

Her Majesty's Coroner Staffordshire (South) Coroner's Jurisdiction

Date: 18 February 2020

Case: 152137

REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS

1. THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:

James Bailey Commissioner for Highways

2. CORONER I am Mr A A Haigh Senior Coroner for Staffordshire South CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS

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.

3. INVESTIGATION and INQUEST

On 12 September 2019 I commenced an investigation into the death of Liam Anthony CLARK. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest . The conclusion of the inquest was:

'Accident'-The cause of death was:

1a Head Injury

4. CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH

Liam Clark died at the scene of a road traffic collision on the A5 at Shenstone on 10th September 2019. He had been driving a van and attempted to pass on the nearside an agricultural vehicle that was turning right. He did not realise that a boom protruding from the rear of the other vehicle would move into the gap he was seeking to use.

5. 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 MATTER OF CONCERN for you is as follows. -

1. The A5 is a major trunk road used by all types of vehicles. There are numerous junctions. At the scene the speed limit is reduced to 50mph. I should be grateful if you

1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2LP Telephone: 01785 276126 or 276127 Email: sscor@staffordshire.gov.uk

could look at the scene (the junction with Streetway Road) to see if any improvements are warranted – such as increased signage or road layout change.

6. ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN

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

7. YOUR RESPONSE

You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by **14.4.2020.** 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

Solicitors for the family

-Solicitors for the driver of the other vehicle and its insurers

I have also sent it to Staffordshire Police who may find it useful

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

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. Signature had

Andrew A Haigh Senior Coroner for Staffordshire South

Dated: 18 February 2020