



# Framework for Risk Assessment Management and Evaluation: Implementing LS/CMI in Scotland



## The Idea

Scotland 2005. A simple idea to have a consistent method of assessment and case management in community and prison was conceived. The Level of Service / Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) was identified as the preferred method and development began to include consideration of identifying those who posed a risk of serious harm.



## Collaboration

A multi-agency group involving social work, prison, government, inspectorate and the RMA developed and refined the risk assessment method, taking account of the Scottish context.



## Pilot

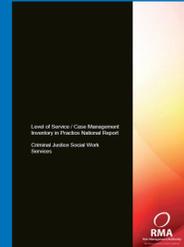
A pilot of the method in Renfrewshire criminal justice social work, led to further development of a triage approach to assessment to ensure that the purpose of assessment was meaningful to the task in hand, proportionate to risk and consistent with FRAME. This also included the development of the risk of serious harm assessment and risk management planning.



## Quality Assurance

Consistent with the agreed FRAME practice standard on quality assurance, support was provided to mentors and local areas following the recommendations of evaluation.

Over 100 mentors provide support to practitioners in 31 local authorities.



## Evaluation

Following on from the learning evaluation, each local authority agreed to provide the RMA with data from their use of LS/CMI. As a result an analysis report was provided nationally as well as to all participating areas.

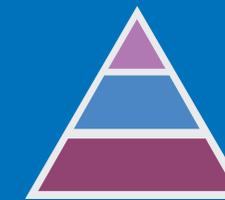
This was followed by the Care Inspectorate's supported self evaluation and the RMA, SG and SWS collaborating on the development of normative data for Scotland.



## Training

2010 - 2012: Training was overseen by LS/CMI master trainers and a learning evaluation was undertaken during the implementation process. Feedback was provided to the trainers and local areas regarding the implementation process and further development was identified.

As a result, the RMA has developed a training course - The Fundamentals of Risk Practice: standards, principles and skills.



## Framework

2011: The agreed multi-agency policy, Framework for Risk Assessment Management and Evaluation was published. FRAME aimed to develop a consistent, defensible and ethical approach to risk assessment and risk management practice.

As a result, the LS/CMI method was further developed to ensure that this was consistent with FRAME.

## Next Steps

2015: The implementation of the tiered method of assessment which incorporates LS/CMI has been marked by the collaboration of all those agencies involved. The parallel development of the FRAME policy significantly informed implementation by the emphasis on learning from evaluation and using quality assurance to continually improve the method.

Drawing on this learning, further evaluation is planned and will be required to sustain the commitment to ensuring that policy and practice are informed by the evidence. The RMA looks forward to continued collaboration with Social Work Scotland, the Scottish Prison Service and Scottish Government to continue to support practitioners' use of the method.

## With thanks to:

Aberdeen City • Aberdeenshire • Angus • Argyll & Bute  
Care Inspectorate • Clackmannanshire • Dumfries & Galloway  
Dundee • East Ayrshire • East Dunbartonshire • East Lothian  
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Risk Management Authority