

Lisa Scott
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25th September 2024

Dear Lisa,

Thank you for resubmitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Dorothy) for Central Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 14th August 2024. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel noted that there has been a good response to the previous feedback provided. It was felt that the choice to highlight all changes made in red was a helpful inclusion. The confidentiality section is now present, and the dissemination section has been amended to include the Police and Crime Commissioner.

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 QA Panel noted that the report is still lacking a combined chronology. This is a critical element of any review, and its absence needs to be addressed.
- Self-harm, suicidal thoughts or suicidality ought to be included as a specific key line of enquiry within the terms of reference.
- It has been clarified that the Chair retired from Bedfordshire Police in January 2021 and they were commissioned to lead the review in February 2023. The QA Panel advise that two years is not enough of a gap to ensure independence and request the CSP notes this for future reviews.
- There are a number of references to sections which are absent. For example, there are mentions of sections 3.3.3 and 3.3.2, neither of which seem to exist.

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. 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

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