

Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Annual Report.

Report by Nick Clater, Head of Adult and Social Care

Report for Information

1 Recommendations

Council is recommended to note the report.

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

This is a cover report for the MAPPA Annual Report for 2020/2021 which was published on 5th November 2021.

Date 10th March 2022

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3 Background/Main Body of Report

- 3.1** Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) was established in Scotland in 2007 to co-ordinate the response of a range of agencies in the management of registered sex offenders and restricted patients. In March 2016 MAPPA was extended to include violent offenders assessed as posing a risk of serious harm. A Joint Thematic Review took place in 2015 and was carried out jointly by the Care Inspectorate and HMICS. The Joint Thematic Review found that MAPPA is well established across Scotland and that robust arrangements are in place to manage registered sex offenders with good information sharing and partnership working.
- 3.2** The MAPPA Annual Report for 2020/2021 showed no significant changes from the previous year. 899 registered sex offenders were managed in Lothian and Borders over this period with 819 being managed at Level 1, 79 at level 2 and 1 at Level 3.
- 3.3** 21 offenders were managed in Lothian and Borders under the Category 3 MAPPA extension in 2020/2021, 18 at Level 2 and 3 at Level 3.
- 3.4** In Midlothian there were 54 registered sex offenders (RSOs) managed by MAPPA during 2020/2021. Similar to the overall picture in Lothian and Borders the vast majority were managed at Level 1 and no RSO was managed at Level 3 in Midlothian during this period.
- 3.5** Of the Midlothian 54 RSOs managed in Midlothian under MAPPA, 2 were charged with a further sexual offence and 6 were charged with non-sexual offences. A further 2 were charged with registration offences. In relation to the non-sexual charges, they related to a range of relatively minor behaviours.
- 3.6** Of the RSOs in the community, between 20 and 22, depending on the quarter, were on statutory supervision by Justice social work. The remainder were managed by Police Scotland.
- 3.7** In the most recently published reconviction statistics - Criminal Proceedings in Midlothian 2019-20, sexual offences are the crime type associated with the lowest rate of reconviction of all crimes.
- 3.8** Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Edinburgh, the Lothians and Scottish Borders Strategic oversight Group commissioned three online training sessions during this period to deliver to police officers and justice social workers across the five Local Authorities to enhance the understanding of risk formulation.
- 3.9** A further four online sessions were offered to justice social workers by Police colleagues around the inspection of offender's electronic devices.

3.10 In October 2020, training was delivered to Detective Inspectors and Detective Sergeants by a Consultant Clinical Psychologist from NHS Lothian to review practice and share relative learning.

4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

There are no resource implications in this report.

4.2 Digital

There are no digital implications in this report.

4.3 Risk

The MAPPAs process makes a significant contribution to the management of risk and the protection of the public in Midlothian.

4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)

Not applicable.

4.4 Additional Report Implications (See Appendix A)

See Appendix A

Appendices

Appendix A – Additional Report Implications

Appendix B – Background information/Links

APPENDIX A – Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

There are some links to the Community Justice and Safety Plan within the Single Midlothian Plan but there are more cogent links to the work of the East and Midlothian Public Protection Committee as this is where strategic governance of MAPPA sits within Midlothian.

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- Holistic Working
- Hub and Spoke
- Modern
- Sustainable
- Transformational
- Preventative
- Asset-based
- Continuous Improvement
- One size fits one
- None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- One Council Working with you, for you
- Preventative and Sustainable
- Efficient and Modern
- Innovative and Ambitious
- None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

Not applicable.

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The MAPPA Annual Report is accessible to the general public. A range of community engagement activities have taken place in Midlothian over the past few years about the MAPPA process and this engagement programme will continue.

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The East and Midlothian Offender Management Group is working to a plan that identifies improvement actions for the management of high risk offenders in East and Midlothian. In turn this group reports to the Public Protection Committee and the Critical Services Oversight Group.

While this is a challenging area of work there is no evidence of any concerning performance in Midlothian. Justice social workers are highly skilled and extensively trained in risk assessment and the management of sexual offenders and high risk violent offenders and in delivering accredited interventions to support behaviour change. We also continue to analyse and learn from Serious Case Reviews from around the country when they are published.

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Not applicable.

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

Not applicable.

APPENDIX B

Background Papers/Resource Links (insert applicable papers/links)