



Home Office

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Cllr Michael Hill OBE,  
Kent County Council  
Sessions House  
County Hall  
Maidstone  
ME14 1XQ

23 12 2016

Dear Cllr Hill,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review report for Kent to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the Quality Assurance Panel meeting on 22 November 2016.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the final report. The Panel felt events leading up to the homicide have been thoroughly examined and some understanding of domestic abuse is revealed. However, the Panel were concerned there are no lessons learnt given there are many identified in the narrative of the report.

There were also some other aspects of the report which the Panel felt could be revised, which you will wish to consider before publication:

- Please clarify the source of the statement in paragraph 5.2.16 and if the daughter is happy for this to be published;

- The Panel felt given the report reveals that the perpetrator may have had learning difficulties and that he was a victim of abuse, it would be useful to include the Judge's summing up in the report;
- Please explain fully the reason for the delay in submitting the report to the Home Office;
- The Panel felt paragraph 1.3 seems rather defensive and suggested either removing or rewording it;
- The Panel would like to see more details on what the perpetrator's support needs were and also felt the report doesn't explore if the perpetrator was identified as having learning difficulties anywhere else;
- The Panel felt the Report would benefit from more exploration of the kind of abuse experienced by the perpetrator;
- The Panel suggested a recommendation for probation around facilitating engagement with people with mental health issues (paragraph 5.2.2 & 5.3.8);
- The Panel would like to see more details on the process that lead to the perpetrator being evicted and any lessons that can be drawn from this;

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](mailto:DHREnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk) and provide us with both a copy of the final report and 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 Kent for information.

You may wish to be aware that the Home Office has published updated Statutory Guidance on the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews which can be found using the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/revised-statutory-guidance-for-the-conduct-of-domestic-homicide-reviews>. We have also published key findings from analysis undertaken by Home Office researchers on a sample of 40 DHRs from across England and Wales completed between 2013 and 2016. The report can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-homicide-review-lessons-learned>

Yours sincerely

**Christian Papaleontiou**

Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel