



Freedom of Information Act Publication Scheme	
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Title	The Management of Violent and Sexual Offenders that fall within the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements- Monitoring Report
Version	Version 1
Summary	<p>This is the 2nd document describing the results of the monitoring of The Management of Violent and Sexual Offenders that fall within the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements regarding the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• extent of compliance with the policy;• progress towards realising its intended benefits, including the effect of the policy on MPS performance; and• the impact on people both within and outside the MPS, particularly in regard to the approach adopted by the MPS Equalities Scheme in relation to the six diversity strands (<i>race, disability, gender, age, religion & belief and sexual orientation & transgender</i>). It is completed in compliance with the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended in 2005) and the Equality Act 2006.
Branch / OCU	Violent Crime Directorate – Operation Jigsaw
Date created	4 th February 2008
Review date	February 2009

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to assist Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) staff to manage certain Violent and Sexual offenders as effectively as possible in order to prevent them committing offences that may cause harm to members of the public. There is also a responsibility to protect the identity of these offenders and their families from unwarranted public/media attention.

Monitoring

Measures and Indicators used to assess the impact of the policy

Information in relation to the Gender, Faith, Race, Disability, Age and Sexual Orientation can be recorded on the ViSOR application in relation to Registered Sex Offenders and Dangerous Offenders who are monitored with the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). However there have been no Data Standards produced in relation to this application since its introduction to the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) in 2005. The ViSOR users identified this at the time of ViSOR's implementation and a ViSOR Standards document will be published in February 2008. (ViSOR is a national Multi Agency application used by the police, probation and prison services to assist in the management of people who fall within the MAPPA. It is owned and maintained by the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA)).

The only data items that are routinely collected on all offenders at this time are gender and age. Race, faith, disability and sexual orientation are poorly recorded and therefore are difficult to monitor.

The Criminal Justice Act 2003 wholly identifies two of the MAPPA Categories so there would be no adverse impact on any individuals or group of individuals by not monitoring the above data at the point of entering the MAPPA. However individuals who are brought into the MAPPA framework as a third category of offender are identified subjectively in part.

Once an offender is managed within MAPPA all risk management plans in relation to each individual have to be justified with a defensible decision making process, which is recorded within the risk management plan and approved by a supervisor. Diversity issues are always considered when any offender is referred to a Multi Agency Public Protection Panel(MAPP), both in terms of impact on the offender and on the staff who manage them. This is recorded within the minutes of the meeting.

The Impact of the Policy on Diversity

The impact of the policy on diversity is minimised by the fact that Section 325(2)(a) Criminal Justice Act 2003 requires the Police, Probation and Prison Services (Responsible Authority) to jointly manage relevant sexual and violent offenders. Section 327 Criminal Justice Act clearly defines a relevant sexual or violent offender and there is no element of judgement as to whether a person falls within this definition. However Section 325(2)(b) requires the Responsible

Authority to also manage *'other persons who by reason of offences committed by them (wherever committed), are considered by the responsible authority to be persons who may cause serious harm to the public'*. (This is the third category of offenders referred to above). There are currently no arrangements in place to specifically monitor the impact of the policy on diversity. The Ministry of Justice has produced Guidance for the Responsible Authorities and others to assist in the assessment and the management of the offenders defined under Section 325 Criminal Justice Act 2003. This assists with the identification of offenders under S.325 (2)(b), but there is still an element of judgement, regarding the level of risk posed and therefore the level of management, which the professionals involved in the decision-making process, must exercise. The decision whether an individual is to be managed as a person who poses a serious risk of harm to the public (the third category of MAPPA offender) falls to a group that is made up of representatives of the 'Responsible Authorities' and agencies who have a 'duty to co operate' (as defined under S.325 (6) Criminal Justice Act). The various multi-agency groups involved in the management arrangement process jointly make that decision. This group consists of representatives from Police and Probation as a minimum, and will normally consist of further representatives from Local Housing Authorities, Health Authorities, Social Services, Local Education Authorities, Electronic monitoring service providers, Primary Care Trusts, and/or National Health Service Trusts. This group forms part of the MAPPA. The police are required by their Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to record the minutes on the Form 3312 series, which prompts the police and other agencies to consider issues of diversity when assessing the risk posed and when deciding upon a risk management plan.

Lay advisors work closely with the Strategic Management Board (SMB) in the Metropolitan Police area and have not raised any issues in relation to diversity and disproportionality.

Measures taken to improve the Policy

It has been identified that the issue of diversity is not a standing agenda item for the Strategic Management Board (SMB) who oversee the MAPPA. The MPS Operation Jigsaw will request that this is added to the agenda at the next SMB meeting, which is held on 28th February. It has however been included in the SMB business plan for 2006 – 2007.

Operation Jigsaw have also identified the need for the ViSOR application to support the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended in 2005) and the Equality Act 2006 by making it mandatory to populate the data fields for disability, gender and race/nationality on the ViSOR application. This will enable Operation Jigsaw to extract data in relation to diversity and monitor diversity issues more effectively. A change request will be sent to (NPIA), which is responsible for maintaining the ViSOR application, in order for the MPS's (and other Forces') needs be addressed in these areas. In the meantime further training will be given to all Public Protection Officers within the MPS that it will be mandatory for ViSOR to be populated in the relevant data fields. This will be included in Refresher Training that will be rolled out to all Jigsaw Unit staff in March 2008.

A requirement to dip sample MAPPA minutes for each Borough to ensure that diversity issues are being considered at each meeting will introduce to Operation Jigsaw SOP's.

Conclusion

Through the process of examining the impact of our policy it has been identified that diversity monitoring is not a standing agenda item at the (SMB) meetings who oversee the London Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. This will be raised by police at the next meeting.

Subject to NPIA agreement, the ViSOR database will also be improved for statistical analysis and diversity purposes and the MPS will improve data standards by rolling out both refresher training for current ViSOR users and enhanced training for new users. This will allow improved data to be extracted and acted upon if necessary.

Associated Documents

Documents associated with this report can be found on the following links

<http://www.probation.homeoffice.gov.uk/output/Page30.asp>

<http://www.met.police.uk/annualreport/index.htm>
