

Somerset Domestic Homicide Review (case 013) - Summary Briefing to support Action Plan

A Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) was commissioned in Autumn 2015 by the Safer Somerset Partnership following the death of two people who had previously been in an intimate relationship; a homicide followed by a suicide.

The purpose of the review was to:

- Establish what lessons were to be learned from the domestic homicide regarding the way in which local professionals and organisations work individually and together to safeguard victims;
- Identify clearly what those lessons are both within and between agencies, how and within what timescales they will be acted on, and what is expected to change as a result;
- Apply those lessons to service response, including changes to policies and procedures as appropriate and identify what needs to change in order to reduce the risk of such tragedies happening in the future to prevent domestic homicide and improve service response for all domestic abuse victims and their children through improved intra and inter-agency working.

The Review Panel was made up of a range of statutory and voluntary organisations working across Somerset and was supported by an Independent Chair and Report Author. Some individuals who knew the two parties also engaged with the Panel; sharing information they knew about the couple and their relationship which was very valuable intelligence.

The details of this case have been limited to protect the family members of the deceased, (at the request of the family).

This briefing supports the Action Plan from this review. The action plan also includes the recommendations made as a result of the review by the Panel.

The Safer Somerset Partnership will oversee the implementation of this action plan and hold action owners to account on delivery.