideration should be given to a pedestrian crossing on the approach to the roundabout at the Westbury Park/Northwood Lane junctions.

### 7 YOUR RESPONSE

You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 to take account of the Christmas and New Year holiday period. 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:-

- Chief Coroner, Regulation 28 Reports, Chief Coroner's Office, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand, London, WC2A 2LL
- 2. (brother of the deceased)
- 3. CMPG Regional CIU, Eastgate Street, Stafford, ST16 2DQ

I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response.

29° October 2015.

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