

Beth Goodall
Commissioning and Monitoring Officer
Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnerships Team
Adult Care Services
Hertfordshire County Council
Farnham House, Six Hills Way,
Stevenage,
SG1 2FQ,

8 June 2023

Dear Beth,

Thank you for resubmitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Anna) for Watford Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 26th April 2023. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel noted the updates in the report which has added depth to the report. The condolence message at the beginning of the report helps the reader gain an insight into Anna and remind the reader of the person and family behind the report. The addition of Polish translations ensures that the family and friends of Anna are included in the outcome of this process. There is now good consideration of cultural and language barriers to seeking help for domestic abuse.

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 may be published.

Areas for final development:

- The report provides a lot of detail about Anna's son and less about her and her experience of being a victim, this was highlighted in previous feedback and to an extent remains in the updated report.
- The interviews with Anna's friends and family do not explore fully whether they had concerns about domestic abuse or if they had the culturally appropriate resources available to help identify it.
- The report references Thomaz struggling with school, however, does not reference how the school communicated these concerns and escalated any concerns.

- There are no actions recorded. It would be helpful to have an action log to pick up some of the actions and recommendations from the report – such as school communication and the use of interpreters.
- The DASH risk assessment tool is mentioned. It would be helpful to give its full name and a brief explanation.
- The report needs to be thoroughly proofread before publishing, including ensuring that agency names and acronyms are correct and updated where necessary.

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.

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,

Lynne Abrams

Chair of the Home Office DHR Quality Assurance Panel