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Cllr Michael Hill OBE
Kent County Council
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6 December 2017

Dear Councillor Hill,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report for Kent (DHR15) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 25 October 2017. I very much regret the delay in providing the Panel's feedback.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the final report. The Panel concluded this was a thorough, detailed and reflective review to which the family have contributed important information about the victim's relationship with the perpetrator which was not recorded or available from agencies. This reinforces the importance of engaging families, friends and wider community networks in reviews to reveal different perspectives of the case and enable agencies to tailor interventions appropriately.

There were, however, some aspects of the report which the Panel felt may benefit from further analysis, or be revised, which you will wish to consider:

- The Panel noted the lessons learned that have been identified but felt that these appear to only provide a partial picture. The Panel asked for reassurance that the NHS Trust internal investigation that was also conducted has been carefully reviewed to ensure the gaps identified and the associated learning have informed the findings of this report;
- The review has not sufficiently explored any barriers to reporting that the victim may have had;

- The Panel acknowledged the breadth of experience on the review panel but concluded that it may have been beneficial to include a specialist mental health representative or the author of the mental health investigation;
- You may wish to consider broadening recommendation 2. Recommendation 4 could mention that the family could also provide intelligence;
- It would be helpful if the review could confirm whether the perpetrator was interviewed and, if not, the reasons for this;
- The Panel felt it would be nice to include condolences in the report.

The Panel does not need to review another version of the report, but I would be grateful if you could include our letter as an appendix to the report. I would be grateful if you could email us at DHREnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk and provide us with the URL to the report when it is published.

The QA Panel felt it would be helpful to routinely sight Police and Crime Commissioners on DHRs in their local area. I am, accordingly, copying this letter to the PCC for information.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Buckley

Acting Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel