

Statement on behalf of the Kirklees Communities Partnership Board

Domestic Homicide Review Bethany Rae Field

This Domestic Homicide Review was held following the tragic death of Bethany Rae Fields.

Bethany was killed by her former partner, Paul Crowther, who was sentenced to life imprisonment after pleading guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

The judge in the case made clear that Crowther retained a high level of criminal responsibility for his actions.

Our thoughts remain with Bethany, her family and her friends, whose contribution to this review has been both invaluable and profoundly moving. They specifically asked that Bethany be named in the report.

The key purpose of a Domestic Homicide Review is to identify areas where working practices can be developed after homicides where a person died because of domestic violence and abuse.

In order for these lessons to be learned as widely and thoroughly as possible, professionals need to understand fully what happened in each homicide and, most importantly, what needs to change in order to reduce the risk of such tragedies happening in the future.

The board accepts all findings from the review and supports the recommendations contained within it.

All agencies mentioned in the review have implemented the suggested actions and the Communities Partnership Board will continue to work with agencies to make sure they provide the best possible level of support and protection for victims of domestic abuse.

We would like to thank all who took part in this Domestic Homicide Review, in particular Bethany's family and friends. Bethany was a much loved, hugely admired young woman whose loss remains deeply felt by everyone who knew her.