**Domestic Homicide Reviews**

The Government strategy “[Call to End Violence against Women and Girls](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97901/action-plan-new-chapter.pdf)” (published November 2010)  included an action to implement Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004), putting in place the Statutory Requirement to conduct  Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). This was implemented in Nottingham on the 13th April 2011.

The revised “Ending Violence against Women and Girls” Government strategy 2016 – 2020 aims to promote learning from Domestic Homicide reviews to embed best practice, implement actions from DHRs and share learning.

**Extracts from Home Office,**

“domestic homicide review” means a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by—

* + 1. a person to whom he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or
    2. a member of the same household as himself,

held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death.

(Home Office, Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews Revised, published December 2016, page 5).

The purpose of a DHR is to:

1. establish what lessons are to be learned from the domestic homicide regarding the

way in which local professionals and organisations work individually and together to safeguard victims;

1. identify clearly what those lessons are both within and between agencies, how and

within what timescales they will be acted on, and what is expected to change as a result;

1. apply these lessons to service responses including changes to inform national and

local policies and procedures as appropriate;

1. prevent domestic violence and homicide and improve service responses for all

domestic violence and abuse victims and their children by developing a co-ordinated multi-agency approach to ensure that domestic abuse is identified and responded to effectively at the earliest opportunity;

1. contribute to a better understanding of the nature of domestic violence and

abuse; and

1. highlight good practice.

Reviews should illuminate the past to make the future safer and it follows therefore that reviews should be professionally curious, find the trail of abuse and identify which agencies had contact with the victim, perpetrator or family and which agencies were in contact with each other. From this position, appropriate solutions can be recommended to help recognise abuse and either signpost victims to suitable support or design safe interventions

(Home Office, Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews Revised, published December 2016, page 6).

Once complete and signed off by Nottingham Crime and Drugs Partnership Board (who are responsible for establishing a DHR in Nottingham City) the Overview report for a Domestic Homicide Review is submitted to the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel. Once feedback from the Home Office is received and where necessary acted upon, the Crime & Drugs Partnership has a statutory obligation to publish the findings of the report along with the feedback from the Home Office.

Findings from Domestic Homicide Reviews in Nottingham City will be published here on Nottingham Insight, as determined by the Crime & Drugs Partnership.

The Crime & Drugs Partnership will lead on the progression of recommendations with partner agencies to reduce the risk of further domestic violence related homicides.