

	<p><b>REGULATION 28 REPORT ON ACTION TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</b></p> <p><b>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</b></p> <p><b>Northamptonshire Highways – Northamptonshire County Council Highways Agency</b></p>
1	<p><b>CORONER</b></p> <p>I am Hassan Shah, Assistant Coroner for the coroner area of Northampton.</p>
2	<p><b>CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS</b></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><b>INVESTIGATION and INQUEST</b></p> <p>On the 25/10/2017 I commenced an inquest into the death of Darryl Alfred Wayne Rego SOUZA aged 26. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 23/03/2018. The conclusion was that Mr Souza died as a result of a road traffic collision.</p>
4	<p><b>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</b></p> <p>Mr Souza died on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at the crossroad junction of Naseby Road and Longhold Road, Clipston, Northamptonshire as a result of fatal chest injuries sustained when the motorcycle he was riding was involved in a collision with a Mini motor vehicle.</p> <p>Mr Souza had approached the scene on Longhold Road travelling from Sibbertoft. On Mr Souza's approach, at a point 100m from the crossroads, the road negotiates a slight left hand curve and at the same location 2 warning signs are located at the near and the off side of the road with attached boards underneath that state "Give Way 100 Yards". The road then straightens and it is possible to see straight over the crossroads through to the Kelmash road. Just prior to the junction, a "Give Way" sign is sited on the nearside grass verge. Faded, but visible give way lines then control the junction.</p> <p>The Mini motor vehicle had been travelling on Naseby Road heading from Clipston towards Naseby. Approaching the scene from Clipston, the main Naseby Road leaves the village exiting the 30 mph zone and entering the 60 mph zone that is applicable up to and including the site of the accident which is 600m away. The road travels straight for a short distance before it then curves to the left round a slight bend. Once round the bend the road is straight and descends a slight decline towards the scene of the incident. As the scene is approached, the Naseby Road can be seen turning to the left up ahead and prior to this left hand bend, a crossroads warning sign mounted on a high visibility yellow board is situated to the near side of the road with a plate mounted underneath it stating "110 yards". "Slow" is painted on the road surface adjacent to the road and although faded is visible. A further conventional cross road sign is situated towards the later end of the curve on the grass verge the near side footpath and again, "Slow", is painted on the road surface adjacent to this sign.</p> <p>Mr Souza was riding a sports motor cycle which meant he had a low position in the road. There were hedges on his approach which obscured his view of Naseby Road ahead. There were windows of increased visibility but these closed down the closer that he got to the junction. Mr Souza had slowed to 10-15 mph then almost came to a stop at the</p>

	<p>crossroads.</p> <p>At the junction, the maximum unhindered view of Naseby Road to his left was 79m. A vehicle travelling at the applicable speed limit (60 mph) would cover 79m in 2.9 seconds. The Forensic Collision Investigator concluded it was...  <i>"possible that when Darryl emerged from Longhold Road, the driver of the Mini would not have had time to take any avoiding action"...</i></p> <p>Mr Souza sustained serious chest injuries having collided with the A-pillar of the Mini and sadly succumbed to his injuries at the scene.</p> <p>There was no evidence of dangerous or excess speed from either driver or rider. There were no defects in either vehicle that could have contributed to the accident. The weather and road conditions were favourable.</p>
5	<p><b><u>CORONER'S CONCERNS</u></b></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 could occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.  The <b>MATTERS OF CONCERN</b> are as follows:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Paragraphs 6.11 – 6.14 of the Forensic Collision Investigator's report is set out below. <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>6.11 There is no doubt that the visibility at this junction is compromised by the road geography and as such high visibility "Give Way" signs and crossroads signs together with "SLOW" painted on the road surface serve to highlight the location of the crossroads and the need to take care.</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>6.12 In view if the visibility at this junction and after reviewing the Collision statistics at this junction there are to be some improvements carried out.</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>6.13 These improvements include renewing the signing particularly from the Sibbertoft direction and noise or rumble strips to be placed on the road again from the Sibbertoft direction.</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>6.14 At the time of writing this report, there is no time frame as to when these improvements will be completed.</i></p> </li> <li>2. Additionally, during evidence, the Collision Investigator recommended that the junction may benefit from the installation of "Stop" signs.</li> <li>3. One of the witnesses at the inquest stated that there had been a further accident, at the same location, around one week before the resumed inquest date.</li> </ol>
6	<p><b>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</b></p> <p>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.</p>
7	<p><b>YOUR RESPONSE</b></p> <p>You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018. 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><b>COPIES and PUBLICATION</b></p>

	<p>I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to the following Interested Persons:-</p> <p>██████████ - Wife of Darryl ██████████ - representing Ageas Insurance, insurers of Darryl Souza</p> <p>Similarly, you are 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.</p>
9	<p>[DATE] 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018</p> <p>[SIGNED BY CORONER]</p> 