

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Charlie) for Dudley Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel stated that this is a good, well-structured review which is sensitive, and well researched. The family was involved, and Charlie's voice was heard throughout the review. There was good domestic abuse (DA) expertise on the panel from the third sector. However, there does not appear to have been representation from public health/suicide prevention, which might have been useful and added a different perspective.

The review shows sensitivity, a good understanding of domestic abuse and a probing identification and analysis of the strengths and weaknesses in agency contacts. The recommendations are clearly drawn from and relate to the learning and are SMART.

The QA Panel felt that there are some aspects of the report which may benefit from further revision, but the Home Office is content that on completion of these changes, the DHR may be published.

**Areas for final development:**

- The date of completion of the report is missing from the front page of both the overview report and the executive summary.
- Paragraph 3.12 states the sex of the child, compromising anonymity, this should be removed.
- Stating specifically where the deceased worked could compromise her anonymity. It may be better to state 'a national retailer' or something similar.

- The Equality and Diversity section of the report is exceptionally brief, with no further consideration of the identified characteristics (sex, age, race and pregnancy and maternity). Whilst equality and diversity issues are, in part, woven throughout the review – this section could be strengthened to better outline and explore the protected characteristics identified.
- The Chair should consider adding a statement confirming independence from the agencies and individuals involved.
- In addition to the education sabotage form of economic abuse, that Charlie moved out of the home she shared with her partner and told others they could not afford it (3.46) and the financial worries she shared with paramedics after her first suicide attempt (3.11), could be considered other signs of economic abuse.
- Section 1.8 does not mention whether the family were invited to attend a panel meeting. It is also not stated whether the family were provided with the Home Office DHR leaflet. Additionally, it would be helpful to know if it was considered inviting Charlie's employers during the review period to contribute.
- Given this case relates to a suicide, it would be useful to see Public Health England on the dissemination list.
- Some of the action plan requires updating as some actions are missing, as are completion dates and outcome information.
- Footnote 21 is missing.

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](mailto: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 Panel feedback letter 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](mailto: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,

Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel

