



**M. E. Voisin
Her Majesty's Senior Coroner
Area of Avon**

15th February 2019

REF: 10027

	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• [REDACTED] Technical Director Persimmon Homes Severn Valley• North Somerset Council
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am M E Voisin Senior Coroner for Area of Avon</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> <p>http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/25/schedule/5/paragraph/7 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/1629/part/7/made</p>
3	<p>INVESTIGATION and INQUEST</p> <p>On 28/03/2018 I commenced an investigation into the death of Evie Alicia WRIGHT. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest.</p> <p>Box 3 on the Record of inquest read: "Evie Wright died on 6th March 2018, 100 yards north of Corondale Crossing, Weston Super Mare. She had walked onto the railway line and into the path of a train which struck her causing her to suffer multiple injuries and her immediate death. "</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>The conclusion in Box 4 read: "Evie Wright died when she was struck by a train her intention when she walked onto the train line is unknown."</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>

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In this case I heard evidence from Network Rail and North Somerset District Council.

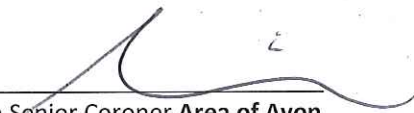
That evidence confirmed that the level crossing used by Evie at the time was risk assessed as complying with the standards set.

However I also heard that in the vicinity of the crossing there was planning permission in place to build a footbridge. I have been told that such had been the position since 1991; that it was an obligation on the builder at the time to build a footbridge; that planning permission had been granted in 2000.

I heard a number of reasons and explanations for why this has not happened.

I was told that there are now plans in relation to a new footbridge which is different in construction and that its location has moved hence it requires a fresh planning application and permission.

I have heard that a footbridge would enhance safety and eliminate risk, that network rail supports the closure of any crossing but has no power or responsibility – that rests with the North Somerset District Council and the developer – now Persimmon, who it should be noted were not the original developer.

6	<p>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>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.</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 Thursday 18th April 2019. 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 – the family of the deceased and to the LOCAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD. I have also sent it to Network Rail 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>21/02/2019</p> <p>Signature </p> <p>M E Voisin Senior Coroner Area of Avon</p>