



CordisPulse

August 2022

Welcome to August's edition of the CordisPulse – a monthly digest of key research and policy developments across the sectors in which Cordis Bright provides research and consultancy services, i.e. adult social care and health, children and young people's services, and criminal justice.

This month we were pleased to see the publications of two performance management guides '[Performance management guide for councillors](#)' and '[performance management guide for local authority officers](#)'. Cordis Bright worked collaboratively with the Local Government Association and a range of stakeholders to produce these guides. They contain ideas, tools, and approaches to help councillors and officers manage and deliver performance management effectively.

In developing both guides, we undertook a review of evidence concerning effective performance management in councils and engaged directly with councillors and officers through workshops and focus groups. It is hoped that these guides will inspire councillors and local authority officers to think about new ways to approach performance management and ultimately to improve outcomes for citizens.

If you would like to discuss any of the issues raised in this month's Pulse, please do contact us on 020 7330 9170 or email stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk.

Best wishes,

Dr Stephen Boxford

Head of Research

If you would prefer not to receive future editions of the CordisPulse, please click 'unsubscribe' at the very end of this email. If you would like to discuss anything that arises from the Pulse (or if there are others who you think would like to receive copies) then please contact Dr Stephen Boxford on stephenboxford@cordisbright.co.uk or 020 7330 9170.



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Cordis Bright News

Youth Futures Foundation and BBC Children in Need. Working with the Youth Reference Group as part of the Inspiring Futures Evaluation

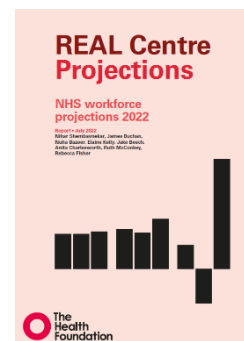
Cordis Bright is working on the evaluation of the Youth Futures Foundation (YFF) and BBC Children in Need funded Inspiring Futures Programme. This programme has funded over 80 voluntary and community sector organisations to support, often vulnerable, young people's employability prospects during the Covid-19 pandemic. As part of this evaluation, we've been working with the YFF's Youth Reference Group. In a blog post, two members of the Youth Reference Group offer a reflection on their experiences as peer evaluators, supporting our evaluation of the Inspiring Futures programme. You can read more [here](#)

Adult Social Care and Health

Reports

The Health Foundation. NHS workforce projections 2022

This report provides the REAL Centre's projections of future NHS workforce supply and demand in England, up to 2030/31. It focuses on registered nurses across the NHS Hospital and Community Health Service (HCHS) and general practice workforce in England. Its key findings include:



- Analysis points to an overall workforce supply-demand gap of around 103,000 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) across the NHS HCHS and general practice in 2021/22 (around 7% of estimated FTE workforce demand). This gap is projected to increase to around 179,000 FTE by 2024/25 before declining gradually to a still substantial 156,000 FTE in 2030/31 (around 9% of projected demand).
- The report raises significant questions about general practice workforce supply. In all scenarios, it projects a persistent shortfall of FTE GPs and general practice nurses. In the pessimistic case, the GP supply-demand gap grows to around 18,900 FTE by 2030/31- nearly 1 in 2 GP posts (48%) based on projected demand.
- While the government appears to be on track to meet its 50,000 nurses target by 2023/24, this would still leave the NHS short of around 38,000 FTE HCHS and general practice nurses relative to projected demand in 2023/24. In the longer term, in the current policy scenario, the NHS is projected to have a persisting shortfall of around 36,700 FTE nurses in 2030/31.

The Health Foundation. Waiting for NHS hospital care: the role of the independent sector

This report explores the role of independent sector health care providers in delivering NHS-funded care. Key findings include:

- Waiting times for planned hospital care have gotten considerably worse. The waiting list grew by almost 50% to 6.4 million by March 2022 and for the people waiting, the median wait had increased from 7.5 weeks to 12.0 weeks.
- To help with this, the NHS is planning to increase the number of treatments delivered by 30% (compared with before the pandemic). As a way of expanding capacity, the NHS has entered into new arrangements for treating patients in independent sector health care providers (ISPs)
- The overall share of care delivered by ISPs is higher now than it was before the pandemic. The share of care delivered by ISPs has grown most in ophthalmology from 18% to 34%. But even here, overall treatment volumes have still only just recovered to pre-pandemic levels.

- The share of care delivered by ISPs varies across regions of the country- based on provider location- ranging from 7% in London to 21% in Yorkshire and the Humber, and by area's level of deprivation- it is 11% in the most deprived fifth of areas and 25% in the least deprived. If the independent sector further increases the share of NHS-funded care it delivers, these findings raise questions about whether different areas of the country will have equal access to care.

The Kings Fund. What is a population health approach?

In this report, the King's Fund set out what the term 'population health' means and looks at what is involved in improving population health. The report states that improving population health requires action on the following four pillars:

- The wider determinants of health
- Health behaviours and lifestyle
- Places and communities
- Integrated health and care systems

It states that while national policy affects population health, directly and indirectly, much of the shaping, prioritisation and delivery of population health ambitions lie in regional and local systems and places, with Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), local authorities, community groups and political leaders such as elected mayors all having key roles to play.

Briefings

Office for National Statistics. Public service productivity, adult social care, England: financial year ending 2021

This briefing outlines trends in publicly funded adult social care inputs, quantity and quality of output and productivity in England. Key findings include:

- Productivity in publicly funded adult social care services fell by 10.2% in the financial year ending 2021 compared with 2020, mainly driven by an increase in inputs of 10.9%, owing to the financial burden of the coronavirus pandemic.
- While the quantity of publicly funded adult social care services provided grew by 2.6% in 2021, after taking account of changes in quality, overall output fell by 0.4%.
- The fall in productivity in 2021 is not dissimilar to that observed in quarterly public service productivity statistics for the same period, reflecting the new cost pressures and disruption to public services following the coronavirus pandemic.



Stonewall. Public attitudes towards trans people

This briefing explores public attitudes towards trans people. It states that trans people are a minority population, but a growing number of people across the country know and care for trans people, and that the British public, across every region, nation and age group is socially liberal on LGBTQ+ rights, including trans rights. As such, it concludes that anti-trans discourse is out of touch with public opinion.

Tools and Guidance

NHSE. Working in partnership with people and communities: statutory guidance

This statutory guidance is for Integrated Care Boards, NHS trusts, foundation trusts and NHS England. It aims to support them to meet their public involvement legal duties and new 'triple aim' of better health and wellbeing, improved quality of services and the sustainable use of resources. The guidance is structured around 10 key principles. These are:

1. Centre decision-making and governance around the voices of people and communities
2. Involve people and communities at every stage and feed back to them about how it has influenced activities and decisions
3. Understand your communities needs, experiences, ideas and aspirations for health and care, using engagement to find out if change is working
4. Build relationships based on trust, especially with marginalised groups and those affected by health inequalities
5. Work with Healthwatch and the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector
6. Provide clear and accessible public information
7. Use community-centred approaches that empower people and communities, making connections to what works already
8. Have a range of ways for people and communities to take part in health and care services
9. Tackle system priorities and service reconfiguration in partnership with people and communities
10. Learn from what works and build on the assets of health and care partners – networks, relationships, and activity in local places

Department of Health and Social Care and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. Better Care Fund policy framework: 2022-2023

This document sets out the national conditions, metrics, and funding arrangements for the Better Care Fund (BCF) from 2022 to 2023. The national conditions for the BCF from 2022 to 2023 are:

- A jointly agreed plan between local health and social care commissioners, signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). They should include

arrangements for joint commissioning and an agreed approach for making progress toward the 2 policy objectives:

- Enable people to stay well, safe, and independent at home for longer
- Provide the right care in the right place at the right time
- NHS contribution to adult social care at HWB level to be maintained in line with the uplift to NHS minimum contribution
- Invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services
- Implementing the BCF policy objectives.

Commissioners should agree on how services delivered via BCF sources will support the objectives outlined above.

Local Government Association. Care and support and homelessness: Top tips on the role of adult social care

These top tips seek to support directors of adult social services and their teams, focusing on the role of social care in supporting people experiencing and recovering from homelessness. It identifies six themes as enablers for achieving better outcomes for this cohort. These include:

- Partnership working
- Coproduction with people with lived experience
- Providing access to Care Act assessments which understand people's capabilities and challenges
- Safeguarding through using 'team around the person', organisational support for team members, and governance.
- Workforce and training and development to enable care professionals to provide the right support.
- Commissioning and working with providers



NHS England. Tackling inequalities in healthcare access, experience, and outcomes

This guide aims to support NHS systems in reducing healthcare inequalities and complements the [Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Dashboard](#) and [Actionable Insights tool](#). This guide focuses on four themes which are proposed as the necessary foundations for sustained service level action. These include:



- **Creating an enabling system context** to improve equality in access to, experience of and outcomes from services or pathways of care. This requires systems leadership, appropriate governance and resourcing and utilising data and intelligence.
- **Building clear and shared understanding** of interventions aiming to tackle healthcare inequalities. This requires close working with local communities which will deliver solutions that are designed around their needs.
- **Maintaining a sense of urgency and commitment to act** to reduce healthcare inequalities. This involves raising awareness, engaging leadership on the issue, and commitment of resource.
- **Focusing on implementation, impact, and evaluation.** Here, logic models should be used, there should be an orientation towards action, insights generated from testing and learning, and an emphasis on communicating, promoting, and sharing learning.

Children and Young People's Services

Reports

Local Government Association. Form and function: exploring structural change in children's services



Form and function
Exploring structural change
in children's services

The purpose of the research in this report is to understand the lessons learnt by those councils that have undertaken large-scale structural changes in children's services and to identify the building blocks that ensure high-quality services for children, young people, and families in this context.

The three specific forms of structural change include: alternative delivery models, partnership-based models, and the creation of unitary authorities.

The research drew out some consistent structural design principles which are relevant to a wide range of ways of delivering children's services. These include:

- Creating a structure which enables children's services to operate as an integrated whole
- Creating dialogue and engagement between children's services and local communities
- Children's services structure should enable and support partners in a meaningful way. Multi-agency boards should be outcome focused
- Children's services should facilitate strong relationships with the rest of local government including other council services and elected members
- Children's services structures should support the quality of practice and define the relationship between professionals delivering services and children and families receiving support.

Public Health Wales. Children and Young People's Mental Health

This report shows the potential of linked data, by bringing together data from across the emergency care system (Welsh ambulance, emergency department and hospital admission) to better understand children and young people's mental health in Wales. Key findings include:

- The analysis quantifies the consistent inequalities in mental health crisis, with higher rates of presentation in vulnerable population groups including those with a history of substance misuse services
- The risk of presenting in mental health crisis was higher in females, those aged 18-24 years and those living in the 20% most deprived areas of Wales, and those living in more urban areas

- Overall, rates of mental health crisis events were relatively stable from 2016-2019 with a decline in 2020, likely driven by the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on mental health and services.

The study is focused on the acute health care system and recognises that not all children and young people in need of mental health support are seen by these services. The research highlights the need to work across sectors including education, health and care services and others to better understand existing routes to accessing support, and how to best support children and young people's mental health in Wales in the future.

Children and Young People Now. Research evidence: Trauma-informed approaches within children's social care

This research aims to consider how trauma-informed care is used by English children's social care teams so that its key components and intended benefits can be better understood, with the aim of informing future evaluations. Its key findings include:

- 89% of local authorities reported that they engaged with at least one of the 11 trauma-informed care (TIC) components listed in the survey. Only 22% said their team had a shared definition of TIC. One-third of the responses also referenced adverse childhood experiences (ACE) in the definitions, with some viewing ACEs and trauma-informed care synonymously
- Nearly all 39 respondents stated that their teams engaged in some form of strengths-based working.

Recommendations made in the report include:

- Government departments should work together to agree a core definition of trauma-informed care. This should have a clear understanding of its relationship to trauma-specific treatments. Local areas should then be encouraged to use this definition when commissioning trauma-informed training and delivering services
- Government departments should prioritise robust evaluation of models of trauma-informed care training and practice in different service contexts. Any future funding of trauma-informed approaches should be linked to this and designed and delivered in a way that enables robust evaluation of impact
- The availability of effective, trauma-specific interventions should be prioritised and linked to any future investment in trauma-informed care.

Public Health Wales. Protecting the mental well-being of our future generations learning from COVID-19 for the long term

Findings in this report highlight strong evidence that key building blocks for good mental health and well-being including family and social relationships, education,



economic security, access to services, participation in group activities, feeling safe and in control were all impacted during the pandemic.

Areas for action identified from the assessment include:

- Listening to young people and ensure their views and needs inform policy and recovery measures
- Addressing long-term impacts and inequalities in mental health and wellbeing
- Mitigate negative impacts identified on the protective factors for mental wellbeing
- Increase emphasis on mental health and wellbeing in education
- Support parent and family relationships
- Communications and information provision
- Use and access to digital tools and internet connectivity
- Improve access to mental health and well-being support
- Communities, housing, and the built and natural environment
- Build the evidence base on the impact of health protection measures on mental wellbeing

The Children's Society. Stopping the spiral: children's services spending

This report shows that investment in early support services for children has fallen over the last ten years. Councils have struggled with the impact of funding cuts, with many of the poorest areas hardest hit. Key findings in the report include:

- Spending by local authorities on early intervention services for children and young people fell by £1.9 billion between 2010-11 and 2020-21
- By 2020-21, 80% of all local authority spending on children and young people went on late intervention services, up from 58% in 2010-11
- The pressure on late intervention services has driven up costs. Real costs of care have increased by 11% per child between 2012 and 2020
- Between 2010-11 and 2020-21 total spending on children and young people's services fell by £241 million in the most deprived fifth of local authorities, whilst it rose by £228m in the least deprived local authorities.

Education Policy Institute. Inequalities in GCSE results across England and Wales



This report finds that Welsh schools suffer a wider disadvantage gap than English schools, but that both nations have made only modest progress in closing this gap during the last decade.

It also finds that persistently disadvantaged pupils experienced still larger disadvantage gaps, with those living in England suffering a persistent disadvantage gap of 23 months and those in Wales experiencing 29 months. It concludes that with little sign of these persistent disadvantage gaps closing, alongside an expectation of a growing number of pupils in this category, improving educational outcomes for the persistently disadvantaged should be prioritised by policymakers.

Children's Commissioner. Back into school: New insights into school absence

This analysis looks at both unauthorised and authorised absence across the term. The analysis of the data shows that:

- The majority of children (60%) had no unauthorised absence in the autumn 2021 term
- Children who were out of school on a period of unauthorised absence (the remaining 40%), have distinct patterns of absence
- Attending the first week of school is a strong indicator that a child will go on to attend school regularly throughout the term
- Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and children receiving pupil premium were more likely to have higher levels of absence than their peers
- While children in care had similar levels of absence to their peers, when controlled for other factors, children in care were actually slightly less likely to be off school than other children. Being in care is associated with two fewer days of absence than not being in care
- Unauthorised absence is most likely to occur on Mondays and Fridays, with 23% of children in the sample missing at least one Friday in the term for unauthorised reasons.

Children's Commissioner. A head start: Early support for children's mental health

This report sets out the Children's Commissioner's vision for how children can be supported to promote good mental well-being and to get the early help they need when problems emerge. It describes six ambitions for early mental health support for children which include:

1. Every family receives support to promote good mental health and wellbeing through pregnancy and the early years through Family Hubs, including mental health support for parents where needed



2. All children are protected from harm and taught the digital skills they need to be safe online, making the online world a safe and exciting place for children to have fun, learn and connect with others, and all
3. All children have plentiful access to safe and fun spaces to play with their friends
4. All children's needs are met where they are and they receive support in school, through families or schools
5. The taboo of accessing support needs to be broken by making sure that children can access it quickly, locally, in their communities or online
6. Specialist NHS support is available for any child who needs it, with no child turned away or stuck in a spiral of escalation whilst waiting for support

Education Policy Institute. What works to reduce equality gaps in employment and employability

This report explores existing evidence behind proven methods to reduce employment and employability inequalities. It makes a number of recommendations for higher education providers to improve equality. These include:

- Adopt a strategic approach to careers and employability provision that begins with a theory of change specifying desired employment outcomes for students and acknowledging that different groups may experience different barriers to achieving these outcomes
- Develop and evaluate employment and careers programmes specifically targeted at reducing gaps in employment outcomes
- Further explore the impact of sandwich courses and other types of work experience on labour market outcomes for disadvantaged and underrepresented students
- Develop robust evidence of the impact of IAG provision that involves individuals from similar backgrounds to the students it targets and opportunities for interaction with teachers and lecturers who have spent time in industry
- Develop and evaluate alumni or peer mentoring opportunities for disadvantaged and underrepresented students (including specific initiatives to support disabled students)
- Invest in trialling and evaluating innovative, technology-based approaches to careers and employability improvement
- Design and evaluate the efficacy of approaches to support the uptake of and participation in career and employability services among students expected to benefit most from the support available



- Where universal provision is preferred, HEIs should seek to ensure that they gather data on the social background of participants, and assess whether such programmes tackle equality gaps
- Run robust trials of different careers and employability programmes across multiple candidate providers to develop the 'what works' evidence base
- Support collective learning across the HE sector on what works to reduce employability gaps and, crucially, share new and emerging evidence.

Briefings

Ofsted. Children's social care 2022: recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic

In this briefing, Ofsted draws on evidence from inspections, focus groups and interviews with inspectors and policy colleagues to understand what the sector has done well, the pressures that remain and the barriers to managing these pressures. It finds:

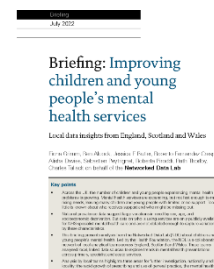
- Services are either not being offered or are running at a lower capacity than pre-pandemic levels for children at risk. As a result, there are delays in identifying vulnerable children and their needs and families have fewer opportunities to ask for help
- The mental health of some children and young people deteriorated during the pandemic, and we are seeing increasingly complex mental health needs among children who require support. Health services are stretched, and many local authorities and providers are organising their own mental health and wellbeing services as a result. This is transferring cost pressures to local authorities, providers and schools and such provision can lack the clinical governance of NHS services
- Greater numbers of care leavers than would have been expected before the pandemic are not in stable employment or education. There is concern that the toll on their well-being will be long lasting
- There is a lack of places in the right location, at the right time, for children who need them. This is especially the case for residential settings, particularly secure provision. Additionally, there are difficulties in identifying suitable places for children with mental health issues, and the increasing complexity of children's mental health needs since the pandemic began has compounded these further.



The Health Foundation. Improving children and young people's mental health services

This briefing presents analysis from the Health Foundation's Networked Data Lab (NDL) about children and young people's mental health. The briefing includes:

- Background on trends in mental health disorders among children and young people and existing pressures on services, as well as an overview of the main policies in place in England, Scotland, and Wales to improve children and young people's mental health
- Findings from NDL partners examining trends and patterns of service use, including the use of primary care, specialist mental health care and acute services, along with differences by demographic and socioeconomic characteristics
- Examples of how local NDL teams used linked data to improve services in their area
- Insights for national and local policymakers.



It highlights three key areas for urgent investigation to help ensure that children and young people get the care they need. These are:

- Rapid increases in mental health prescribing and support provided by GPs
- The prevalence of mental health problems among adolescent girls and young women
- Stark socioeconomic inequalities across the UK.

Ofsted. Education recovery in schools: summer 2022

This briefing draws on evidence from a sample of inspections carried out in the summer term 2022 and from discussions with school inspectors. It finds:

- Leaders continue to mention the negative impact of the pandemic on pupils' well-being and behaviour.
- The pandemic has affected pupils' learning during the year. Despite much work from schools, some pupils have not caught up to where they need to be.
- For some pupils with SEND, the pandemic has had a disproportionate effect. The pandemic has delayed some pupils receiving support from external or specialist services.
- The pandemic has exacerbated other existing challenges for schools which include persistent pupil absence and access to specialist services.



Tools and Guidance

Department of Health and Social Care. Building the right support for people with a learning disability and autistic people. Action plan.

This action plan focuses on the care and support needed to make sure people with a learning disability and autistic people of all ages can lead ordinary lives through developing community services and reducing reliance on specialist inpatient care in mental health hospitals.

Key guiding principles in the action plan include:

- Keeping people safe from harm, abuse, and neglect and ensuring high-quality health and social care.
- Making it easier for people to leave hospital when they are ready
- Living an ordinary life in the community through good community provision
- Ensuring a good start to life, by being able to access the support needed. This includes getting an early diagnosis, receiving the appropriate care and support that recognises and plans in advance for their transition to adulthood to prevent the escalation of needs, mental health crises and avoidable admissions, and additional support, where necessary, such as respite care.
- Working with changes to the system to improve experiences of navigating services and getting the right support.
- National and local accountability to deliver commitments.

Local Government Association. Children's services: is your council doing all it can to improve outcomes for children and young people?

This guidance is for chief executives to ensure their council delivers good outcomes for children through effective children's services. It states that some of the key questions chief executives might want to consider when seeking to assure themselves that their children's services department is performing well include:

- Is the voice of the child at the centre of the care system?
- Is workforce and performance data indicating positive performance? This includes caseload allocation, staff feedback on the visibility and effectiveness of management and leadership and staff satisfaction.
- Are you using effective data and related benchmarking to provide a clear picture of performance?
- Do you use evidence from significant cases and complaints as a source of intelligence?



- Are you using multi-agency approaches to bring partners together to discuss safeguarding issues?
- Are you aware of the SEND arrangements in your authority and do you seek necessary assurances from the DCS?

Criminal Justice

Reports

Revolving Doors Agency. Understanding and improving defendant engagement

HM Courts & Tribunal Service Justice matters

Understanding and improving defendant engagement



This report identifies the factors preventing defendants to engage in criminal courts processes. The research identified three key barriers that prevented, or limited, defendant engagement. These were a lack of:

- Relevant and user-friendly information about the criminal courts process provided by a trusted source
- Timely information to support more informed decision-making, particularly around legal representation
- Information and signposting to services that could help defendants with their additional support needs (e.g., mental health, substance misuse, domestic violence, and housing issues)

The research found that early intervention is key. To improve engagement, defendants should be provided with more information at two stages:

- In police custody- defendants should receive information about the benefits of representation
- On discharge from custody- information about what will happen next and how to prepare for their court hearing.

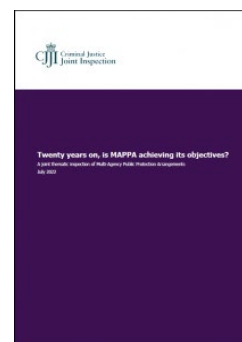
The Howard League for Penal Reform. Education inside penal detention for children in England: An overview

This report states that more than two-thirds of children in custody have special educational needs (SEN). These needs- which can include learning difficulties, speech, language and communication difficulties and social, emotional and mental health problems- are often mislabeled, misrecognised and unmet. Many children in custody who require the additional support of an Education, Health and Care Plan do not have one. When plans are made, often they are of poor quality and specify support that is not provided.

Furthermore, it finds that planning for education for children on release from custody is inadequate.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. Twenty years on, is MAPPA achieving its objectives? A joint thematic inspection of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) have created a formal multi-agency framework aimed at bringing together criminal justice agencies and other services to manage the risks that people convicted of violent or sexual offences pose to the public. Key findings in the report include information on:



Policy, strategy, and leadership:

- There is visible national leadership for MAPPA from the HMPPS Public Protection Group
- The National MAPPA team keeps guidance under regular review and has demonstrated agility
- There is flexibility within the guidance to allow the model to work in each criminal justice area and fit different structures. However, the impact of local variation on the quality of delivery is not sufficiently monitored centrally
- There is insufficient coordination of quality assurance at a national level to highlight best practices or shine a light on areas for improvement
- Business planning processes would be further improved by enabling local areas to have more input into national planning, creating a more inclusive process
- Operational probation managers take on MAPPA-related tasks in addition to their primary roles and, despite their best efforts, can mean less effective liaison with partner agencies due to a lack of time
- Staff in prisons, probation and policing would welcome more training in relation to MAPPA to give them confidence.

MAPPA identification, level setting and information sharing

- Level 2 management is where formal multi-agency meetings would add value to the lead agency's management of the risk of serious harm posed, and the case is assessed as posing a high or very high risk of serious harm, or a lower level but active involvement of other agencies is necessary to manage emerging risks. There are barriers to adopt cases to Level 2 management which means complex cases are being rejected. This results in MAPPA being marginalised, undervalued, and underused by practitioners
- MAPPA meetings usually produce clear actions which link directly to risk management. However, essential information is not always updated in minutes, particularly risk management plans. A revised document with an

amended template has been designed to address this issue but is not yet in use

- The ViSOR database is the designated repository for risk information in relation to MAPPA cases. However, it is not used as intended. ViSOR is rarely used by prison and probation staff, and most are not clear on the benefits or purpose of the system

Keeping people safe

- Overall, where the right individuals are referred, MAPPA adds value to the management of cases at Levels 2 and 3. However, there were gaps found in some cases, such as late referrals, last-minute arrangements for individuals being released and the quality of information prisons supply to MAPPA meetings do not always provide sufficient detail on how an individual has behaved throughout their sentence
- There is room for improvement in the management of Level 1 cases. Many of these cases paid insufficient attention to gathering information from other agencies to inform reviews resulting in practitioners being aware of important information and therefore, not taking appropriate action to address emerging risks.

Briefings

Prison Reform Trust. Prison: The facts

This report presents facts and figures on prisons. The report states that more than one in seven (15%) prison officers left the service last year. Of those, half had been in the role for less than three years and more than a quarter left within the first year.

It also states that safety in prisons has deteriorated rapidly during the last nine years. Whilst in the last year recorded assaults have fallen and recorded self-harm has decreased slightly, it remains close to historically high levels.

The report concludes that staff shortages raise challenges to the ability to provide safe and purposeful prisons following the disruption of the pandemic.



Prison Reform Trust is a charity that works to improve the lives of people in the criminal justice system. We are a national charity with a focus on prisons, probation and the courts. We work with a range of partners to improve the lives of people in the criminal justice system. We are a national charity with a focus on prisons, probation and the courts. We work with a range of partners to improve the lives of people in the criminal justice system.

The Howard League for Penal Reform. Arresting the entry of women into the criminal justice system

This briefing looks into arrests of women. Key findings include:

- The number of arrests of women has fallen by 5,677 since 2017/18
- Police services are developing gender-informed strategies based on local data



- Police services are developing a more nuanced approach to incidents in the home
- The development of partnership working is helping to keep vulnerable women out of the criminal justice system, but not enough is being done from the centre to ensure this happens everywhere
- The Female Offender Strategy, which aimed to reduce the number of women entering the criminal justice system has not been prioritised by the government
- There is a need for a more strategic approach to support women who come into contact with the police, whether as victims or alleged offenders
- Every police service should have a lead for women
- Police should receive training in gender and trauma-informed approaches and coercive control.

Home Office. Crime outcomes in England and Wales 2021 to 2022

Some key findings in this bulletin include:

- The number of offences recorded by the police increased to 5.3 million in the year ending March 2022, an increase of 16% compared with the previous year; this followed a 13% fall during the pandemic, comparing the year ending March 2020 and the year ending March 2021.
- Police forces closed just over a third (36.4%) of offences with no suspect identified, a similar proportion to last year (36.7%), though this remained below pre-pandemic proportions for this outcome type.
- There was an increase in the proportion of offences not yet assigned an outcome, from 7.8% for the year ending March 2021 to 11.7% for the year ending March 2022: this likely reflected improved crime recording processes by the police and a more complex caseload.

Tools and Guidance

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. Policing inspection programme and framework commencing April 2022

This guidance is HMICFRS's inspection programme and framework for policing which is envisaged to run for the next three years. It details the inspections they propose to carry out. These include:

- **PEEL assessments**, assessing the effectiveness, efficiency, and legitimacy of police forces in England and Wales.



- **National thematic inspections** examine particular policing practices or processes, or parts of the policing approach to preventing and tackling specific offences
- **Commissions from the Home Secretary and local policing bodies**
- **Inspection of national bodies and other non-Home Office forces**
- **Joint inspections**
- **State of Policing report** which will report on the efficiency and effectiveness of policing in England and Wales

Home Office. Domestic Abuse Act 2021 – Statutory Guidance

This statutory guidance is issued under section 84 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and is intended to increase awareness and inform the response to domestic abuse. It also conveys standards and promotes best practices. It is aimed at statutory and non-statutory bodies working with victims, including children or perpetrators of domestic abuse, and at those dealing with other consequences of domestic abuse. It is broken down into seven chapters, outlining:

- **Objectives of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.**
- **Understanding domestic abuse**, including background information on domestic abuse, the statutory definition of domestic abuse and key types of abuse in different relationship contexts.
- **Recognising domestic abuse** including physical abuse, violent or threatening behaviour, sexual abuse, controlling or coercive behaviour, harassment or stalking, economic abuse, verbal abuse, technology-facilitated abuse, abuse relating to faith, and 'honour'-based abuse. It also contains information on different tactics that may be used by perpetrators.
- **Impact of domestic abuse** on victims and on children.
- **Different experiences, needs and related considerations** of domestic abuse, including personal characteristics (including protected characteristics) and situational characteristics in domestic abuse cases
- **Agency response to domestic abuse**, including the role of individual agencies in identifying and responding to domestic abuse, including assessing risk and the context of existing guidance and strategies and some of the tools available to organisations.
- **Multi-agency response to domestic abuse**, including information on sharing information including to safeguard children, best practices for multi-agency working, working together to address the behaviour of perpetrators and domestic homicide reviews.