

Ian Boswell
Bracknell Forest Council
Easthampstead House
Town Square
Bracknell
Berkshire
RG12 1AQ

23 February 2015

Dear Mr Boswell,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) overview report for Bracknell Forest to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. Your report was considered by the QA Panel in December.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the final overview report. It is clear that a lot of work has gone into this report and it was felt that the attempts to involve the family and housemates of the deceased in the review demonstrated good practice. The QA Panel recognised that there had been little contact with statutory agencies and commended the efforts that have been made in conducting this review. In terms of the assessment of reports, the QA Panel judges them as either adequate or inadequate. I am pleased to tell you that the report has been judged as adequate by the QA Panel.

There were some issues that the Panel felt might benefit from more detail and/or analysis, and which the Panel recommends that you consider prior to publication of the final report:

- It was noted that the Chair of the review had worked for Bracknell Forest Council previously. The QA panel suggested that it would be helpful to have more information included in the report to demonstrate the Chairpersons independence.
- In para 51 of the report it is not clear if the lettering "AV" is a pseudonym relating to the victim or another person. The QA panel suggest it would be helpful to have this clarified in the final report.

- The Executive Summary is quite brief and is missing some key information such as the names of the organisations that took part in the panel. We suggest that this information be included in the final version of the Executive Summary.
- The information provided in the Overview Report about the perpetrator's hospital visits do not include dates (pages 14, 15 &16). The QA panel suggests that it would be helpful to have the timeframes included in the final version of the report.
- The QA panel also ask that consideration is given to potential recommendations or actions regarding the response of health services. For example, at para 81 it is stated that: "the Panel concluded that three hospital episodes in quick succession should have provided more of an alert to the needs of the perpetrator". Para 88 of the report states: "Opportunities existed to provide the perpetrator with on-going support but these were missed". The QA panel asks that you further consider if there are any recommendations or actions that can be drawn from this analysis.
- The QA panel also suggested that it may be helpful in the conclusions and recommendations section, to give further consideration to what could be done in future to identify people from hard to reach communities who may need support. This should also be included in the final action plan.

The Panel does not need to see another version of the report, but please include this letter as an appendix to the report when it is published.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Papaleontiou, Acting Chair of the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel
Head of the Interpersonal Violence Team, Public Protection Unit