
To: Education and Children Policy Board

On: 5 November 2015

Report by: Director of Children's Services

Heading: Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) –
Annual Report 2014/15

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 (NSCJA). Each year the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) annual report is published.
- 1.2. The 2014/15 Annual Report was published on 30 October 2015 <http://www.nscja.co.uk/pdf/NSCJA%20MAPPA%20Annual%20report%202014-2015.pdf>. The report was compiled by the MAPPA Co-ordinator for NSCJA, with contributions from the Police, Local Authorities, the Scottish Prison Service and Health Boards, known as the Responsible Authorities. This report provides Scottish Ministers with information on the operational management of MAPPA within NSCJA.
- 1.3. The report includes details on:
- What MAPPA is.
 - How MAPPA works in NSCJA.
 - Information of the Strategic and Operational arrangements.
 - Local arrangements including developments, achievements and future objectives.
- 1.4. Sections 10 and 11 of the Management of Offenders Act 2005 require the Police, Local Authorities and the Scottish Prison Service (SPS), the Responsible Authorities, to establish joint arrangements for the assessment and management of risk posed by sex offenders and violent offenders. In addition, Health Boards are designated as a Responsible Authority in relation to restricted patients.

- 1.5. MAPPA provides a consistent national framework for the assessment and management of those offenders who pose the most serious risk of harm. It has built upon and strengthened well established joint working arrangements between Criminal Justice Social Work, Police, the Prison Service and others such as the Housing providers.
- 1.6. Under S11 of the Act the Responsible Authorities are required to keep the joint arrangements under review, to provide assurance to the Community Justice Authority that local protocols are in place to support the implementation of the national policy, and to prepare and publish an annual report on the operation of MAPPAs to the Community Justice Authority. It is noted that the Community Justice Bill, which is likely to receive Royal Assent in Spring 2016, will disestablish the Community Justice Authorities but does not fundamentally change the strategic arrangements for MAPPA. It is assumed that in the future the MAPPA annual report will be submitted to Community Justice Scotland a national organisation which will also be created by the Bill.
- 1.7. It is noted that there has recently been a thematic review of the MAPPA arrangements across Scotland, led by the Care Inspectorate. It is anticipated that a national report will be published in November 2015.
- 1.8. MAPPA currently includes sexual offenders. The Scottish Government is keen to extend these arrangements to serious and violent offenders. Agencies currently work closely to manage the risk posed by violent offenders, however, including them in the MAPPA arrangements will create consistency across Scotland.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Education and Children's Services Policy Board is asked to note:
 - [a] the contents of the MAPPA Annual Report 2014/15 (<http://www.nscja.co.uk/pdf/NSCJA%20MAPPA%20Annual%20report%202014-2015.pdf>)
 - [b] A further report will be brought to Board on the findings of the national thematic review of MAPPA.
 - [c] Plans are being developed to implement the extension of MAPPA to violent offenders.

3. Background

- 3.1. The MAPPA annual report was compiled by the MAPPA Co-ordinator for NSCJA, with contributions from Responsible Authorities. This report provides Scottish Ministers with information on the operational management of MAPPA within NSCJA.
- 3.2. In addition to providing details of how MAPPA operates within NSCJA the report provides information on strategic planning arrangements, the work undertaken to develop practice and information on offenders within NSCJA.
- 3.3. The aim of MAPPA is a co-ordinated approach to the management of sexual offenders in the community who pose a serious risk of harm to others and targeting of resources where they are most required. The fundamental

purpose is public safety, the protection of victims, and the reduction of serious harm.

3.4. MAPPA cases are managed at 3 levels:

- Level 1 – low/medium risk of harm where risk can be primarily managed by one agency.
- Level 2 – high/very high risk of harm, where active involvement of more than one agency is required.
- Level 3 – the critical few – high or very high risk of harm, involving active involvement of more than one agency at a senior manager level, with six weekly review.

3.5. The MAPPA arrangements are supported by national guidance provided by the Scottish Government. This was updated in June 2014. This provides consistency across Scotland for the referral and management of sexual offenders, including the approach to risk assessment across the key agencies of social work, Police and the Scottish Prison Service.

3.6. Resources to support the MAPPA process include a MAPPA Co-ordinator with responsibility for management of the process, and two support posts. These arrangements are hosted by Inverclyde Council on behalf of NSCJA.

3.7. It is noted that the Community Justice Bill is due to be placed before Parliament in April 2016. This Bill will disestablish the Community Justice Authority, devolve the strategic planning for community justice to community planning partnership areas and create a new body Community Justice Scotland. At this stage there are no proposal to alter the current MAPPA arrangements, which places the strategic planning and monitoring arrangements within partnerships of constituent local authorities of NSCJA.

3.8. The annual report reflects the work undertaken as part of the national thematic review of MAPPA. This national report on the review has not yet been published but it is anticipated it will be made available in November 2015. A report on its findings will be brought to a future meeting of the Board. This review was undertaken by the Care Inspectorate and HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) to assess the effectiveness of MAPPA in protecting communities from the potential risks presented by Sexual Offenders.

3.9. The legislation introducing the MAPPA arrangement, the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Act 2005, was intended to strengthen the system dealing with violent and sexual offenders. To date the arrangements have been enacted for sexual offenders and some restricted patients. A Scottish Government MAPPA Extension Advisory Group is currently considering extending MAPPA to violent offenders who present a risk of serious harm. While there is good joint working at a local level, these arrangements will provide consistency across Scotland.

Work is currently being undertaken to prepare for the implementation of the extension of MAPPA to include violent offenders. The resources implications are being identified as part of this work.

Implications of this report

1. **Financial Implications**
None.
2. **HR and Organisational Development Implications**
None.
3. **Community Plan/Council Plan Implications**
None
4. **Legal Implications**
None.
5. **Property/Assets Implications**
None.
6. **Information Technology Implications**
None.
7. **Equality and Human Rights Implications**
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 and Safety Implications**
None.
9. **Procurement Implications**
None.
10. **Risk Implications**
None.
11. **Privacy Impact**
None.

List of Background Papers

None.

Children's Services

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