



HMIe - How Well are Children Protected and their Needs Met?

HOW GOOD CAN WE BE?

What is our capacity for improvement?

Healthy: having the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health, access to suitable healthcare, and support in learning to make healthy and safe choices.

Achieving: being supported and guided in their learning and in the development of their skills, confidence and self-esteem at home, at school, and in the community.

Nurtured: having a nurturing place to live, in a family setting with additional help if needed or, where this is not possible, in a suitable care setting.

Active: having opportunities to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport which contribute to healthy growth and development, both at home and in the community.

Respected*: having the opportunity, along with carers, to be heard and involved in decisions which affect them.

Responsible*: having opportunities and encouragement to play active and responsible roles in their schools and communities and where necessary, having appropriate guidance and supervision.

Included: having help to overcome social, educational, physical and economic inequalities and being accepted as part of the community in which they live and learn.

Key Area 6: Management of sex offenders in relation to child protection

What triggered this development/initiative? How was the need for improvement identified and initiated?

The implementation of the Multi-Agency Public Protection arrangements (on 02.04.07) were precipitated by the introduction of the notification requirements (sex offender register), and, following the tragic murder of Mark Cummings by a registered sex offender in 2004 the then Scottish Executive commissioned Professor Irving to carry out an independent review of the scheme in Scotland - to ensure it is as robust as it can be. He made a number of recommendations that have been accepted, and indeed the requirements themselves have been further extended through the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (for an overview see: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2003/03/3361>) Professor Irving's review report and the Executive's response to it can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/10/19111606/16070>. The MAPPA in Scotland ultimately evolved from the Cosgrove report (expert panel on sex offending), Irving report (reducing the risk) and the work of the Information Sharing Steering Group which led to the Management of Offenders etc (Scotland) Act 2005, specifically sections 10 & 11 (see: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Justice/public-safety/offender-management/protection> which also includes links to Annual Reports and to MAPPA guidance.

How good are we now? Overall Evaluation (Brief Summary) of development/practice imitative.

The most effective measure of reviewing progress is via reference to annual reports – note the report for this area is under South West Scotland CJA area <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Justice/public-safety/offender-management/protection> The MAPPA is continuously under review as required by the legislation and guidance. No evaluative studies have been completed in Scotland such that would facilitate the provision of evidence of progress

How do we know? What key outcomes have we achieved? How has it improved outcomes (reference to front sheet) Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected and Responsible, Included

N.A

Supporting Evidence: Please ensure that your written submission is supported by sound evidence and is readily available for inspectors if required. Examples included policies, procedures, protocols, minutes of meetings, publicity material, reports, management / performance information etc.

Minutes of MAPPA meetings are confidential and we have a number of information sharing protocols that are not pertinent to append. The procedures are delineated in the MAPPA Guidance (see previous links) as is the annual report. Other information would need to be requested from the Chair of the Strategic Oversight Group for consent to share. The government is committed to sharing information regarding MAPPA and indeed have their own public information strategies.

Example(s) of Good Practice Illustrates children's experiences for example results have improved outcomes including: Partnership working, Evaluation Report findings, How has it made an impact - more efficient practice, What difference has it made? Tackle inequality? If adopted more widely would it increase life chances of children's experience?

N.A – MAPPA is a nationwide initiative and has formalised extant multi agency partnership working arrangements. Through so

doing this had facilitated a consistency and continuity of processes across Scotland. Given MAPPA have been operation in England and Wales since 2001, this additional provides a shared language and framework in relation to the management of sex offenders. Note MAPPA presently only manage those sex offenders subject to notification requirements.

How Good Can We Be? Areas for Improvement Following self-evaluation the areas identified include the following action points:

As indicated, there are a number of areas for improvement as MAPPA is an evolving process which is still in its relative infancy. Please refer to Annual Report SWS CJA (2008) for future actions. This years annual report is anticipated to be published in October 2009.