



05 APR 2022

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**Hon Bill Johnston MLA
Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy; Corrective Services;
Industrial Relations**

Our Ref: 71-23149

Ms Ros Fogliani
State Coroner
Coroner's Court of Western Australia
Level 10, Central Law Courts
501 Hay Street
Perth WA 6000

Dear Ms Fogliani

Thank you for correspondence from your office dated 20 December 2021 seeking advice on proposed actions following Coroner Jenkin's Findings into the death of Mr Ohm Sathitpittayayudh.

The Department of Justice (the Department) responds to Coroner Jenkin's recommendation as follows:

Recommendation: *To help reduce demand for synthetic cannabinoids (such as Kronic) in the prison system in Western Australia, the Department of Justice (the Department) should consider proactively delivering targeted education to prisoners aimed at raising awareness of the unpredictable and potentially lethal consequences of using these substances.*

To ensure that the education being delivered is as accessible and relevant as possible, the Department should consider consulting with prisoners as well as health, education and communications professionals in the development of the education materials and should consider asking Peer Support Prisoners to help health professionals deliver this education.

The Department supports this recommendation. The Department provides information to prisoners as part of their induction into prison and at each time a prisoner is transferred between prisons. Signage noting the risks of Kronic are displayed in prisoner areas. The use of synthetic cannabinoids such as Kronic is considered low in prisons. Communications will continue around the risks and the effects of Kronic in the context of current education initiatives for prisoners on all substance use.

The Deputy Commissioner Offender Services will be responsible for implementing this action.

I concur with your proposals to add this letter to the Coroner's Court Website and include it in your annual report.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**Hon Bill Johnston MLA
Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy;
Corrective Services; Industrial Relations**

30 MAR 2022