



H M Assistant Coroner for Gloucestershire
Dr Simon Fox QC

	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO: [REDACTED] Local Highways Manager Gloucestershire county Council Floor 5 Block 5 Shire Hall Westgate Street Gloucester GL1 2TG</p>
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am Caroline Saunders, H M Assistant Coroner for Gloucestershire.</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 17th December 2018 I commenced an investigation into the death of Ray Ronald Westlake. On 14th December 2018 I commenced an investigation into the death of Barry Malcolm Clow The investigations concluded at the end of the 2 inquests on 21st May 2019</p> <p>The conclusion of both inquests were: Road Traffic Collision.</p> <p>The medical cause of death in both circumstances was 1a) Multiple Injuries</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>On 9th December 2018 Mr Clow was driving along the A424 towards Stow in the Wold. In the vicinity of Upper Rissington he lost control of his car and collided with a vehicle coming in the opposite direction. Mr Westlake was a passenger in the second vehicle. Both Mr Clow and Mr Westlake died at the scene from their injuries</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. – The evidence that I heard was that it had been raining on that day and there were large areas of standing water and running water throughout this stretch of the A424. I am told that there are features in the side of the road (grips) which are dug out to encourage the water to run away but these are regularly overwhelmed. The evidence from other motorists and local residents is that this is a significant problem for motorists, especially those who do not know this stretch of road. Whilst it may not be possible to ensure that the water runs away I was surprised as was the Police Collision Investigator that there were no signs warning motorists for the potential for this area to flood.</p> <p>I am concerned that if this situation continues, future lives will be put at risk in the same way.</p>

6	<p>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you 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 4pm 19th July 2019.</p> <p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The family of Barry Malcolm Clow (2) The family of Ray Ronald Westlake (3) <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>Dated 24/5/19</p> <p>Signature <u> <i>Caroline</i> </u></p> <p>Caroline Saunders H M Assistant Coroner for Gloucestershire</p>