



**LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY
BOARD**

28 JUNE 2024

**LRSCSB UPDATE: DOMESTIC HOMICIDE LOCAL MANAGEMENT
AGREEMENT REVIEW**

Introduction

1. Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004). Responsibilities to facilitate reviews fell to local authorities and partners through Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).
2. The infrequency of DHRs, however, posed potential issues regarding capacity and capability to undertake such reviews efficiently and effectively. As a solution in 2013 the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board (now the Leicestershire & Rutland Safer Communities Strategy Board) agreed centralised arrangements for the management of DHRs locally.
3. The agreed provisions involve two interrelated elements:
 - a. The commissioning of services and expertise from within the established local safeguarding infrastructure to manage DHRs.
 - b. Ensuring the CSP and the CSP Chair retains ownership and informed oversight as the statutorily responsible body.

For the efficient and effective management of DHRs it is important that the clear lines of communication set out with the local procedure (Appendix 1) are followed.

Purpose

4. The 2013 provisions have not been updated since inception. This report and the accompanying procedure document at appendix 1 reviews, clarifies and updates the agreement including responsibilities incumbent on parties within these local arrangements.

Summary of Changes

5. Below is a summary of the changes made:
- a. Governance arrangements have been brought up to date, for example, incorporating changes to the makeup and title of groups and bodies referenced in the document.
 - b. The document now includes references to support materials; statutory guidance, local procedure documents and training material, including an online course.
 - c. The 'agreement' sets out in clear terms, the responsibilities of each of the parties involved and the prerequisites required to maintain statutory decision-making functions whilst ensuring progress of the DHR with due diligence and oversight.
 - d. It affirms through the procedure timeline clear lines of communications with a methodology designed to avoid duplication and ensure a single version of events.
 - e. The consequences of divergence from the agreed procedure and/or actions undertaken to undermine them are outlined.

Recommendations for the Board

6. It is recommended that the Board:
- (a) notes the content of the report and accompanying local procedure document at appendix 1;
 - (b) Approves the DHR Management Local Procedural Responsibilities document and indicates any additions or amendments required to the document.

Officers to Contact

Rik Basra
Community Safety Coordinator
Tel: 0116 3050619
E-mail: rik.basra@leics.gov.uk

Appendix

DHR Management Local Procedural Responsibilities document.