

PCC and CC Force Inspection response record

Version:

Force	Staffordshire
Police and Crime Commissioner	Ben Adams
Chief Constable	Chris Noble
Title of inspection	Twenty years on, is MAPPA achieving its objectives?
Inspectorate	
Summary of inspection	<p>The inspection aimed to answer the following questions:</p> <p>Do the governance and leadership from the responsible authority agencies support and promote the delivery of a high-quality, personalised, and responsive approach to delivering MAPPA?</p> <p>Do the skills of all staff involved with MAPPA support the delivery of high-quality arrangements?</p> <p>Is timely and relevant information available to support high-quality MAPPA?</p> <p>Are arrangements with statutory partners, providers, and other agencies established, maintained, and used effectively to deliver high-quality services?</p> <p>How effective are MAPPA at keeping people safe?</p>
Grade	n/a Joint Thematic Inspection
Recommendations	<p>Recommendations should be completed within 12 months.</p> <p>The Probation Service, police forces, and prisons should ensure that:</p> <p>14. Category 3 referrals are made to manage individuals who present a high risk of domestic abuse where formal multi-agency management and oversight through MAPPA would add value to the risk management plan</p> <p>15. there is a comprehensive training strategy for all staff involved in the MAPPA process that fully utilises existing training packages and makes sure they can enable staff in all roles to prepare for and present or contribute to a case in a multi-agency forum and understand how MAPPA fits with other multi-agency forums, such as Integrated Offender Management and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs).</p> <p>Police forces should ensure that:</p> <p>18. all MAPPA nominals managed at Levels 2 and 3 are allocated to suitably trained police offender manager</p> <p>19. workloads for staff managing sexual offenders are reviewed against national expectations and, where found to be excessive, take steps for mitigation and communicate this to affected staff.</p>
Areas for improvement	n/a

Police and Crime Commissioner's initial response

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Ben Adams welcomes this review into Multi-Agency Public Protection arrangements (MAPPA). The existence of MAPPA formalises the duties of criminal justice and other agencies to work together. In addition, it has paved the way for better communication and joint working outside of the formal meeting structure.

Staffordshire Police's commitment to manage MAPPA offenders is now well embedded in the local MAPPA framework with Category 2/3 offenders allocated a Police Manager who works closely alongside Probation colleagues and partner agencies. In addition, the force is increasingly involving Neighbourhood Policing Teams in the management of MAPPA offenders in the community and all Category 2/3 offenders are subject to a MAPPA Step-Down Review Meeting 3 months after exiting MAPPA Level 2/3 Management.

Reducing offending and reoffending is a key priority in the current Police and Crime Plan and the Commissioner has been assured that moving forward Staffordshire will be utilising the National MAPPA Team Action Plan in conjunction with the development of a regional action plan, supported by MAPPA Responsible Authorities and Duty to Cooperate Agencies, in order to address the recommendations highlighted in the joint thematic inspection of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements.

Chief Constable's response

Although the force was not inspected on this occasion, the force has transferred the report's recommendations onto its action plan system and is progressing accordingly.

The force identified and assessed that some of the recommendations needed to be implemented as soon as possible whilst others needed a little more time and thought to ensure that the implementation was secure.

Where the recommendations are specifically for Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) we will continue to work collaboratively and assist where required to ensure the best possible delivery of MAPPA across the partners. The relevant recommendations that include the Police are 14, 15, 18 and 19, which are addressed below:

14. Category 3 referrals are made to manage individuals who present a high risk of domestic abuse where formal multi-agency management and oversight through MAPPA would add value to the risk management plan
Update: Cat 3 is a catch for all any other dangerous offender so they could in theory not be charged with a substantive offence. A dangerous repeat DA offender could be considered especially if there was evidence of stalking, for example. An application can come from any agency into the MAPPA coordinator where they would make the consideration. Close links with the safeguarding team are in place and could be further developed from a police perspective in order to ensure that relevant referrals, for such cases, are captured and considered. We currently have a number of MAPPA Cat 3 cases at both level 2 and 3 being managed within Staffordshire. They are DA perpetrators which highlights our commitment to utilising and enhancing our use of Cat 3 in MAPPA. These referrals are made by both Police and Probation.

15. There is a comprehensive training strategy for all staff involved in the MAPPA process that fully utilises existing training packages and makes sure they can enable staff in all roles to prepare for and present or contribute to a case in a multi-agency forum and understand how MAPPA fits with other multi-agency forums, such as Integrated Offender Management and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs).
Update: Staffordshire's Sex Offender Management Unit works closely with the Staffordshire MAPPA Unit, all Risk Assessors who manage offenders at MAPPA level 2 attend and contribute to the process on a regular basis. The MAPPA Unit has provided training to Risk Assessors to ensure that they are best prepared for panel meetings giving them an understanding of the process and how their contribution fits in with the wider multi-agency management of offenders. All new members of the department are provided with MAPPA training when they begin the role. In addition, the co-location of the MAPPA co-ordinator for Staffordshire at Lindum House supports this approach.

18. All MAPPA nominals managed at Levels 2 and 3 are allocated to suitably trained police offender manager.
Update: In the Staffordshire Sex Offender Management Unit all Police Officer and Police Staff Risk Assessors are suitable trained and have all attended a MOSOVO training course as well as a ViSOR national training course and a further in-house ViSOR training session delivered by the ViSOR Central Point of Contact. This level of training is mandated by the team for any new Risk Assessors who join the department.

19. Workloads for staff managing sexual offenders are reviewed against national expectations and, where found to be excessive, take steps for mitigation and communicate this to affected staff.
Update: The workloads are continually monitored by the management team. There are clear and agreed plans in place within the dept to mitigate any high levels of demand, which the staff are fully aware of. There is a current review ongoing around the area of Public Protection Units. This will assess levels of demand and in turn therefore the resources required. The MAPPA Service Management Board brings together all core reps from each partner agency which provides a strategic overview and monitoring through a multi-agency action plan if needed.

Police and Crime Commissioner's overall comments

Where relevant, my priorities are focused on prevention and intervention, whilst keeping a link between integrated offender management and the governance of the Local Criminal Justice Board, along with its sub-delivery groups. As part of the Staffordshire and Stoke Reducing Reoffending Board, one of the priorities is to work with Criminal Justice partners to provide a smooth transition on release to support stability. This includes looking at ways to improve pathways for those leaving prisons, mapping provision for in reach/through the gate support, increase the rate of community substance misuse treatment take-up and to create bespoke offers for prison leaves across Integrated Offender Management.

I am reassured that Staffordshire police has well developed IOM and MARAC processes and is developing a high level of knowledge about how multi-agency relationships can be used to best effect in managing offenders and supporting victims and families. In addition, the force are in the process of developing MATAAC processes to focus on serial DA perpetrators. This will enhance MARAC outcomes, supporting victims, as it allows serial DA perpetrators to be managed, especially if they move on to new relationships. I look forward to seeing the process embed and the links between MARAC and MATAAC develop reciprocally. This will continue to be monitored by the force and outcome data provided to the Staffordshire Commissioner's Office (SCO) through the multi-agency Domestic Abuse Commissioning and Development Board.

This is alongside my ongoing commitment to develop workable domestic abuse perpetrator programmes to support the behaviour change work around these crimes, both through the CJS and through other means.