



At the outset The Strategic Management Board (SMB) acknowledge the hurt and harm inflicted on the victim in this case. The SMB also pays tribute to the victim's bravery in cooperating with the police to ensure Johnston was quickly apprehended and brought before the court.

The Strategic Management Board for the public protection arrangements of NI welcomes the opportunity to publish an Executive Summary of the Serious Case Review in respect of Barry Shay Johnston. This review was undertaken by an independent assessor, Mr David Watkins CB.

In summary, the Independent Serious Case Review chaired by Mr Watkins found there was a high probability that, even if Johnston had been placed in Category 3, this would not have prevented the alleged second rape, not least given his highly impulsive behaviour. The Review found nothing to cast doubt on the public protection arrangements and that the agencies had followed all the steps prescribed. Overall the Serious Case Review acknowledged that the Public Protection Arrangements aim to minimise the risk posed but that they cannot eliminate risk.

The Review identified a number of recommendations for future practice which are outlined in the executive summary. The Strategic Management Board has accepted, and is implementing all the recommendations of the serious case review. Progress against each of the recommendations has been detailed in the summary.

Representatives of the Strategic Management Board met with the victim and her family to share the Executive Summary which they stated they found helpful. Having read the report, the victim and her family stated they are trying to move on from this very difficult experience and thank everyone for their help, support and kind words.

