

Beth Goodall
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Strategic Partnerships Team
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2 February 2023

Dear Beth,

Thank you for resubmitting the report (Christopher) for North Hertfordshire Community Safety Partnership to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was reassessed in January 2023.

The QA Panel felt this was an insightful, well-balanced and considered review that identified a number of both local and national learning points. The report opens with condolences for family and friends showing empathy and respect to all affected and involved in the DHR which is highlighted as good practice and the use of a genogram was very helpful.

Christopher's voice came through in the report and we learn of the impact family tensions had on him. The Panel note that the review has surfaced issues around access to support services in rural settings, the fact that men can be the victim of domestic abuse, economic abuse, the impact on children/young people and how this trauma can manifest itself, the heightened risk resulting from separation. All these features indicate the need for a whole system response.

The use of research in the review, and particularly the mapping of Jane Monkton Smith's eight stages, is commended as are the attempts made to engage the National Farmers' Union, particularly around the support available in rural communities. There is good exploration and discussion around equality, diversity and inclusion points; particularly gender and rural location impact, around the links between autism and childhood trauma from potentially witnessing the abuse and regarding divorce/separation increasing likelihood of domestic abuse/domestic homicide in the report.

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

The view of the Home Office is that the DHR may now be published.

We would be grateful if you could provide us with a finalised digital copy of the report with attachments 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.

Please also send a digital copy to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner 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,

Lynne Abrams

Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel