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Adam Lindridge
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15 July 2016

Dear Mr Lindridge,

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

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the final report. The Panel found this to be an honest and open report and were particularly pleased to note that both the victim's and perpetrator's medical records had been shared with the review. However, they felt the report was not sufficiently probing and that the victim lacked status and was not prominent in the report. The QA Panel also felt having domestic violence specialists on the review panel would have been beneficial. In addition, the QA Panel felt there could have been better links made in the report to the other parallel reviews that had been undertaken.

There were some aspects of the report which the Panel felt could be revised which you will wish to consider before you publish the final report:

- Given the importance of electronic tagging to this case, the Panel felt that it was an oversight not to engage with either G4S or the Ministry of Justice as part of the review process. The review did not clarify whose responsibility it was to advise the victim not to go to the new address and the Panel suggested that an additional recommendation is required to reflect this;

- The Panel would welcome clarity in the report on why Her Majesty's Prison Service was not cooperative in sharing the perpetrator's medical information and detail on what other efforts were made to gain the information;
- The Panel noted the report was long and suggested it may benefit from being made more concise. In addition a separate 'lessons learnt' section would make the report easier to read;
- The executive summary and overview report contain different recommendations and it would be helpful if they could be aligned;
- The action plan requires completion dates.

The Panel does not need to see another version of the report, but I would be grateful if you could include our letter as an appendix to the report.

I would also 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 (PCCs) on DHRs in their local area. I am, accordingly, copying this letter to your PCC for information.

Yours sincerely

Christian Papaleontiou
Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel