

Cllr Paul Webb
Kent County Council
Sessions House
County Hall
Maidstone
ME14 1XQ

3 July 2026

Dear Paul,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Sasha) for Kent Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Board. The report was considered at the QA Board meeting on 20th May 2026. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

Please find the QA Board's feedback in the form below. On completion of the changes suggested the DHR may be published.

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 and the feedback form 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 Board letter and feedback form 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 Board, 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 Board

DHR QA Board Feedback for the Community Safety Partnership

TITLE OF DHR	Sasha
COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP	Kent
DATE REVIEWED BY QA BOARD	20 th May 2026
DECISION	Publish with amendments
GOOD PRACTICE COMMENDED	• This is an excellent review. It is particularly positive to see explicit consideration of trauma, disability, protected characteristics, service accessibility, and the role of pet ownership within coercive and controlling behaviour. This reflects a broad, contemporary and well-informed domestic abuse lens. • It is also good practice that the family were engaged at an early stage, offered support, were involved in shaping the Terms of Reference, and were given opportunities to contribute at a pace responsive to their wellbeing and grief. This demonstrates a clear victim-centred approach. • The tribute provides a strong and personal reflection of Sasha as an individual beyond agency involvement, helping to humanise the review and reinforce the impact of systemic failings on those closest to her. It also appropriately conveys the family's perspective. • A notable strength of the review is its emphasis on intersectionality and recognition that a domestic abuse response alone was insufficient to meet Sasha's needs. • The recommendations appropriately focus on strengthening links between MARAC, MARM, MATAC, adult safeguarding, mental health services, and perpetrator management approaches, reflecting a strong multi-agency focus. • The inclusion of learning related to cuckooing, modern slavery, brain injury, coercive control, and mental capacity is particularly relevant and aligns well with emerging national learning in this area.
FEEDBACK FOR FUTURE DHRs	• In future, please avoid using general terms such as "<i>abusive relationship</i>" or "<i>abusive situation</i>" (for example, at 14.2.3), as these do not clearly describe who is doing what to whom and do not sufficiently hold the perpetrator accountable. • Consideration should be given to including a dedicated pen portrait at the outset of the report.

	DHR SECTION	DHR QA BOARD FEEDBACK (improvements required before publication)
1	Title Page	Please add the month of Sasha's death to the title page.
2	Contents Page	No amendments required.
3	Pen Portrait	It would strengthen the report to include a dedicated pen portrait section early within the review. This would ensure Sasha is first seen as a person beyond the abuse, services and risk management processes, whilst also assisting readers to understand her identity, strengths, relationships, aspirations and lived experiences before engaging with the chronology and analysis.
4	Condolences	No amendments required.
5	Confidentiality and Anonymity	No amendments required.
6	Terms of Reference	No amendments required.
7	Equality and Diversity	No amendments required.
8	Background Information	The Panel may wish to note within the introduction that Sasha's death occurred in the context of domestic abuse, neglect, vulnerability, substance misuse, and significant health needs, to assist readers in understanding the broader complexities of the case from the outset.
9	Combined Chronology	• Please consider reducing some repetition where similar concerns are repeatedly recorded, whilst ensuring key safeguarding events remain clear. • The chronology would also benefit from clearer highlighting of pivotal incidents and safeguarding escalation points, particularly where referrals, MARAC activity, Section 42 considerations, hospital admissions, or police interventions occurred.
10	Overview	Please ensure language remains fully evidence-based.
11	Analysis	• The analysis would benefit from more explicitly drawing out the multi-agency learning from repeated case closures, stepped-down interventions, discharge planning following Sasha's stroke, and reliance on victim engagement despite recognised homicide risk.

		Please consider reviewing this section so it is not overlong and that academic references remain proportionate and directly tied to learning.
12	Conclusions	Phrases such as agencies being rendered “helpless” or not “successfully intervening” may benefit from framing that recognises the complexity of coercive control, systemic barriers and limitations within existing safeguarding structures.
13	Lessons learnt and recommendations	The Panel may wish to consider whether some recommendations could be further streamlined where there is overlap, particularly around awareness raising, policy review and training relating to coercive control, brain injury and multiple disadvantage. Consideration could also be given to identifying anticipated outcomes or measures of success within the accompanying action plan to support future monitoring and accountability.
14	Timescales	No amendments required.
15	Involvement of family / friends / community	No amendments required.
16	DHR contributors	No amendments required.
17	DHR Panel	No amendments required.
18	DHR Author	No amendments required.
19	Parallel Reviews	Please confirm whether consideration was given to any other review processes.
20	Dissemination	Please state whether Sasha’s mother and son will be asked about key dates to avoid publication and whether they will need additional support at that time.
21	Action Plan	- Please consider whether Recommendation 4 represents potential national learning. - For future action plans, consideration should be given to ensuring actions are consistently outcome-focused and measurable, with clearer articulation of how agencies will evidence impact on frontline practice and outcomes for victims.

22	Has there been a request to withhold publication? <i>If Yes, include the reason for the request. Is it proportionate and appropriate?</i>	No request to withhold publication. Given the level of detail, sensitive personal history, references to exploitation, mental health, sexual violence and surviving family members, the Panel may however wish to ensure careful consideration is given to anonymisation, proportionality and potential impact on surviving relatives prior to publication.
23	Any other comments	The review demonstrates strong attention to the role of Sasha's dog, recognising how pets can be used within coercive and controlling dynamics. Please clarify whether consideration was given to the possibility of harm or threats towards the animal as part of the abuse pattern, as this is a recognised risk indicator.