

Emilio Fernandez

From: Fiona Hawthorne [Fiona.Hawthorne@health.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 18 September 2014 4:55 PM
To: Heidi Carr
Cc: Erin Finn
Subject: RE: Possible amendments to the Coroners Act 2003 regarding the investigation of stillbirths

Hi Heidi,

If it's ok with you, I'll be able to give you some more information next week? I have some tight deadlines to meet this week. Happy to chat further, Fiona

From: Heidi Carr [mailto:Heidi.Carr@justice.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 18 September 2014 4:41 PM
To: Fiona Hawthorne
Subject: RE: Possible amendments to the Coroners Act 2003 regarding the investigation of stillbirths

Hi Fiona,

Thank you very much for your response.

Further to the information provided, are you able to advise whether consideration has been or will be given to reinstating RCA's as a central requirement where there is concern with the obstetric or perinatal care provided? Also, I note there was an internal review/investigation following the Rockhampton case. Are you able to advise whether the outcome is part of the reason for the issues paper?

In addition, are you able to provide me with further information regarding the RCA process in the context of stillbirths or direct me to where I can locate this information?

If you are not in a position to respond to the above, can you please advise who might be the appropriate person to direct my questions?

Kind regards,

Heidi Carr

Policy Advisor
 Strategic Policy
 Department of Justice and Attorney-General
 Ph: 3239 6878

From: Fiona Hawthorne [mailto:Fiona.Hawthorne@health.qld.gov.au]

Sent: Thursday, 18 September 2014 4:07 PM

To: Heidi Carr

Cc: Erin Finn

Subject: RE: Possible amendments to the Coroners Act 2003 regarding the investigation of stillbirths

Hello Heidi,

Thank you for your email. Unfortunately we have not yet been able to significantly progress the review of existing mechanisms to review stillbirths in the public health system. We have drafted an issues paper to canvass support to strengthen legislation to remove any doubt that intrapartum stillbirths can be the subject of legally protected root cause analysis. We hope to be able to finalise that paper for stakeholder consultation next month. I'm not sure of any additional role for the Health Ombudsman and would suggest that would be best discussed directly with them.

Kind regards, Fiona

Fiona Hawthorne PhD, Churchill Fellow

Principal Project Officer

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From: Heidi Carr [mailto:Heidi.Carr@justice.qld.gov.au]

Sent: Monday, 15 September 2014 4:59 PM

To: Fiona Hawthorne

Subject: Possible amendments to the Coroners Act 2003 regarding the investigation of stillbirths

Dear Fiona,

I am the officer within the Strategic Policy and Legal Services division of the Department of Justice and Attorney-General who is currently considering possible amendments to the *Coroners Act 2003* regarding the investigation of stillbirths. As you may recall, Amber Manwaring was previously responsible for this matter.

NP_Sch3(2)(1)(b)

I note that the Honourable Lawrence Springborg MP provided a submission dated 13 August 2013 in relation to this matter, and I just wanted to ascertain what, if anything, has changed or improved since such time, and in addition to the previous mechanisms outlined, whether there is an additional role for the Health Ombudsman regarding the investigation of stillbirths.

Kind regards,

Heidi Carr

Policy Advisor

Strategic Policy

Department of Justice and Attorney-General

Ph: 3239 6878

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