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NSW Police Force

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

17 January 2024

F/2023/55371

The Hon. Michael Daley MP
Attorney General
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Dear Attorney

On 21 July 2023, NSW Deputy State Coroner, Magistrate Harriet Graham finalised the Inquest into the death of Mr Ziad Hamawy. The Deputy State Coroner made the following recommendations:

- 1. That the parties to this inquest (NSW Police and Sydney Local Health District and South Western Sydney Local Health District) engage with the process apparently being undertaken to update the MOU – NSW Health – NSW Police Force to reflect the current legislative framework under the Mental Health and Cognitive Impairment Forensic Provisions Act 2020.*
- 2. That parties to this inquest provide input into that process (and to the review of the MOU between NSW Health and Corrective Services NSW) that will alert those undertaking the review to the problems that occurred in this case in relation to the communication between agencies and the documentation of orders and decisions.*

I can advise that the NSW Police Force (NSWPF) supports in principle the recommendations and responses to each are detailed below.

Recommendation 1:

The NSWPF and NSW Health (inclusive of Ambulance NSW) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is under review. Legislative changes that have occurred since the implementation of the 2018 MOU, inclusive of the *Mental Health and Cognitive Forensic Provisions Act 2020*, have been highlighted for inclusion in future revisions of the MOU.

Recommendation 2:

Matters addressed in this coronial review, specifically the problems relating to communication between agencies and the documentation of orders and decisions, are noted and will be considered as part of the above MOU review. The NSWPF is not party to the review of the MOU between NSW Health and Corrective Services.

Yours sincerely

Karen Webb APM
Commissioner of Police

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