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Ms Yvonne Weston-Jones
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Equalities, Community Safety & Cohesion
Domestic Homicide Review Team
Place Directorate
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Birmingham B3 3DA

15 February 2016

Dear Ms Weston-Jones,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review report for Birmingham to the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel. The report was considered at the Quality Assurance (QA) Panel meeting on 27 January 2016.

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 thoughtful and penetrative review which demonstrated a good understanding of the dynamics of coercive control and from which valuable lessons had been identified.

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

- The Panel considered the review was overly police focused and suggested that it may result in a more balanced review if other agencies, such as health, social care and education, were given similar weight in the analysis;
- The Panel queried whether the action plan could be more ambitious and output focused;
- The executive summary is missing key items of information, such as the terms of reference, and needs to be more closely aligned to the overview report.

The QA Panel noted the issue highlighted in the report about police involvement in IMRs and has asked the Home Office to explore this matter with the IPCC.

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