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Cathy Hickey
Violence and Vulnerability Support Officer
Community Safety
Regeneration and Environment
Brent Council

30 April 2020

Dear Cathy

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Elena) for Brent CSP to the Home Office. The report was assessed by the Quality Assurance Panel (QA) on 26 February 2020.

The QA Panel welcomed the way in which the report is open, honest and transparent. In particular, that the chronologies are combined to lead the reader, and the IMRs are robust and self-critical. The Terms of Reference are responded to throughout, with special consideration being given to issues of immigration status, language, substance-misuse and criminality. It was also noted that the review was suitably critical of the failings of a previous local DHR action plan. The QA Panel particularly commended perseverance in engaging friends, family and the perpetrator to ensure their voices are 'heard'. In addition, that barriers to accessing support were considered from the victim's perspective and concentrated on structural and personal factors impacting the case.

The QA Panel felt that there are some aspects of the report which may benefit from further revision, but the Home Office is content that, on completion of these changes, the DHR Executive Summary may be published subject to a risk assessment. If the Executive Summary is deemed inappropriate the DHR may be used as an internal document to assist in agency learning.

Areas of final development include:

- You may wish to clarify the statement at paragraph 3.5.2 relating to who had care of the children. In addition, it would be helpful to state at paragraph 3.5.5 the location of the older siblings.
- At present the table on page 20 of the overview report contains blank fields. It would be useful to populate these as 'unknown'.
- It would be beneficial for the action plan to be populated, as per the statutory guidance.

Once completed the Home Office would be grateful if you could provide us with a digital copy of the internal learning document and the revised final version of the Overview report, Executive Summary with all finalised attachments and appendices for our records.

Please send the digital copy to DHREnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk. This is for our own future analysis to go towards highlighting best practice and to inform public policy.

The Home Office believes it is helpful to routinely sight Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) on DHRs in their local area. I am therefore, copying this letter to your local PCC for information.

On behalf of the QA Panel, I would like to thank you, the report chair and author, and other colleagues, for the considerable work that you have put into this review.

Yours sincerely

Linda Robinson

Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel