

Deborah Simpson
Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Strategy Manager & Commissioner
Community Safety Services
2 Watling Street
Bexleyheath
DA6 7LB

7 December 2022

Dear Deborah,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Jenny) for Bexley Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 26th October 2022. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel found this to be a detailed and sensitive report that has considered Jenny throughout in a respectful manner. The author has provided condolences to the family at the commencement of the report and throughout and there is good use of research in the report which supported the learning.

There was reference to a previous DHR with similar learning and recommendations which is good practice. There is detailed consideration of the protected characteristics and their potential relevance, as well as other issues deemed relevant to the victim's experience which is commended.

The author has followed the guidance/template for the executive summary and overview report which helped with the layout and reading of the report. The CSP has considered and put forward a recommendation that only the executive summary is published which seems proportionate and well thought through.

The QA Panel felt that there are some aspects of the report which may benefit from further revision. On completion of these changes, the Home Office supports the CSPs decision to only publish the executive summary.

Areas for final development:

- It would have been helpful to have explored who other than Jenny's husband could contribute to the report. It was known that Jenny's mother was deceased but unclear who else was considered.

- The cause of death from the post-mortem should be included in the report.
- The age of Child A should be removed and remain confidential.
- There is reference to a name in 4.1.53 Page 35 which should be removed.
- 1.3.2 has several pieces of information missing including dates.
- The action plan needs to be updated on progress in line with the timescales listed.
- Please ensure a copy of the full Overview Report is held on record so that the child can access it in future should they wish to. There are many years to pass until the child is old enough, so storage and retrieval of that report needs to be thought about carefully.

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.

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,

Lynne Abrams

Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel