

DANIEL

Case Summary

In late 2007, Daniel and Beth began a relationship, and by 2010, they had two children. Their relationship deteriorated around 2015, leading to Daniel moving out in April 2016. An arson attack occurred in July 2016, implicating Daniel as a suspect. Legal actions, including a non-molestation order, and conditions for child contact followed. Daniel was acquitted for the arson due to lack of evidence. During court proceedings concerns were raised about the behaviour of maternal grandfather, Andrew, who was tracking the child during visits to her father, and his aggressive behaviour at handover. In March 2021, a hearing was scheduled for custody resolution, and in April 2021, Daniel was murdered by Andrew, leading to life imprisonment in July 2021.

Key Themes

- Delays in court
- Risks of Domestic Abuse/ Homicide in cases of separation
- Sharing addresses

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 those in the case, to evaluate it fairly, and if necessary to identify any improvements for future practice.

Link to DHR -

Agency Involvement

- Cambridgeshire Constabulary (IMR)
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) (IMR)
- GP Medical Practice-Produced by the CCG (IMR)
- Cambridgeshire County Council Domestic Abuse/Sexual Violence Partnership - IDVA Services (IMR)
- North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust (NWAFT) (IMR)
- CAFCASS (IMR)

Recommendations

The Fenland Community Safety Partnership should ensure that an appropriate action plan is put in place for Cambridgeshire Constabulary to review their policy on risk assessments in cases that are re-investigated and where the victim(s) were assessed and managed initially as high-risk. A tag and flag system could be considered in appropriate cases.

The Fenland Community Safety Partnership should request a meeting with the Local Criminal Justice Board to discuss delays in cases that involve Domestic Abuse to ensure that justice is timely, to safeguard all victims within the case.

The Fenland Community Safety Partnership in conjunction with the Countywide DA/SV partnership should provide a case study briefing to all frontline staff to ensure that they consider the risks where wider family members are exhibiting stalking and coercive and controlling behaviour.

The Fenland Community Safety Partnership should:

- Raise awareness of the risks of Domestic Abuse and Domestic Homicide in cases of separation, in particular those cases that involve child arrangement orders in the Family court.
- They should meet and provide a briefing in relation to the findings of this report to the Local Family Justice Board.
- They should meet and brief the Designated Family Court Judge for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to highlight this case and raise the issue in relation to the dangers of providing home addresses to all parties in proceedings.

The Fenland Community Safety Partnership should request that the Countywide DA/SV strategic partnership include awareness raising in their training with frontline practitioners of Professor Monckton-Smith's homicide timeline including how this could be applied to conflict in private law proceedings cases involving child arrangement orders.