

Rt Hon Priti Patel MP
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Your ref: n/a
Our ref: **SH**
Date: **30 August 2022**
Enquiries to: Suzanne Harris
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Dear Home Secretary

I write in response to the HMICFRS final inspection report: **Twenty years on, is MAPPA achieving its objectives? A joint thematic inspection of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements**, published on 14 July 2022.

I acknowledge the recommendations made in this report and understand that recommendations 14, 15, 18 and 19 (listed in appendix A for reference) are applicable to all Forces, including Essex Police.

The Chief Constable has provided a detailed response to me regarding each of the recommendations relevant to Essex Police. This assures me that the Force is meeting the target for recommendation 19.

Whilst it is apparent that Essex Police is not currently compliant with recommendations 14, 15 and 18, I have received reassurance that these have been reviewed by the Chief Officer Team lead and that the Force is working towards compliance with all the recommendations made.

Notwithstanding this, I will be taking the following actions:

- Gain better understanding of the proportion of individuals who present a high risk of domestic abuse who are referred to MAPPA category 3;
- Request that the Essex Reducing Reoffending Board (chaired by the Deputy PFCC) explore the opportunities for training and assure themselves that production of a training strategy for all staff involved in the MAPPA process is in hand;
- Seek to understand why not all MAPPA nominals at levels 2 and 3 are allocated to a suitably trained police offender manager, and to what degree Essex Police is compliant with this recommendation.

Offender management is part of an effective response to support victims. Key priorities in my Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024 include 'Protecting vulnerable people and breaking the cycle of domestic abuse', 'Reducing violence against women and girls' and 'Improving support for victims of crime'. The recommendations in the Inspection Report are very specific, but are supported by the overarching commitments of my Police and Crime Plan, delivery against which is regularly and rigorously monitored, including through the monthly Performance and Resources Scrutiny Board.

I will continue to monitor the work of Essex Police in this regard, and to hold the Chief Constable to account.

Yours sincerely

Roger Hirst
Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex
c.c. Ben-Julian Harrington, Chief Constable, Essex Police

Appendix A – Recommendations

Recommendations 14, 15, 18 and 19:

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

- **Recommendation 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
- **Recommendation 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).

Police forces should ensure that:

- **Recommendation 18.**
all MAPPA nominals managed at Levels 2 and 3 are allocated to a suitably trained police offender manager
 - **Recommendation 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.
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