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**Welsh Women's Aid**

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<b>These are the views of:</b>	<i>Welsh Women's Aid (Third Sector) - the national charity in Wales working to end domestic abuse and all forms of violence against women.</i>

### Consultation questions

**1. Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?**

- Individual  
 Organisation

[if 'Individual then Q2, if Organisation then Q3]

**2. If you are responding as an individual, please select the option which best describes your status.**

- Family member or friend bereaved by domestic homicide  
 Family member or friend bereaved by another type of domestic abuse related death (not a homicide)  
 Academic / researcher / student  
 Other (please specify):

**3. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please select the option which best describes your affiliation.**

- Law enforcement agency (police, policing body, Crown Prosecution Service)  
 Healthcare organisation

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Welsh Women's Aid is a registered charity in England and Wales, No. 1140962  
and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales, No. 07483469



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- Local Authority
- Community Safety Partnership
- Educational institution or student body
- Violence against women and girls charity / service provider
- Other (please specify):

### About Welsh Women's Aid

Welsh Women's Aid is the umbrella organisation in Wales that supports and provides national representation for independent third sector violence against women, domestic abuse, and sexual violence (VAWDASV) specialist services in Wales. Our membership comprises of 20 specialist support services. These services deliver lifesaving and life-changing support and preventative work in response to violence against women, including domestic abuse and sexual violence against children and young people, men and boys, trans and non-binary people, as part of a network of UK provision. As an umbrella organisation, our primary purpose is to prevent domestic abuse, sexual violence, and all forms of violence against women and ensure high quality services for survivors that are needs-led, gender responsive and holistic. We collaborate nationally to integrate and improve community responses and practice in Wales. We also award the Wales National Quality Service Standards (NQSS), a national accreditation framework for domestic abuse specialist services in Wales (supported by the Welsh Government) as part of a UK suite of integrated accreditation systems and frameworks. (More information on the NQSS can be found [here](#)).

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**Definition of a Domestic Homicide Review**

Current DHR legislation specifies that a DHR should be considered in instances 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 to whom he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or (b) a member of the same household as himself’.

The DA Act 2021 introduced a statutory definition of domestic abuse that incorporates a range of abuses beyond ‘violence, abuse and neglect’ to include controlling or coercive behaviour, emotional and economic abuse. Explicitly including this definition in the DHR legislation would ensure that DHRs continue to contribute to our understanding of DA, and capture learnings to prevent fatal domestic abuse.

**4. Are you in favour of updating DHR legislation so that a DHR is considered for all deaths that have or appear to have been the result of domestic abuse, as domestic abuse is defined in the DA Act 2021 (see below)?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Please comment

Welsh Women’s Aid welcome the opportunity given by the Home Office to share our thoughts on the reform of Domestic Homicide Reviews (“DHR or review”) and recognise the UK Government’s commitment to learn more about suicides that take place in the context of domestic abuse and to ensure lessons are learnt to reduce the number of domestic homicides<sup>1</sup>. We are happy to provide any oral evidence to the Home Office, if required. In our response we are going to focus largely on intimate partner abuse and abuse by family members. We are strongly in favour of updating DHR legislation in order for it to align with the definition provided within the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (‘the Act’). Welsh Women’s Aid worked hard to influence and be a part of the Act’s development from inception, in order to ensure that the legislation was fit for the needs of survivors<sup>2</sup>. We strongly believe that this Act provides a real opportunity to facilitate a national response to domestic abuse

<sup>1</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1064427/E02735263\\_Tackling\\_Domestic\\_Abuse\\_CP\\_639\\_Accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1064427/E02735263_Tackling_Domestic_Abuse_CP_639_Accessible.pdf), page 5 and 8.

<sup>2</sup> [https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-06-04/debates/53d6764e-24e5-4287-8e40-fc3690d696b1/DomesticAbuseBill\(SecondSitting\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-06-04/debates/53d6764e-24e5-4287-8e40-fc3690d696b1/DomesticAbuseBill(SecondSitting)).

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and all forms of violence against women and girls, and that both the DHR legislation and guidance must align with the Act, in its entirety to ensure consistency.

Updating the DHR legislation and incorporating the statutory definition used in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, allows for significantly more scope and understanding of the different forms of abuse, compared to the current use of “violence, abuse, or neglect”<sup>3</sup>. The Act also identifies and recognises children as survivors in their own right, regardless of whether they experience, see, or hear the effects of abuse<sup>4</sup>. On implementation of this statutory definition, we believe that it must be made clear within statutory guidance that children are survivors in their own right and the impact of the bereavement is clear throughout the report. There must also be guidance on best practise for engaging and safeguarding children who participate in DHR’s.

**Recommendation 1: The statutory guidance must include that children are survivors in their own right and that the impact the bereavement has had on them is clear throughout the report. Further guidance must also be provided on best practise on engaging and safeguarding children who participate in reviews.**

### **‘Member of the same household’ to ‘personally connected’**

In the current legislation, part b states that a review should be held when it is a member of the same household<sup>5</sup>. Under the new proposed changes of using the statutory definition of domestic abuse, this would change to “personally connected”<sup>6</sup>. Whilst we recognise that this move would exclude situations of multiple occupancy households, where there are no intimate or family relations, we are concerned that this shift from the same household to personally connected may exclude some cases from being reviewed, that would have currently triggered a DHR. This would then mean this learning is lost, and similar situations may be more difficult to prevent.

Domestic homicides are not limited to relationships between intimate partners but can also involve different family dynamics<sup>7</sup>, and other relational situations. As highlighted by the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, we are concerned that the following type of situations would not fall under this new category of “personally connected”.

<sup>3</sup> Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004, Section 9, Part 1.

<sup>4</sup> Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Part 1, Section 3.

<sup>5</sup> Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004, Section 9. Part 1 (b).

<sup>6</sup> Domestic Abuse Act, 2021, Part 1, Section 2.

<sup>7</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1143045/domestic-homicide-sentencing-review.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1143045/domestic-homicide-sentencing-review.pdf), page 7.

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- Two people who live within the same household, but their relationship is masked or hidden from family and friends due to reasons such as cultural and religious beliefs or sexuality.
- Carers<sup>8</sup> or when a vulnerable person is exploited and abused<sup>9</sup>, and the behaviour in these relationships replicate coercion and control.
- Situations where family members of the victims are targeted and victimised<sup>10</sup>.

We believe that when a DHR is being considered, there must be an explanation given to explain why those residing in the same property do not meet the “personally connected” criteria and that a relational connection to domestic abuse has been explored and not found.

**Recommendation 2: The Home Office should consider how to ensure that moving from ‘same household’ to ‘personally connected’ does not exclude relevant cases from the DHR process.**

**Recommendation 3: As highlighted by the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, The Home Office should consider putting into statutory guidance that when a death occurs, and they reside in the same household, that the Community Safety Partnership must justify their decision to not review this and that a relational connection to domestic abuse has been explored and not found.**

### Gender-based perspective

Domestic abuse is a gendered crime, and it is estimated that 1 in 4 women will be a survivor of domestic abuse in their lifetime<sup>11</sup>. Between October 2019 and September 2020, statistics from DHR’s highlight that 80% of victims were female, whilst 83% of perpetrators were male<sup>12</sup>. The killing of women by their intimate or former intimate partners is a dangerous social, criminal justice and public health issue<sup>13</sup>, and we strongly believe that the gendered nature of domestic abuse must be present in legislation. It is important to recognise the culture, narratives and attitudes of gender inequality and discrimination that perpetuate violence against women and girls, in order to understand how and why an individual experiences abuse. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 does not have a gendered definition to domestic abuse, and whilst the Joint Committee of the House of Lord and House of Commons, alongside many organisations advocated for a gendered definition of domestic abuse, this

<sup>8</sup> <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt201719/jtselect/jtddab/2075/2075.pdf> , page 16. The ability of carers to be excluded from the definition of domestic abuse and the recognition that abuse can occur in a domestic situation.

<sup>9</sup> Jimmy Prout death: Chances missed to save him - report - BBC News

<sup>10</sup> Tendring-DHR-2015-1.pdf (domestichomicide-halt.co.uk).

<sup>11</sup> <https://igpp.org.uk/event/Tackling-Domestic-Violence-and-Abuse-2023/>.

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-findings-from-analysis-of-domestic-homicide-reviews/key-findings-from-analysis-of-domestic-homicide-reviews>.

<sup>13</sup> <https://eprints.glos.ac.uk/6896/1/6896%20Monckton-Smith%20%282019%29%20Intimate%20Partner%20Femicide%20using%20Foucauldian.....pdf>, page 1.

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was not implemented<sup>14</sup>. The statutory guidance on the Act does highlight that women are disproportionately impacted by violence or abuse; however, we believe that the gendered nature must be incorporated when updating the DHR legislation and the statutory guidance. When the gendered basis of domestic abuse is not understood, the DHR will not be exhaustive and will not successfully contribute to prevention. These narratives, beliefs and attitudes of gender inequality and misogyny must be challenged, and under the Istanbul Convention<sup>15</sup> we are compelled to demonstrate a gendered understanding of violence against and women and domestic abuse, as a basis for all measures of protection and support for victims.

**Recommendation 4: We believe that the Home Office should include a clause into the DHR legislation which recognises the gendered nature of domestic abuse, and to ensure that this is implemented into the statutory guidance.**

### **Strengthening statutory guidance**

Whilst updating DHR legislation is crucial in ensuring that the statutory definition of domestic abuse is aligned, it important that statutory guidance which helps inform on the applicability of the legislation, is also updated.

The current statutory guidance highlights that a review can be undertaken when a survivor has taken their own life and the circumstances of this raises concerns, such as them being in a coercive controlling relationship<sup>16</sup>. There is no further information provided within the guidance on the commissioning of reviews on victim suicides that are linked to domestic abuse. There has recently been new evidence to demonstrate that a number of victim suicides have had known history of domestic abuse, although this is likely to be an under-estimated as many will have had no prior police history of domestic abuse and the link would have not been made<sup>17</sup>. In 2022, a coroner's inquest concluded that the underlying cause of a women's' suicide was domestic abuse, and that there must be greater recognition of the link between domestic abuse and suicide to prevent future deaths<sup>18</sup>. Concerns have been highlighted regarding the lack of a definition and a lack of substantial guidance around death by suicide of a victim of domestic abuse, and that commissioning decisions are often

<sup>14</sup> <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt201719/jtselect/jtddab/2075/2075.pdf>, page 77.

<sup>15</sup> Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

<sup>16</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/575273/DHR-Statutory-Guidance-161206.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/575273/DHR-Statutory-Guidance-161206.pdf), page 8.

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.vkpp.org.uk/assets/Files/Domestic-Homicides-and-Suspected-Victim-Suicides-2021-2022/VKPP-Domestic-Homicides-and-Suspected-Victim-Suicides-2020-2021.pdf>, page 13.

<sup>18</sup> [https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Jessica-Laverack-Prevention-of-future-deaths-report-2022-0344\\_Published.pdf](https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Jessica-Laverack-Prevention-of-future-deaths-report-2022-0344_Published.pdf).

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complicated as it is not clear if a case should be reviewed<sup>19</sup>. Regardless of how the Home Office decide to name victim suicides that are related to domestic abuse, there must be a commitment to ensure the statutory guidance provides substantial information on the applicability of the legislation in these circumstances. It is crucial that these deaths are identified in order to have learning to prevent these in the future.

**Recommendation 5: The Home Office must commit to ensuring that statutory guidance is thoroughly developed for suicides and unexplained deaths, to ensure reviews are commissioned when required.**

Alongside the above clarification, there must also be further guidance provided on the different forms of domestic abuse, such as so-called honour-based abuse and coercive control, and how these can be identified. In the Independent review conducted by Clare Wade KC into DHR's, it was highlighted that coercive control is still not fully understood and can be often overlooked in intimate partner killings<sup>20</sup>. Although the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 introduced a statutory definition of domestic abuse, and whilst not specifically mentioned in the legislation, so-called honour-based abuse was highlighted within the statutory guidance. However, in 2023 the Women and Equalities Committee have confirmed that there is still a lack of data collection. This demonstrates that there is still a significant lack of understanding of what this form of abuse looks like. So-called honour-based abuse can be orchestrated by the current or past partner, their family but also the wider community, which is unlikely to fall under the personally connected provision of the Act.

Whilst we have previously mentioned that the DHR legislation does not currently mention gender, we believe that the statutory guidance should include specific information on the nuances of domestic abuse being gendered. This can be information on areas such as, the patterns of abuse, the clarification of different forms of abuse (such as adult family abuse and intimate partner abuse), substantial learnings that have come out of DHR's and models, such as the 8-stage domestic homicide timeline<sup>21</sup>.

**Recommendation 6: The Home Office should ensure that the DHR statutory guidance explains and illustrates all forms of domestic abuse, whilst also illustrating the different dynamics, patterns and**

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<sup>19</sup> Rowlands, J., Dangar, S. The Challenges and Opportunities of Reviewing Domestic Abuse-Related Deaths by Suicide in England and Wales. *J Fam Viol* (2023), page 5.

<sup>20</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1143045/domestic-homicide-sentencing-review.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1143045/domestic-homicide-sentencing-review.pdf), page 51.

<sup>21</sup> <https://eprints.glos.ac.uk/6896/1/6896%20Monckton-Smith%20%282019%29%20Intimate%20Partner%20Femicide%20using%20Foucauldian.....pdf>.





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trends leading to domestic homicide or domestic abuse related deaths, in order to ensure that deaths are referred for DHRs and are understood by the panel.

## Training

The implementation of the statutory definition of domestic abuse and updating statutory guidance must not be in silo, it must be accompanied by specialist training for the Community Safety Partnership. Although there is now a statutory definition of domestic abuse, there is still a significant lack of understanding by professionals and gaps in practise. Training must not be ad-hoc and must be based on a clear framework included in legislation or statutory guidance, for independent chairs, review panels<sup>22</sup> and for the Community Safety Partnership. We believe that this training should be provided by specialist domestic abuse organisations as experts in the violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV) sector. There must also be training on intersectionality and cultural competency, to ensure that there is a sufficient understanding on how these intersect, how they can act as barriers for victims of domestic abuse and how they can be weaponised by the perpetrator.

**Recommendation 7: Alongside the implementation of the statutory definition of domestic abuse, the Home Office must ensure that in legislation or in statutory guidance, there is a robust specialist training framework in order to build up professionals' awareness and recognition different forms of abuse. This training should include an element on intersectionality and cultural competency.**

## Existing Legislation

**Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004, Section 9, Part 1 states a Domestic Homicide Review should be held when:**

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

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

*(b) a member of the same household as himself,*

*held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death"*

<sup>22</sup> <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10896-023-00492-z>.







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**Section 1 of The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 defines domestic abuse as:**

- (2) Behaviour of a person ("A") towards another person ("B") is "domestic abuse" if—
- (a) A and B are each aged 16 or over and are personally connected to each other, and
  - (b) the behaviour is abusive.
- (3) Behaviour is "abusive" if it consists of any of the following—
- (a) physical or sexual abuse;
  - (b) violent or threatening behaviour;
  - (c) controlling or coercive behaviour;
  - (d) economic abuse (see subsection (4));
  - (e) psychological, emotional or other abuse;
- and it does not matter whether the behaviour consists of a single incident or a course of conduct.
- (4) "Economic abuse" means any behaviour that has a substantial adverse effect on B's ability to—
- (a) acquire, use or maintain money or other property, or
  - (b) obtain goods or services.
- (5) For the purposes of this Act A's behaviour may be behaviour "towards" B despite the fact that it consists of conduct directed at another person (for example, B's child).
- (6) References in this Act to being abusive towards another person are to be read in accordance with this section.
- (7) For the meaning of "personally connected", see section 2.

**Section 2 of The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 defines "personally connected" as:**

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, two people are "personally connected" to each other if any of the following applies—
- (a) they are, or have been, married to each other;
  - (b) they are, or have been, civil partners of each other;
  - (c) they have agreed to marry one another (whether or not the agreement has been terminated);
  - (d) they have entered into a civil partnership agreement (whether or not the agreement has been terminated);
  - (e) they are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other;
  - (f) they each have, or there has been a time when they each have had, a parental relationship in relation to the same child (see subsection (2));
  - (g) they are relatives.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(f) a person has a parental relationship in relation to a child if—
- (a) the person is a parent of the child, or
  - (b) the person has parental responsibility for the child.
- (3) In this section—
- "child" means a person under the age of 18 years;
  - "civil partnership agreement" has the meaning given by section 73 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004;
  - "parental responsibility" has the same meaning as in the Children Act 1989 (see section 3 of that Act);



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Naming convention for Domestic Homicide Reviews

The name 'Domestic Homicide Review' can be misleading when the fatality in the review has not been ruled a homicide (e.g suicides and unexplained deaths).

**5. Are you in favour of renaming 'Domestic Homicide Reviews'?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Please briefly explain reasoning for your response

Welsh Women's Aid believe that there should be another term used for suicides or unexplained deaths which are linked to domestic abuse. However, this term should not be implemented in isolation and there must further responsibility to ensure these types of deaths are identified each time. Domestic homicides have been a focus of a large amount of practise, policy, and academic attention, whilst domestic abuse related deaths by suicide have received little attention<sup>23</sup>. The learnings, especially from suicides related to domestic abuse, are crucial to understand how these can be prevented and how mental ill-health can be consequence of living with domestic abuse. Whilst the UK Government have stated their commitment to improve their knowledge on suicides following domestic abuse and to prioritise prevention<sup>24</sup>, these "hidden victims of domestic abuse are left uncouncted and unrecognised"<sup>25</sup>. Agenda Alliance have highlighted that women who have experienced abuse from a partner are 3 times more likely to have attempted suicide within the last year<sup>26</sup>. With it being estimated that around 3 women in the UK take their own life in a week to escape domestic abuse<sup>27</sup>, it is difficult to understand how in many cases it has been deemed that there was no harm that could be said to have caused suicide, even though it was of expert opinion that the psychological impact was not from psychiatric illness but was consistent with domestic abuse<sup>28</sup>. In order to ensure deaths following domestic abuse are identified and lessons are learnt, there must be a greater understanding of the significant impact domestic abuse has on a victims' mental health<sup>29</sup>. Police domestic abuse leads have stated that they feel confident in identifying

<sup>23</sup> <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10896-023-00492-z>, page 1.

<sup>24</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1064427/E02735263\\_Tackling\\_Domestic\\_Abuse\\_CP\\_639\\_Accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1064427/E02735263_Tackling_Domestic_Abuse_CP_639_Accessible.pdf), page 11 and 15.

<sup>25</sup> [https://www.agendaalliance.org/documents/138/Underexamined\\_and\\_Underreported\\_Briefing.pdf](https://www.agendaalliance.org/documents/138/Underexamined_and_Underreported_Briefing.pdf), page 14.

<sup>26</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>27</sup> <https://nspa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/New-Suicide-Report2c-Refuge-and-University-of-Warwick.pdf>, page 7.

<sup>28</sup> R v Dhaliwal [2006] EWCA Crim 1139.

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.vkpp.org.uk/assets/Files/Domestic-Homicides-and-Suspected-Victim-Suicides-2021-2022/VKPP-Domestic-Homicides-and-Suspected-Victim-Suicides-2020-2021.pdf>, page 13.

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unexplained deaths and suspected victim suicide when there was a history of domestic abuse<sup>30</sup>, however this leaves those victims who have not disclosed abuse as unidentified. Some research has evidenced that suicide risks are higher for women from ethnic minorities and those who are migrants/refugees, who are victims of domestic abuse<sup>31</sup>. This is likely due to a consequence of cultural practises or the concept of so-called honour and shame<sup>32</sup>. There must be recognition of the different barriers that prevents victims from disclosing abuse when they are alive, and how there may be no record of any disclosure.

Learnings from domestic abuse related suicide reviews are important in ensuring that changes are made when gaps and lack of identification of abuse is identified. The statutory guidance that accompanies the DHR legislation must be amended to ensure there is a greater understanding of domestic abuse related suicides and how these can be identified. There must be sufficient training on the above and on the link between domestic abuse, trauma, and mental health, whilst also creating awareness of the link between suicide and those who are from marginalised background.

**Recommendation 8: The Home Office must ensure that statutory guidance is updated to ensure that domestic abuse related suicides are identified, and key learnings are taken away from the review.**

**Recommendation 9: The Home Office must ensure that there is a robust specialist training framework in order to build up professionals' awareness of domestic abuse related suicides and the link between domestic abuse, trauma and mental health. This training should include an element on intersectionality and cultural competency.**

## 6. If 'Domestic Homicide Reviews' are renamed, should the Government:

- Introduce the term 'Domestic Abuse Fatality Review' for cases of domestic abuse related deaths that are not homicides, whilst retaining the terms 'Domestic Homicide Review' for domestic homicides.
- Re-name all 'Domestic Homicide Reviews' to 'Domestic Abuse Fatality Reviews'
- Use another term (or terms) to better reflect the range of deaths which fall within the scope of a DHR (please specify):

<sup>30</sup> *ibid*, page 20.

<sup>31</sup> <https://nspa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/New-Suicide-Report2c-Refuge-and-University-of-Warwick.pdf>, page 12.

<sup>32</sup> *ibid*.





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Welsh Women's Aid believe that homicides should remain as 'Domestic Homicide Reviews' and death by suicide and unexplained deaths should be 'Domestic Abuse related Deaths'. Domestic Abuse related Deaths would involve any death that is related to or in some way connected to domestic abuse<sup>33</sup>. We oppose the idea of using 'Domestic Abuse Fatality Review' as we believe the word 'fatality' does not encapsulate the extent and seriousness of the matter. The definition of fatality by the Cambridge Dictionary is as following: "A death caused by an accident or by violence"<sup>34</sup>. We do not believe using a term which describes a death being caused by an accident is correct. The connotation of the death being an accident does not highlight the often-calculated nature of domestic homicides and nor does it represent the severity of the act. It removes the culpability of the perpetrator and does not reflect that the nature of the death is a direct result of domestic abuse. Language is very important, and the use of the word 'homicide' reflects the severe nature of the death. It is essential that the family and friends of victims of homicide and domestic abuse related deaths feel that the nature of the difficult circumstances they are dealing with are not minimised, and nothing is taken away from the heinous act of the perpetrator/s and the harm that has been caused.

**Recommendation 10: The Home Office should retain the term 'Domestic Homicide Review' for homicides, and for unexplained deaths and suicide should introduce the term 'Domestic Abuse Related Deaths'.**

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<sup>33</sup> <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10896-023-00492-z>.

<sup>34</sup> <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/fatality>.

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