

Cllr Clair Bell  
Kent County Council  
Sessions House  
County Hall  
Maidstone  
ME14 1XQ

7<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Dear Clair,

Thank you for submitting the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) report (Salome) for Kent & Medway Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to the Home Office Quality Assurance (QA) Panel. The report was considered at the QA Panel meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The QA Panel noted that this is a thorough and high-quality report which is clearly set out. It has benefited from strong engagement with the family. The report balances considerations around the impact of Salome's ethnicity and heritage, whilst respecting the family's steer that Salome identified as a British woman.

The report is strengthened through its exploration of Salome's interactions with Social Services, including failures of professionals to question the impact supporting an ex-partner had on Salome.

The report was described by the Panel as honest and probing, with a good use of research to evidence claims. This has resulted in some clear and specific findings, which have been praised by the QA Panel.

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:**

- In 16.2.7 Ahmed is referred to by another name.
- The front page is missing the month of death, which should be added.

- It would be beneficial to have a rationale as to why Ahmed's friend was not contacted during the drafting of the report, as this could have been an opportunity to further understand the perpetrator and/or the victim.
- The CSP should provide an explanation of why the family was notified of the DHR in June 2023, two years after the panel first met. This should expand on the reference in 1.4 where it stated that this was on advice of the Senior Investigating Officer.
- The report refers to an agency review but did not name which agency did this. It would be helpful if their name could be included.
- The timescale of the review section could be tightened to make it more concise and accessible.
- The report would benefit from a thorough proofread before 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](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