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Yamin Arshad
Community Development Officer
Huntingdonshire District Council

Gary Goose
Independent Chair
Huntingdonshire Community Safety Partnership

19 March 2018

Dear Ms Arshad and Mr Goose,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report for Huntingdonshire (St Neots) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 21 February 2018. I apologise for 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 is a well written, sympathetic report which has carefully analysed the information that emerged. The quality of the review has been enhanced with the engagement of family, friends and wider social networks. The Panel particularly commended the close collaboration between this review and the one undertaken by NHS England.

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:

- To underline there are no conflicts of interest, it may be helpful to expand paragraph 1.10.2 to make more explicit that there was no direct association between the chair's employment in local government and contact with county-wide services;
- You may wish to consider including a recommendation inviting employers to consult the Employers' Initiative on Domestic Abuse which they may find helpful;
- The review may wish to highlight that recommendation 2 could be national as well as local in scope.

The Panel was very grateful for the additional background information provided in the letter of 22 November 2017 from Mr Goose. The Panel noted the issues in relation to the engagement of GPs in this particular review and commended the chair for his commitment, together with NHS England, to secure their agreement. It is helpful to know that the revised statutory guidance was useful in paving the way to a positive outcome. We are aware through the quality assurance process that the engagement of GPs can be an issue and I would like to reassure you that the Home Office will reflect on what more can be done to raise the status of DHRs amongst health professionals and encourage their cooperation with the process.

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.

Ultimately

Yours sincerely

Hannah Buckley

Acting Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel