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Domestic Homicide Review Team  
Equalities, Community Safety and Cohesion  
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28 December 2016

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report for Birmingham 2013/14-02 to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the Quality Assurance Panel meeting on 25 October 2016.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the final report. The Panel were pleased to see that this was a joint serious case review and DHR and felt that the resulting report was open, honest and easy to read. The contributions from family members and those who knew the victim were valuable. However, the Panel would like the findings of the IPCC review to be included to add further value to the report.

There were also some other aspects of the report which the Panel felt could be revised, which you will wish to consider before publication:

- Whilst the panel was supportive of the recommendation to raise the awareness of children in care about what constitutes a risky relationship they felt that it needed to be considered in greater depth;
- Please check the report for anonymity as there were many identifying dates included;
- The Panel suggested including the ethnicity of the victim and perpetrator and felt including a footnote of all the technical terms will be helpful;
- The extent to which the victim's family was involved, and whether they were shown the final report, was unclear. Please could this be clarified;
- The Panel felt that there was a lot of assumed knowledge around the MAPPA process and classification which could be explained more clearly and fully. In particular they were unclear of the both the accuracy and significance of the decision to reclassify the perpetrator from MAPPA category two to category three;
- The Panel felt that the recommendations could do more to address the perpetrator's experience of being in care, and as such that you may want to revisit whether you are confident that they far-reaching enough. In addition they would like you to consider a further recommendation for care homes in relation to their awareness of domestic abuse and the risk around communicating with perpetrators;
- The Panel would like to see all the actions from the action plan translated into recommendations and for the recommendations themselves to be more structured.

The Panel does not need to review 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](mailto:DHREnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk) and provide us with both a copy of the final report and 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 West Midlands for information.

Yours sincerely

**Christian Papaleontiou**

Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel

