

Victoria McGeough  
Partnership Lead Manager  
Safer Communities  
Town Hall, Castle Circus  
Torquay  
TQ1 3DR

28<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Victoria,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Katie) for Torbay Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 16 October 2024. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel felt that the report was well written, detailed, open in its nature and very thorough, especially due to the engagement undertaken with family and friends. There were very moving tributes made by Katie's mother and sister, which provided a good sense of who she was as a person, daughter, sister and friend. The QA Panel also noted the clear detail provided on the different dynamics of domestic abuse.

The QA Panel felt that there are some aspects of the report which may benefit from further revision, but the Home Office is content that on completion of these changes, the DHR may be published.

**Areas for final development:**

- It would be helpful if a pseudonym was used for Male 1.
- 2.2.33 - Male A is used instead of Male 1.
- Please clarify the number of IMRs, as there are some discrepancies in the information given.
- Please amend this sentence in paragraph 1.1.9: 'Furthermore, whether domestic abuse may have been a contributory factor or a key factor in the person's life'. This is incorrectly presented as a criteria for a DHR.
- Please review the dissemination list and include any other plans for dissemination of the learning, over and above circulating the final report.

- There was no third sector representative domestic abuse specialist on the DHR panel. The CSP may wish to consider this for any future reviews undertaken.
- Please consider including some discussion of the dangers of strangulation and whether this may give rise to a recommendation.
- The victim's family pointed out some victim blaming language that was used. It would be helpful to consider whether this may give rise to a recommendation.
- Please include a rationale for two of the recommendations being national, that is, include any evidence you may have that this is more than a local issue.
- Please review paragraph 4.2.43 for the following reasons: it could be seen to frame coercive control as something separate from domestic abuse or as a subset of domestic abuse when in fact it is domestic abuse.
- There is a discrepancy in the number of agencies stated as sitting on the DHR panel between the executive summary and the overview report, which should be clarified.
- The report would benefit from a thorough proofread.

Once completed the Home Office would be grateful if you could provide us with a digital copy of the revised final version of the report with all finalised attachments and appendices and the weblink to the site where the report will be published. Please ensure this letter is published alongside the report.

Please send the digital copy and weblink to [DHREnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:DHREnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk). This is for our own records for future analysis to go towards highlighting best practice and to inform public policy.

The DHR report including the executive summary and action plan should be converted to a PDF document and be smaller than 20 MB in size; this final Home Office QA Panel feedback letter should be attached to the end of the report as an annex; and the DHR Action Plan should be added to the report as an annex. This should include all implementation updates and note that the action plan is a live document and subject to change as outcomes are delivered.

Please also send a digital copy to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner at [DHR@domesticabusecommissioner.independent.gov.uk](mailto:DHR@domesticabusecommissioner.independent.gov.uk)

On behalf of the QA Panel, I would like to thank you, the report chair and author, and other colleagues for the considerable work that you have put into this review.

Yours sincerely,

Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel

