



Office of the Police and Crime

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Rt Hon Suella Braverman QC MP
Home Secretary
2 Marsham Street
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8th September 2022

Dear Home Secretary

HMICFRS Report: A joint thematic inspection of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

I would firstly like to congratulate you on your appointment as Home Secretary. There are clearly a range of challenges facing the country currently but I share the Government's commitment to tackling crime and keeping communities safe.

Under Section 55(5) of the Police Act 1996, as Police and Crime Commissioner I am pleased to provide my formal response to the joint report by HMICFRS entitled 'A joint thematic inspection of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements.'

Both the Chief Constable and I welcome the publication of the report.

In addition to the Chief Constable's response below regarding Cambridgeshire Constabulary's commitment to protecting the public by managing the risks posed by

violent and sexual offenders living in the community, it is worth highlighting that the Assistant Chief Constable currently chairs the MAPPA Strategic Management Board.

I would also like to reassure you that my Police and Crime Plan is clear that, as part of the theme of 'robust enforcement', Cambridgeshire Constabulary, probation and other services will work together to monitor and rehabilitate those who present a risk of serious harm in our communities, in order to protect victims and local communities. I have also provided annual financial contributions to these statutory partnership arrangements.

I also recognise that, as this is a joint inspection, there are a number of recommendations for a range of agencies. I chair our Local Criminal Justice Board and will continue to seek appropriate updates through the Board.

I hope this response, and that of the Chief Constable, provides reassurance regarding the commitment of both myself and Cambridgeshire Constabulary to protecting the public.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Darryl Preston', written in a cursive style.

Darryl Preston

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Enc - Appendix 1 – Cambridgeshire Constabulary's response to HMICFRS joint report 'A joint thematic inspection of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements.'

Cambridgeshire Constabulary's response to HMICFRS joint report 'HMICFRS Report: A joint thematic inspection of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements.'

As a result of their findings the inspectorate have made 19 recommendations, 4 of which are addressed to police forces, and 5 of which are addressed to Strategic Management Boards.

Recommendations:

Strategic management boards should:

- Convene task-and-finish groups to review the resources available for MAPPAs in their area to ensure sufficient staffing is available to screen referrals, plan, and chair meetings, and deliver accurate meeting minutes promptly.

Force response: The Constabulary is committed to working with partner agencies to fulfil the statutory duties under MAPPAs to fully understand and mitigate the risk to and from MAPPAs nominals and reduce the likelihood of reoffending. The Strategic Management Board (SMB) is chaired by the Assistant Chief Constable with a strong working relationship with local partners. The recommendations from this report have been reviewed by the SMB and are being built into the MAPPAs 2022/23 business plan to strengthen arrangements.

With specific reference to this recommendation, an Operations Group convenes quarterly to assess progress against a series of detailed actions within the Strategic Management Board action plan, this includes an assessment of operational viability and the duty to flag emerging resourcing issues. Any issues relating to resources available for MAPPAs are addressed through the Operational Group or SMB, and additional Task & Finish groups convened accordingly by the chair.

- Analyse local referral data at least twice yearly to ensure that all appropriate cases are referred into MAPPA, and that there is a focus on diversity and disproportionality within the MAPPA cohort.

Force response: The Constabulary will work with Strategic Management Board (SMB) members, and the national MAPPA team, to address this recommendation and build on existing audit arrangements in place. The Probation Service currently lead partnership-wide annual reviews of local data to ensure, along with all partners, that the force is conducting and assessing MAPPA referrals correctly, proportionately, and with sufficient focus on diversity. This is supplemented by quarterly data analysis and auditing by our Management of Sexual or Violent Offenders (MOSOVO) team to ensure key areas of referral performance are in line with required and expected standards and ensure that adjustments to practice can be swiftly identified and implemented.

- Ensure that screening practice in their area accepts that multi-agency oversight of complex cases is a valid and necessary reason for cases to be adopted at Levels 2 and 3.

Force response: The Constabulary will work with Strategic Management Board (SMB) members to address this recommendation. MAPPA decision making processes are currently scrutinised at both the SMB and Operational Group, alongside a county-wide partnership action plan where the force is held to account on how cases are assessed, referred, and progressed.

- Implement a standing panel for MAPPA Level 2 and 3 meetings with, as a minimum appropriate representation from responsible authority agencies, children's social care services, mental health services and local authority housing services to ensure there is appropriate knowledge and expertise at each meeting to support risk management.

Force response: This is currently in place within our region. Attendance of MAPPA meetings is monitored, and attendees are held to account within Strategic Management Board (SMB) meetings.

- Provide twice yearly quality assurance and audit of MAPPA cases, including Level 1 cases and rejected referrals to Level 2 and 3, to drive good practice, ensure that all appropriate cases are referred, and develop the skills of MAPPA chairs.

Force response: The Constabulary will work with Strategic Management Board (SMB) members, and the national MAPPA team, to address this recommendation. The Probation Service currently leads an annual audit that covers a comprehensive array of performance criteria and engages numerous partner agencies in assessing decision making across many different levels of cases. This includes risk management compliance and detail; attendance and representation; proportionality and timeliness of decision making; onward progress of actions; and escalation or reduction of risk management activity. This is supplemented by quarterly data analysis and auditing by our Management of Sexual or Violent Offenders (MOSOVO) team to assess key performance standards and our processes for case referral and progression. The findings are captured and regularly reviewed at departmental and force-wide performance meetings to ensure that adjustments to practice can be swiftly identified and implemented.

The Probation Service, police forces, and prisons should ensure that:

- 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.

Force response: Tackling domestic abuse continues to be a key strategic priority for the Constabulary. The management of individuals

who present a high risk is kept under close review via the force's Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Panel and Stalking & Harassment programme. The Probation Service are linked into this activity and the force remains vigilant to any referrals that could be made through Category 3. The Strategic Management Board (SMB) and Operational Group help capture these discussions and identify opportunities.

- **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).**

Force response: The Constabulary is committed to effectively managing the risk posed by offenders. The force has a bespoke improvement plan to review processes and provide a consistent approach to managing Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) and dangerous and violent offenders. As part of this, the force has specifically introduced refresher training around risk management processes and requirements and will continue to review training needs regarding MAPPA to ensure training for all staff is sufficient.

With specific reference to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs), and other multi-agency forums, the force has formed a monthly Perpetrator Panel with the Probation Service, Local Authority, and third sector partners to support MARAC findings and specifically look at high risk individuals who can be referred for potential MAPPA oversight. This has recently been augmented by an additional Stalking Perpetrator Programme, in conjunction with the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, that provides a further review of high harm nominals who can, where appropriate, be referred. Mechanisms are also in place in our Management of Sexual or Violent Offenders (MOSOVO) team for the

escalation of Potentially Dangerous Persons from our Integrated Offender Management cohort.

Police forces should ensure that:

- All MAPPA nominals managed at Levels 2 and 3 are allocated to a suitably trained police offender manager.

Force response: The Constabulary is committed to ensuring that we have the appropriate resources to manage suspects and offenders effectively. The Management of Sexual or Violent Offenders (MOSOVO) team have responsibility for the management of registered sex offenders (RSOs) and other violent and sex offenders who are managed through the MAPPA process. The force has a bespoke improvement plan to review processes and provide a consistent approach to managing RSOs and dangerous and violent offenders. As part of this, the capacity of the MOSOVO team has been increased to ensure MAPPA nominals are allocated to a suitably trained police offender manager. There are also clear protocols for internal review to ensure officers are trained and supported throughout their time within MOSOVO. Supervision of performance is closely supervised, as is individual case management through routine dip sampling and auditing.

- 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.

Force response: The Constabulary's Management of Sexual or Violent Offenders (MOSOVO) team have responsibility for the management of registered sex offenders (RSOs) and other violent and sex offenders who are managed through the MAPPA process. The force has a bespoke improvement plan to review processes and provide a consistent approach to managing RSOs and dangerous and violent offenders. As

part of this, the capacity of the MOSOVO team has been increased to enable the force to keep workloads and offender ratios at an appropriate level. Demand is regularly assessed at monthly departmental and force-wide performance meetings, this includes a deep dive into data and narrative evidence on MOSOVO performance.

All of the above recommendations should be completed within 12 months.