

BEN

Case Summary

Amy and Ben began their relationship in late 2015. There were multiple domestic incidents of abuse against Amy from Ben, who was a serial perpetrator of domestic abuse. Various incidents led to referrals to safeguarding agencies, with the focus on Amy as a victim of domestic abuse, and children witnessing domestic issues.

In December 2018, Ben attacked Amy in her home, resulting in Amy injuring Ben with a pair of scissors. Ben was taken to the hospital but suffered a cardiac arrest and didn't recover consciousness, ultimately passing away. Amy, who had sustained injuries in the incident, was not charged for the incident.

Areas of focus

Impact of Domestic Abuse on the Children
To what extent was alcohol a factor in this DHR
Lack of professional curiosity by multiple services
Victim of DA from multiple partners

The purpose of Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) is to give an accurate as possible account of what originally transpired in an agency's response to the situation, to evaluate it fairly, and if necessary to identify any improvements for future practice.

[Link to DHR - DHR Fenland - FCSP DHR 1 2018 - Overview Report.pdf](#)

Agency Involvement

East Anglian Ambulance Service Trust (EAAST)
Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust (CPFT)
Queen Elizabeth Hospital NHS Trust, Kings Lynn
Fenland District Council Housing Services
Inclusion/CGL Drug and Alcohol Services
Cambridgeshire County Council, Children's Services
Head Teachers of Children's school
Cambridgeshire Education Authority

Recommendations -

- . The Fenland Community Safety Partnership should -
- Be assured that where CGL Drug and Alcohol Services receive a disclosure regarding domestic abuse that a referral is made to domestic abuse services
- Work with the Domestic Violence Strategic Partnership to highlight the risk of non-fatal strangulation
- Seek assurance from Cambridgeshire County Council Education Safeguarding Team that they have or will provide advice that at the student intake process, it includes an enquiry as to the status of the parent/carer/guardian and to establish if there are any care or guardianship orders in place
- Consider convening with their partners a practitioner event across the Fenland area for professionals and agencies using this case to highlight the effect of alcohol and coercive and controlling behaviour and domestic abuse
- Write a practice note to make all agencies aware of the provisions of the Domestic Abuse Disclosure Scheme
- Seek assurance from Cambridgeshire Constabulary that the recording and investigation of domestic abuse offences is appropriate to be able to support and sustain a prosecution
- Seek assurance from Cambridgeshire Children Services
- i) that when Domestic Abuse and its damaging effects are recognised, that there is an effective assessment undertaken and effective multi-agency plan put in place