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Rod Jones
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18 December 2015

Dear Mr Jones,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review report for St Helens to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the Quality Assurance Panel meeting on 16 December 2015.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the final report. The Panel concluded this was a clear report in which well evidenced lessons had been identified and which had been translated into SMART recommendations. The Panel particularly noted good panel membership and the valuable contribution made by family members to the review. The Panel also noted good references to research.

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

- The Panel suggested the executive summary should include information such as the terms of reference, timescales, and other information to allow it to be read in isolation;
- Please fully anonymise the report as the names and addresses of the individuals appear on page 35 (appendix 1);

- The Panel felt the recommendations and action plan could be more explicit in terms of outcomes. In addition, in the conclusion of paragraph 13.9, it states a recommendation will be made in relation to recognising vulnerability of carers, but this is not reflected in the recommendations;
- Please review the use of definitive statements, such as paragraph 13.6;
- Please provide further clarity on the independence of chair.

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 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.

Yours sincerely

Christian Papaleontiou
Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel