

Paula Bishop,
Domestic and Sexual Violence Policy Officer,
Crime & Drugs Partnership,
The Shire Hall,
Nottingham,
NG1 1HN.

27 May 2015

Dear Ms Bishop,

Thank you for resubmitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) overview report for Nottingham to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the April Panel meeting.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the final overview report. In terms of the assessment of reports, the QA Panel judges them as either adequate or inadequate. It is clear that a lot of effort has gone into producing this report and I am pleased to tell you that it has been judged as adequate by the QA Panel.

The QA Panel would like to commend you on a well considered report which represented the victim well. The Panel wished to commend you on undertaking a DHR in this case and recognised the efforts you have made in addressing the issues previously raised. The Panel felt that the report might benefit from consideration of the following points prior to publication:

Anonymisation:

- Please ensure that the report is wholly anonymised. Consider the use of pseudonyms as opposed to the initials of the people involved.
- Remove the references to all names including at: (Ref: Pg 74, footnote 6, Draft 6.9.3.15)
- Ensure consistency across the anonymisation in the reports: the Executive Summary uses Adult A, B and C and the Overview Report uses initials.

Wider comments:

- The Panel sought clarification as to why the family was only provided with the Executive Summary and whether it is intended to provide a copy of the full report as stated in the DHR guidance.
- Ensure that the Executive Summary includes the key issues identified in the Overview Report.
- The Panel recognised that this was a complex case and felt that it was important to recognise this in the tone of the report. It was agreed that while Adult B (the partner of the victim) was found guilty of perverting the course of justice, it is important that the report recognises that she herself was a victim of abuse and that she may have been in fear for her own safety. It is also important to ensure that the tone of the report does not indicate that her substance misuse problems meant that she was complicit in her own abuse.
- Remove references to MAPPA and MARAC being early interventions.
- The report needs to provide more of a voice to the victim (Adult A).

The Panel does not need to see another version of the report, but we would ask you to include our letter when you publish the report.

I would like to thank you once again for providing this report for consideration by the Home Office Domestic Homicide Review Quality Assurance Panel.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Papaleontiou, Chair of the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel
Head of the Interpersonal Violence Team, Public Protection Team