



CORONER'S COURT

Inquest:	Kathryn Anne SHEPPARD
Hearing dates:	14 August 2015
Date of findings:	14 August 2015
Place of findings:	Coroner's Court, Glebe NSW 2037
Findings of:	Paul MacMahon Deputy State Coroner
Catchwords:	CORONIAL LAW – Death following aircraft engine failure, Section 81(1) Findings, Engagement of families of deceased with Regulator, Recommendations made in accordance with Section 82.
File number:	2010/436073
Representation:	Mr J Gormley SC – Counsel Assisting Mr J Rule – Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)

Non-publication order made pursuant to Section 74(1) (b) Coroners Act 2009:

Nil

Findings made in accordance with Section 81(1) Coroners Act 2009:

Kathryn Anne Sheppard (Born 15 February 1962) died on 15 June 2010 on Canley Vale Road, Canley Vale in the State of New South Wales. The cause of her death was head injuries in combination with the effects of fire which she sustained when the aircraft in which she was travelling as a passenger suffered engine failure and as a result impacted with the ground and became engulfed in flames.

Recommendations made in accordance with Section 82 (1) Coroners Act 2009:

To the Chief Executive Officer – Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)

1. That CASA finalise the guidance material for CAAP 5.23 such that the guidance material is completed and released as soon as possible noting that the guidance material in question provides for multi-engine aeroplane operations and training to support the flight standard in Appendix A of s.1.2 of the CAAP relating to engine failure in the cruise;
2. That CASA undertake public consultations in order to assist CASA in the development of a legislative proposal enabling CASA to compel the attendance of persons at compulsory sworn interviews to answer questions concerning specific aviation and safety measures where a reasonable suspicion exists that;
 - a. a significant safety risk exists or existed in an aviation operation; and

b. evidence of a witness or witnesses likely to have knowledge of an aviation safety risk cannot be obtained in any other way.

Paul MacMahon
Deputy State Coroner
14 August 2015