

REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS

	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <p>1. Kent County Council</p>
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am Kate Thomas Assistant Coroner, for the coroner area of Mid Kent and Medway</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 29th of November 2016 I commenced an investigation into the death of Luke Mumford, aged 20. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on the 15th of February 2017. The conclusion of the inquest was Road Traffic Collision.</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>At approximately 17.30 on the 23rd of November 2016, Luke Mumford was driving his motor car along Pilgrim's Way, north of Eccles, Kent when he left the carriageway, traversed up a 3 metre bank, struck a tree and came to rest 13 metres further on in a field. He sustained extensive head injuries from which he died at the scene. He had not consumed any alcohol or drugs and the reason why he had left the carriageway could not be ascertained.</p> <p>At the point at which Mr Mumford left the carriageway, Pilgrim's Way is a dual carriageway but more accurately should be described as a narrow single carriageway in each direction separated by a foliage verge. It is unlit at night and passes through a rural area and is comparable to a country lane. The speed limit however is 70 mph.</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> <p>(1) The nature of the road is such that it is unsafe to drive at 70 mph in that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) The carriageway is very narrowii) The road is unlit at nightiii) The road is not bordered by any kerb or pavement but rather hedgerows and trees

	<p>iv) At Inquest the evidence of a Police Pursuit Driver and Accident Collision Investigator was that they had felt unsafe traversing the road above 50 mph.</p>
6	<p>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe your organisation have 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 20th April 2017. 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 : [REDACTED] (Next of Kin)</p> <p>I have also sent it to Chief Constable for Kent who may find it useful or of interest.</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>23rd February 2017</p> <p>Kate Thomas Assistant Coroner Mid Kent and Medway</p>