

Paul Kinsella
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12 December 2023

Dear Paul,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Mrs B) for South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 8th November 2023. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel felt this was a considered report which was easy to read, it identified the learning points and how these were translated into recommendations. There was representation from statutory and non-statutory agencies on the panel including a Public Health representative which was positive and a domestic abuse specialist.

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:

- Please ensure that precise dates relating to the case are obscured, in particular the date of death. Only the month and year is required.
- While the mental health support provided to the perpetrator was judged to be timely, practitioners could have further considered the risk the perpetrator posed to others sharing this information more widely.
- The review could have included more information about Mrs. B as the report was found to be overshadowed by the perpetrator. It was felt the victim was absent from the report.
- As Mrs B and Miss B identified themselves as a carer to Mrs B's mother, a formal assessment should have been made by Adult Social Care.

- The QA panel were unsure if a Mental Health Homicide Review was considered to be jointly commissioned with the DHR or commissioned in parallel by NHS England.
- The review could have considered a larger timeframe especially considering the perpetrator had mental health issues spanning a 10-year period.
- The length and severity of the perpetrator's mental health difficulties constitute a disability under the Equalities Act 2010 but have not been discussed or analysed as such in the review.
- Please review the equality and diversity section. The report states that protected characteristics were considered but does not explain how, or which ones were considered relevant.
- Paragraph 16.19: *'Miss M's family members were not active in raising concerns about Miss M, her mental health or the risk she posed to herself or others.'* The report offers no evidence that family members did not raise concerns with one another or with other members of their social network nor does it evidence that family members were, in fact, concerned. Please revise the phrasing to express the point in more neutral terms or to include evidence supporting the original phrasing.

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. 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

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