



Francis Wakem
PO Box 144
Swindon
Wiltshire SN3 2HG

Gina Dennis
Business Manager
Swindon Local Safeguarding Children Board

21st August 2007

Dear Gina

Domestic Homicide Review
Mrs X

The Executive Board of the Swindon Community Safety Partnership commissioned a Domestic Homicide Review following the murder of Mrs X on 15th November 2005. The Review has now been completed. The Executive Board has adopted the Review reports and agreed the recommendations.

Domestic Homicide Reviews are not yet a statutory duty and consequently no national guidance has been produced.

Against a background of being the first such Review in Swindon and with little national or local guidance the Review generally followed the Swindon Local Safeguarding Children Board Serious Case Review criteria – a process supported by Home Office. You will be only too aware from your own work of the very sensitive issues involving people which the Review had to address.

The Review members came together as representatives from the statutory and voluntary sectors in a multi-agency group who had not previously worked together. Some members had previous experience of Serious Case Reviews – other members had no such knowledge.

When the Review was commissioned you very kindly provided the Review with details of the framework for the management of Serious Case Reviews. You also gave further guidance when clarification was sought. Your valuable contribution provided the structure on which the Review was able to develop its work.

Now that the Review is completed I would like to extend my personal thanks, together with the thanks of all members of the Review, for your considerable help and guidance. We are all very grateful that you so generously interrupted your busy work schedule to assist the Review process. Your contribution was greatly valued and appreciated.

My warm regards

Yours sincerely

Francis Wakem
Independent Chair
Domestic Homicide Review

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cc Julie Downey, Head of Safeguarding, Children and Families