

Michelle Meldrum
Chair of the Sunderland DHR Panel
C/o Julie Smith
Associate Policy Lead for Community Safety
Office of the Chief Executive
Sunderland City Council
Civic Centre
Sunderland
SR2 7DN

14 July 2014

Dear Ms Meldrum,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report from Sunderland to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel.

The QA Panel would like to thank you for conducting this review and for providing them with the Executive Summary, Overview Report, and Action Plan. In terms of the assessment of reports the QA Panel judges them as either adequate or inadequate. It is clear that a lot of effort has gone into producing this report, and I am pleased to tell you that it has been judged as adequate by the QA Panel.

The QA Panel would like to commend you on a thorough and well written report. They particularly welcomed the inclusion of information on the responsibilities of health care agencies.

There was one issue that the QA Panel felt would benefit from further consideration and clarification before you publish the final report:

- Please clarify whether the victim made a disclosure as pages 62 and 69 appear to be contradictory on this point.

The QA Panel also noted the recommendation on domestic violence and abuse in relation to an older demographic population, and will consider how best to take this forward with partners in health, and policing.

We do not need to see another version of the report, but I would ask you to include this letter as an appendix to the report when the report is published.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Papaleontiou, Acting Chair of the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel
Head of the Interpersonal Violence Team, Safeguarding & Vulnerable Peoples Unit