

**From:**  
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**Subject:**

BROOKES, Anthea  
03 September 2021 11:49

Irrelevant

**OFFICIAL**

Irrelevant

Further to the below, the NCA wishes to make the further short submission:

The NCA notes the point made in the closing submissions of the Family at paragraph 355-356 in relation to the delay of the conversion of the Inquest to a public Inquiry and the proposed related recommendation at paragraph 384. As the Inquiry will be aware, Interested Parties (as they then were) were notified of the Chair's (as he now is) intention for the matter to be converted to a public Inquiry in July 2019, with the public Inquiry being announced on 12 February 2020. Whilst the NCA recognises that the delay of the conversion to a public Inquiry in this matter is unfortunate, the NCA does not consider that the NCA is responsible for this delay. The NCA provided full and timely access to its relevant material both to this Inquiry and to the Inquest which preceded it. There has been no indication by the Chair or the former senior coroner Mr Walker that this was not the case. The NCA further provided timely submissions in relation to the conversion to a public Inquiry in accordance with the directions following PIRH 6 on 24 June 2019. The NCA considers that there is nothing it could have reasonably done to have prevented the delay and therefore that the proposed recommendation detailed at paragraph 384 of the Family's submissions is unnecessary insofar as it relates to the NCA.

Kind regards,

Anthea