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11 December 2023

Dear Radlamah,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Duncan) for the London Borough of Barnet Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel felt this was a good, concise, well written report that was also compassionate and transparent.

The introduction provided useful context as to the services available in the borough and the Panel were pleased to see the inclusion of condolences to the family.

The information included on the victim and perpetrator and their relationship was useful in humanising both parties. The different perspectives from the children and from the friend provided an interesting insight into how different people may view relationships and despite the report not including a specific tribute to Duncan it did provide a good sense of him throughout.

Nonetheless 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 footnote stating that Lillian's name is a pseudonym uses the pronoun 'his' instead of 'her'.
- On page 4 Greg and Lola are referred to as Duncan's children, implying that they are not Lillian's children which is not the case. This is slightly confusing.
- It would be useful to know whether there were any friends of the victim approached under the involvement of family and friends section. A friend of Duncan's is later quoted in paragraph 9.24 and a neighbour in paragraph 9.34 but it is unclear how this information was obtained.

- In paragraph 9.28 there is reference to bi-directional violence. It would be useful within the review to use research to discuss different types of domestic abuse, and where bi-directional violence sits within this.
- The equality and diversity section concludes that no protected characteristics could definitively be said to have impacted on the circumstances of this case. However, it would have been useful for this to have been revisited in the section on accessibility of services (para 10.7). Given what we have been told about Duncan, his age, and how he viewed himself as a provider for the family (suggesting a belief in traditional gender roles), it seems possible that he would have struggled to seek support for domestic abuse and depression. Although this cannot be known, it does feel as though it could warrant a discussion here, possibly in the context of research in this area.
- The outcomes in the Action Plan need to be updated.
- The use of pseudonyms or real names of the children needs to be made clear.
- The first use of some acronyms are without descriptions. This should be amended.
- Items 8.6.3 – 8.6.5 would have benefited from academic references.
- Item 12, para 2 – Care Act 2014 is referred to as Carer's Act.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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