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Claire Moore
Domestic Abuse Operational Coordinator
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18 March 2020

Dear Claire

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Jessica) for Middlesbrough CSP to the Home Office. The report was assessed by the Quality Assurance Panel (QA) on 22 January 2020.

The QA Panel welcomed the way in which the report is thorough, easy to read and highlights good practice through seeking advice from HALO. The Panel particularly commended the engagement with the family resulting in a report that illuminated the victim's voice to the reader. The tribute to the victim was compassionate and the Panel felt you may wish to move this to the start of the report to give it more prominence.

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 of final development include:

- The Panel felt that the report missed opportunities to reference economic abuse. It would be useful to explore how supporting the family business, the life insurance and IVF could be identified as potential economic abuse which impacted on the victim.
- In light of this, it would benefit the report to explore further the need for proactive probing by health care professionals in the IVF sector. It would be helpful to include a robust recommendation for IVF service personnel to look for risk indicators of domestic abuse.
- The Panel felt the report could be enhanced by strengthening the Equality and Diversity section by giving more specific examples.

- The report paints a picture of Honour Based Violence and includes a recommendation from a specialist. However, you may wish to strengthen the report by asserting the DHR Panel's view on this point in more detail.
- It would profit the report to explore and provide more challenge around possible barriers faced by the victim relating to disclosure. In particular, potential inhibitors to disclosure to staff at the GP Practice the victim's family pharmacy was linked to. The Panel felt the report would benefit from a national recommendation raising this issue to the NHS.
- The report highlights at 16.3.9 the issue of raising concerns about domestic abuse in small family owned businesses. The Panel felt that you may wish to include a national recommendation to create a best practice policy for this type of business. In particular, you may wish to highlight the work of the Employer's Initiative.

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 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.

The Home Office believe it is helpful to routinely sight Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) on DHRs in their local area. I am therefore copying this letter to your local PCC for information.

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

Linda Robinson

Joint Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel