

Information

for County Councillors

Sheet Number:
2017-21/207



From:	Suzanne Harris, Senior Commissioning Officer (Interpersonal Violence)
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Relevant SLT Director and sign-off date:	Trudi Grant 14 th December 2021
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Date:	21 st December 2021
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To:	All County Councillors
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Somerset Domestic Homicide Review Publication of Case 026

Background

The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004) requires Community Safety Partnerships to consider multi-agency reviews into deaths which may be domestic abuse related. As a key partner of the local Community Safety Partnership (Safer Somerset Partnership), Somerset County Council (SCC) is required to participate in Domestic Homicide Reviews

The statutory guidance states that Domestic Homicide Reviews should be considered for situations where:

The death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by—

(a) a person he or she was related to or whom he or she was or had been in an intimate personal relationship with

or

(b) a member of the same household as him or herself.

The purpose of a Domestic Homicide Review is to identify the lessons to be learnt from the death relating to domestic abuse services and processes

Somerset Domestic Homicide Review Case 026

In June 2019 the Safer Somerset Partnership was asked by Dorset Community Safety Partnership to jointly commission a Domestic Homicide Review with them. This was in response to the death (murder) of a 73 year old man. Although the victim lived in Dorset, the perpetrator (his adult son) had recently lived in Somerset, and had a history of domestic abuse against his mother (who also lived in Somerset). An independently chaired multi-agency review panel was then established, (as per the Home Office statutory guidance).

The domestic homicide review has resulted in learning and actions for a variety of Somerset and Dorset agencies and the Home Office Quality and Assurance Overview Panel have now confirmed the report can be published.

Publication

The Home Office require that reports be published online at the local Community Safety Partnership website. The Overview Report is available online at <https://somensetsurvivors.org.uk/professional-resources/domestic-homicide-reviews/> with each Community Safety Partnership member agency linking to this site.

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