
To: Social Work, Health and Well-being Policy Board

On: 13 January 2015

Report by: Director of Social Work

Heading: Update on Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

1. Summary

- 1.1 Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) were introduced in 2006 for the management of sexual offenders, with local operational management on a local authority basis and strategic management across North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority. This report details the significant developments currently underway or planned, including a Thematic review of MAPPA, extension of the process to violent offenders, and updated national guidance.
- 1.2 The Care Inspectorate and HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) have given a commitment to work collaboratively with other scrutiny bodies to undertake a review of the Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) in Scotland, to assess the effectiveness of MAPPA regarding protecting communities from the potential risks presented by sexual offenders.
- 1.3 NSCJA MAPPA strategic Oversight Group requires to submit a position statement with reference to a range of quality indicators by 23rd January 2015. Between April and June 2015 fieldwork analysis will include access to files, and observations at MAPPA meetings. A joint national report with recommendations will be published in approximately Autumn 2015, and will be provided to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and available on Care Inspectorate and HMIC websites. A further report will be provided to board upon publication of this report.
- 1.4 The national MAPPA guidance was updated in April 2014, including revised risk assessment paperwork, and a Scottish Government MAPPA extension group has

been provided with information to inform potential resource requirements of a roll out of MAPPA to include violent offenders. Further information is required as to when this would commence and whether additional resource would be made available to manage the arrangements.

2. Recommendations

The Social Work, Health and Well-being Policy Board is asked to note the content of this report.

3 Background

3.1 Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) were established by the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2005 and introduced in 2006. To date they have involved the management of sexual offenders. Whilst individual local authorities manage the operational arrangements for their service users, strategic oversight and management is undertaken across North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority (NSCJA), with one MAPPA co-ordination unit based in Inverclyde, and NSCJA operational and strategic groups.

3.2 This report details current and planned developments in relation to MAPPA nationally including:

- A Joint Thematic Review of MAPPA in Scotland
- Updated Scottish Government MAPPA Guidance June 2014.
- MAPPA extension to violent offenders.

3.3 A Joint Thematic Review of MAPPA in Scotland

The Care Inspectorate and HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) have given a commitment to work collaboratively with other scrutiny bodies to undertake a proportionate, risk-based and intelligence led review of the Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) in Scotland.

The joint review will focus on sexual offenders subject to the statutory notification process. A MAPPA Programme Board was established in March 2014 to provide strategic direction and to oversee the delivery of the joint thematic review. The MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group chairs will be the point of contact for information

The purpose of the joint thematic review will be to assess the state, efficiency and effectiveness of the MAPPA in Scotland, in terms of keeping people safe and reducing the potential risk of serious harm by registered sex offenders in our communities.

The review will consist of:

- Analysis of Significant Case Reviews and current research
- A quantitative analysis of the Violent and Sex Offender Register (ViSOR)
- Submission of a Position Statement from Strategic Oversight Groups
- Fieldwork activity which will commence in April 2015.

The Position Statement has been designed around the current Quality Indicator Framework used by the Care Inspectorate for the inspection of children's services and adapted for use on the LS/CMI self-evaluation which concluded earlier this year. This requires to be provided to the review team by 23 January 2015.

The fieldwork stage is scheduled for April - June 2015, this will be informed by the outcome of the above activities. Fieldwork will include observations at MAPPA meetings, interviews with key staff including focus groups and a review of case records in each Local Authority area. Further details of the fieldwork stage will be provided by the review team to the Strategic Oversight Group chairs in January 2015.

A multi-agency group has also been established to complete the Quality Indicator Template. Work is underway to ensure appropriate communications with criminal justice staff and wider social work staff involved in MAPPA.

A joint national report with recommendations will be published in approximately Autumn 2015, and will be provided to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and available on Care Inspectorate and HMIC websites. A report will be provided to board to update on the outcome of the review and recommendations made.

3.4 MAPPA National Guidance June 2014

On 20 June 2014 The Scottish Government published updated MAPPA guidance. The most significant change is the new minute and risk management planning template, which is likely to require a further multi-agency meeting prior to the MAPPA meeting itself. A subgroup of the MAPPA implementation group has been established to plan the process, with a six month period allowed for implementation. Staff have also been trained in the GRASP risk assessment model [**G**athering of Information, **R**isk **A**nalysis, **S**cenario **P**lanning to manage the Risk Management Plans] to prepare them for this process.

3.5 MAPPA Extension to Violent Offenders:

A Scottish Government MAPPA Extension Advisory Group is currently considering extending MAPPA to violent offenders who present a risk of serious harm, under the heading of Potentially Dangerous Persons (PDPs). The writer has provided a report to the Social Work Scotland representative which recognises the benefits to the multi-agency management of some of the higher risk violent offenders however seeks information as to resourcing of the increased expectations. Local authorities have also recently provided an estimate of potential numbers to advise on the implications of this extension and await further information as to implementation processes and timescales.

3.6 A MAPPA annual report is published on the NSCJA website and the Renfrewshire criminal justice social work website providing the public with details of

the operation of MAPPA, statistics for the previous year, and developments undertaken within the year and planned for the next year. The most recent report, published in October 2014 relates to activity in 2013/14.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – potential financial implications of MAPPA extension to violent offenders is currently being considered by the Scottish Government MAPPA extension group.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** - none
3. **Community Planning** –
Safer and Stronger – Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements ensure multi-agency management of sexual offenders who have the potential to cause serious harm to the public.
4. **Legal** - none
5. **Property/Assets** – none
6. **Information Technology** - none
7. **Equality & Human Rights**

(a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** - none
9. **Procurement** - none
10. **Risk** - none
11. **Privacy Impact** – none

List of Background Papers - None

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