

Ms Angela Clarke,  
Team Leader  
Supporting Victims and Vulnerable People  
Liverpool City Council  
Municipal Buildings  
Dale Street  
Liverpool  
L2 2DH

8 December 2014

Dear Ms Clarke,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) overview report for Liverpool to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The review was considered at the November Panel meeting.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the final overview report. In terms of the assessment of reports, the QA Panel judges them as either adequate or inadequate. It is clear that a lot of effort has gone into producing this report and I am pleased to tell you that it has been judged as adequate by the QA Panel.

The QA Panel would like to commend you on the way you worked with Somerset on this DHR, and felt that this was very well handled and clearly contributed to the learning in the report. They felt it appeared open and honest.

There were some issues that the QA Panel felt might benefit from more detail and/ or consideration which you may wish to consider before you publish the final report:

- Review the use of the term “mutual violence” which the Panel felt could have been an opportunity for the DHR Chair to challenge and unpick the terminology sometimes used by agencies but which can lead to missed opportunities to identify effective resolutions for victims;
- The QA Panel felt that it would be helpful if recommendation 2 were also extended to agencies in Somerset;

- The report also appeared to indicate that the Crown Prosecution Service could have been invited to contribute, to provide information on their decisions not to proceed. Please approach them for a contribution or include a robust explanation as to why they were not invited; and,
- An approach to the prison for further information could be helpful given the findings of the report, and efforts should be made to make another approach and include such contributions in the report prior to publication.

The Panel does not need to see another version of the report, but we would ask you to include our letter when you publish the report.

I would like to thank you once again for submitting this thorough report for consideration by the Home Office Domestic Homicide Review Quality Assurance Panel.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Papaleontiou, Chair of the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel  
Head of the Interpersonal Violence Team, Safeguarding & Vulnerable People Unit