

Kerry
Assistant Domestic & Sexual Abuse Co-ordinator
Adults Housing & Communities
Southampton City Council
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Southampton
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28th November 2023

Dear Kerry,

Thank you for resubmitting the report (Ana) for Southampton Community Safety Partnership to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was reassessed in November 2023.

The QA Panel felt the report reflects an honest and transparent attempt to understand the events and agency responses in respect to Ana's death. There was consideration given to navigating barriers to engaging the family sensitively within the review and the statement provided by Ana's family gave insight into who Ana was as a person. The report is concise with fair and relevant recommendations, particularly the recommendation in respect to the employer preventing access to Ana's colleagues who may have contributed to the review.

The Home Office noted that most of the issues raised in the previous feedback letter following the first submission have now been addressed.

The following remain outstanding concerns and the CSP is requested to address these prior to publication:

- No additions have been made to the Equality and Diversity section. This does not acknowledge sex as a relevant protected characteristic or explore the gendered nature of domestic abuse.
- Whilst acknowledging that the words 'coercive and controlling behaviour' have been added to 4.17, there is no further exploration of coercive control, including economic abuse, as requested by the QA panel, represented.
- The following has been amended after QA feedback - *Ana stated to the officer completing the DASH "that after asking him to leave as she wanted to end the relationship due to 'his drinking and volatile behaviour, Marc had begun to smash Ana's belongings and the property"*. This reads as though it's a quote from Ana which it clearly is not. It would be better to just remove the quote marks.
- No information has been added about an inquest taking place.

- No dissemination list has been added.

Once completed, the view of the Home Office is that the DHR may be published.

Once completed the Home Office would be grateful if you could provide us with a digital copy of the revised final version of the report with all finalised attachments and appendices and the weblink to the site where the report will be published. Please ensure this letter is published alongside the report.

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

The DHR report including the executive summary and action plan should be converted to a PDF document and be smaller than 20 MB in size; this final Home Office QA Panel feedback letter should be attached to the end of the report as an annex; and the DHR Action Plan should be added to the report as an annex. This should include all implementation updates and note that the action plan is a live document and subject to change as outcomes are delivered.

Please also send a digital copy to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner at DHR@domesticabusecommissioner.independent.gov.uk

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,

Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel