

HO – SO/VO MB (2017)

Home Office: Sexual Offender and Violent Offender Management Board

Home Office, 2 Marsham St, London
Monday 30 January 2017 – 14:00-15:30

Attendees:

Will Jones (Chair) – Home Office, PPU
Richard Byrne – Home Office, PPU
Tamsin Stubbing - Home Office, LAB
Soraya Wells - Home Office, UKBA
Sharon Savoury - Home Office, Border Force (by telephone)
Michelle Skeer - National Policing lead, DCC Cumbria Police
Gill Cherry - Staff officer to DCC Skeer, Cumbria Police
Geoff Tachauer - Metropolitan Police Service
Mark Bishop - Metropolitan Police Service
Alan Morgan - Metropolitan Police Service
Nigel Griffiths - Hampshire Police Service
Andy Fox - Avon and Somerset Police
Heather Sutton - National Offender Management Service
Douglas Naden - National Offender Management Service
Lee Featherstone - North Yorkshire Police Service
Helen Pustam - Judicial College
Anthony Cook – National Crime Agency

Apologies:

Sean Cotter (Youth Justice Board)
Jaimie Cooper (Home Office)

Sensitive/Irrelevant

2. Court/Judge issues

Judicial College agreed that a reminder for Judges on Civil Orders would be useful. Tamsin Stubbing and Will Jones were happy to contribute to this.

Helen Pustam asked that examples be sent to her of instances where Judges had got things wrong. Gill Cherry agreed that examples could be sent to her and she would collate and forward to Helen. Helen will then pick up identified issues with the legal secretary to the Senior Presiding Judge. She would also raise issues with the Criminal Bar Association and the Law Society.

Andy Fox raised an issue around the requirement by some courts that a Civil Order can only be varied by the original judge. This has led to issues with offenders moving from one area to another, where the new police force must travel to the original judge to have a Civil Order varied.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

4. Management of Sexual Risk Orders

Andy Fox raised the issue of the lack of consistency on management of Sexual Risk Orders, especially those that are cross-border. There is an issue with the lack of consistency nationwide. It was agreed by the group that the situation would be kept under review by the National Group. If the National Group considered that a central policy initiative to provide direction was required, the Home Office would take this forward.

5. Sharing of information relating to TCSO's

Soraya Wells raised the issue of the current lack of clarity on what would happen with Transnational Child Sex Offenders (TCSO's) after the UK leaves the EU in terms of information-sharing between the UK and EU. Tamsin said that this was being looked at through by the National Crime Agency (NCA) through its agreements with Interpol. Tamsin and the NCA will give an update at the next SOVO board.

6. Civil Orders Compliance Review

Mark Bishop informed the Board of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) review of their compliance with SHPO and SOPOs. Other forces are also conducting similar reviews. HOLA agreed to consider any anomalies and provide advice to ensure consistency in future. Gill Cherry agreed that if forces send her their issues, she will coordinate a single police response to HOLA.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

ACTIONS

Sensitive/Irrelevant

2. **Judicial College:** develop a reminder for Judges on Civil Orders.
3. **All:** to send examples of bad judicial practice to Gill Cherry to collate and forward to Helen Pustam.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

7. **All:** National Group to monitor the issue of the lack of consistency on management of Sexual Risk Orders, especially those that are cross-border.
8. **HOLA/NCA:** Tamsin and NCA to give an update at the next SOVO board on arrangements on information sharing post-Brexit on Travelling Child Sex Offenders.
9. **All:** to send issues on SHPO and SRO to Gill Cherry, who will collate and pass a single police response to Home Office Legal Advisers Branch.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

11. Date of next meeting: tbc