

Hannah Gray
North Somerset Community Safety Partnership
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Weston-super-Mare
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28th May 2025

Dear Hannah,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Anne) for North Somerset Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 30th April 2025. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel felt that overall, this was an easy to follow and well written DHR. It shows good expert advice as domestic abuse and dementia specialists were represented on the panel. The report is sensitive and displays a good understanding of Anne's circumstances.

It is apparent that there was good engagement with Anne's family; condolences are given and there is a family tribute made by her daughter. The report provides an insight into Anne as a person, her early life being born in Ireland, her career as a primary school teacher and her faith.

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:

- Further explanations of older people's DASH risk assessments would be beneficial.
- The Panel felt that some wording could be amended to ensure that there is no possibility of victim blaming. For example, the suggestion that due to her religion Anne did not access help due to fear of divorce, and the wording regarding the stability of having a roof over her head.
- Anne disclosed recent domestic abuse (physical), however due to her dementia this was viewed as being historic and related to her first marriage. There may therefore be further learning here on how to ensure that disclosure is followed up contemporaneously.

- The actual death should be described in the executive summary. It currently only notes that Bill was convicted of manslaughter; further detail on what happened is required
- The Terms of Reference in Appendix A should be updated to reflect the charge of manslaughter.
- The research cited at 17.7 is powerful and it would be helpful to include this in the analysis rather than the conclusion.
- Some of the people mentioned in the report are not anonymised. Anne's name and photograph are also included in the report. Whilst Anne's daughter appears to have requested this, the CSP should ensure that others referenced have also given their permission should they choose to proceed with a report that is not anonymised.
- Footnotes for referencing would make it easier to see the sources cited; currently the references are at the end of the document which is harder to follow.
- The report would benefit from a proofread ahead of publication.

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