

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Social Work Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>7 February 2007</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Social Work Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Introduction of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and Visor</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Advise the committee of the introduction of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and the proposal to recruit one co-ordinator for Lanarkshire; and
- ◆ Visor which is a police data base with information on violent and sexual offenders which will become a shared data base with other key agencies including the local authority.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the ongoing work to implement both MAPPA and Visor be noted
- (2) that the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) in consultation with Executive Director (Corporate Resources) and the Chair of the Social Work Resources Committee be authorised to approve the recruitment of a co-ordinator who will provide a service across Lanarkshire

## 3. Background

- 3.1. As part of the Scottish Executive's strategy to improve the management of high risk offenders within the community, two initiatives have been developed to improve multi-agency working.
- 3.2. The first of these is the introduction of the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). This is an administrative arrangement to improve effective co-ordination of information on individuals who are of high risk to the community. This would ensure that cases were discussed, management plans put in place and reviews took place to ensure that, as far as possible, offenders are managed safely within the community.
- 3.3. MAPPA already exists in England and Wales and the proposals for Scotland draw on the experience from there.
- 3.4. MAPPA will initially consider sex offenders but the arrangements will be extended to include violent offenders. Initially it will deal with those offenders who are part of the criminal justice system but will be extended to include those with mental health disorders.

- 3.5. Visor is a data base developed by the police that holds information on high risk offenders. It has been agreed that terminals will be placed in the local authority in order to allow those with responsibility for supervising high risk offenders access to information and to allow input of information from relevant local authority personnel. Again this will initially contain information on sex offenders but will be extended to include information on violent offenders.
- 3.6. These arrangements are being developed on a Lanarkshire-wide basis.

#### **4. Current Position**

- 4.1. The Scottish Executive has issued guidance both on the work that needs to be undertaken in order to implement both the MAPPA and Visor arrangements. An implementation group has been established and work is progressing.
- 4.2. Although the opportunity to develop the activity on a Lanarkshire basis is welcomed, both North and South Lanarkshire Councils have requested that the implementation of the activity is kept under review including the resources required for effective implementation.
- 4.3. In relation to Visor, funding has been made available for six terminals across Lanarkshire. One will require to go with the MAPPA co-ordinator, one with the Throughcare Team leaving two terminals for each North and South Lanarkshire Councils.

#### **5. Implications for the Council**

- 5.1. We welcome the co-ordinated approach. The multi disciplinary team considering implementation will become a Management Team over-viewing operational practice and any resource implications arising.
- 5.2. Both Councils are currently working towards the co-location of the strategic child protection staff from both Councils, NHS Lanarkshire and Strathclyde Police. It has been agreed to co-locate the MAPPA co-ordinator with these individuals because of the importance of ensuring effective links with the child protection service.

#### **6. Employee Implications**

- 6.1. An additional post of co-ordinator will be established in South Lanarkshire. This post will work under the auspices of the MAPPA Management Group (referred to in 5.1)
- 6.2. Additionally criminal justice staff will be involved in new working arrangements and appropriate training and support will be put in place to ensure staff understand their responsibilities.

#### **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. Additional funding is being made available from the Scottish Executive. The grade and conditions of the post are subject to discussion with North Lanarkshire Council and Corporate Resources.

#### **8. Other Implications**

- 8.1. None

## **9. Consultation**

- 9.1. This has been agreed by a Multi-Agency Implementation Group involving all the key partners.

**Harry Stevenson**  
**Executive Director (Social Work Resources)**

18 December 2006

### **Link(s) to Council Objectives**

- Healthy and Safe Communities

### **Previous References**

None

### **List of Background Papers**

- Scottish Executive Guidance on MAPPA and Visor

### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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