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Chris Williams
Head of Community Safety and Public Protection
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21 August 2015

Dear Mr Williams

Thank you for resubmitting the Domestic Homicide Review report for Brent to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the Quality Assurance Panel meeting on 22 July 2015.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for considering the feedback provided previously. The Panel felt the revised report now follows the statutory guidance, has a clearer narrative and chronology of events and is more victim focused. The Panel also noted that new lessons learned had resulted from this resubmission. I am pleased to inform you that the Panel judges this to be an adequate report.

The Panel observed that the author of the report recommends non-publication. The Panel is clear that, in line with the statutory guidance, there is an expectation that all DHR reports agreed by the QA Panel will be published, unless there are compelling reasons to withhold publication. The Panel could see no reason to withhold publication of this report and reiterated the importance of ensuring that the lessons to be learned should be shared as widely as possible to restore public confidence and to improve transparency of the processes in place across all agencies to protect victims. However, we accept that redactions will need to be made by the CSP.

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

- The Panel felt it would be helpful for the report to have a front page and a list of contents;
- The action plan needs to be updated, targeted and focused. In particular, in the first section on key actions for ADVANCE, most of the target dates are described as “ongoing” – these need to be given an appropriate target date for completion. This is also the case for other agencies’ actions which do not have clear completion dates;

- Please ensure the action plan is anonymised as the name of the victim appears in several places;
- An explanation, perhaps in a footnote, of what the “re-documenting” process is that is mentioned in the last paragraph on page 35;
- Please proof-read the report as there are a number of typing errors. For example, paragraph 16.2.3 contains an extra “whilst”; in paragraph 16.2.2, “commit” should be “committed”; and paragraph 11.1 “no agencies reported no contact” needs correcting;
- The Panel questioned the appropriateness of including the internet search terms set out in paragraph 9.2 and recommend that they should be removed.

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.

Yours sincerely

Christian Papaleontiou
Chair of the Home Office DHR QA Panel