



# NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MULTI-AGENCY PUBLIC PROTECTION ARRANGEMENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2014 – 2015



National  
Probation  
Service



On behalf of my colleagues in the Strategic Management Board I am pleased to share with you the annual report of the Northamptonshire Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). This report outlines our work to protect local communities from sexual and violent offenders who pose the highest risk of harm and offending. This report gives an overview of important developments for MAPPA which will improve how partners work together to protect the public.

The “Responsible Authorities” for MAPPA are the Police, Probation and HM Prison Services. The MAPPA forum brings these services together with partners from health, social care and housing. An overview of the work of these agencies within MAPPA is included in this report alongside some case examples.

To develop MAPPA we will be introducing the Four Pillars approach to risk management. The approach is based on the work of leading criminal justice academic and researcher Hazel Kemsall. The protection of the public and in particular, those who are vulnerable, is our highest priority and this new approach will improve how partner agencies work towards this goal and share their collective knowledge, experience and resources.

Sexual and violent crimes have a devastating impact on victims and their loved ones. This is especially true when those victims are children or vulnerable adults. The public has every right to demand the very best provision we can offer. Securing and promoting confidence is an aim embraced by each of the partner agencies and we will continue to work on a wide range of initiatives across the partnership building on the achievements of MAPPA.

As Chair of the SMB and on behalf of my Lead Officer colleagues I commend this annual report which I hope provides evidence of our ongoing commitment and dedication to work collaboratively and effectively to protect the public and manage the risks posed by serious offenders.



Ivan Balhatchet  
Assistant Chief Constable  
of Northamptonshire Police

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MAPPA brings together the professionals working with an offender and his victim or potential victim to share information, develop and deliver a Risk Management Plan that will protect potential victims, prevent further victims and rehabilitate the offender. This process sits within a framework that ensures that MAPPA itself is accountable and compliant with legislation.

## What is MAPPA

- (a) MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) are a set of arrangements to manage the risk posed by the most serious sexual and violent offenders (MAPPA-eligible offenders) under the provisions of sections 325 to 327B of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
- (b) They bring together the Police, Probation and Prison Services in England and Wales into what is known as the MAPPA Responsible Authority.
- (c) A number of other agencies are under a Duty To Co-operate (DTC) with the Responsible Authority. These include Social Services, Health Trusts, Youth Offending Teams, Jobcentre Plus and Local Housing and Education Authorities
- (d) The Responsible Authority is required to appoint two Lay Advisers to sit on the MAPPA Strategic Management Board (SMB) alongside senior representatives from each of the Responsible Authority and duty to co-operate agencies.
- (e) Lay Advisers are members of the public with no links to the business of managing MAPPA offenders and act as independent, yet informed, observers; able to pose questions which the professionals closely involved in the work might not think of asking. They also bring to the SMB their understanding and perspective of the local community (where they must reside and have strong links).

## How MAPPA works

- MAPPA-eligible offenders are identified and information about them is shared by the agencies in order to inform the risk assessments and risk management plans of those managing or supervising them.
- In the majority of cases that is as far as MAPPA extends but in some cases, it is determined that active multi-agency management is required. In such cases there will be regular MAPPA meetings attended by relevant agency practitioners.

**Level 1** involves ordinary agency management (i.e. no MAPPA meetings or resources);

**Level 2** is where the active involvement of more than one agency is required to manage the offender but the risk management plans do not require the attendance and commitment of resources at a senior level.

**Level 3** is when senior oversight is required to manage the case

There are 3 categories of MAPPA-eligible offender:

**Category 1** - registered sexual offenders;

**Category 2** – (in the main) violent offenders sentenced to imprisonment for 12 months or more; and

**Category 3** – offenders who do not qualify under categories 1 or 2 but who currently pose a risk of serious harm.

There are three management levels intended to ensure that resources are focused upon the cases where they are most needed; generally those involving the higher risks of serious harm.

MAPPA is supported by ViSOR. This is a national IT system for the management of people who pose a serious risk of harm to the public. The police have been using ViSOR since 2005 but, since June 2008, ViSOR has been fully operational allowing, for the first time, key staff from the Police, Probation and Prison Services to work on the same IT system, thus improving the quality and timeliness of risk assessments and of interventions to prevent offending. The combined use of ViSOR increases the ability to share intelligence across organisations and enable the safe transfer of key information when these high risk offenders move, enhancing public protection measures. All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at: [www.justice.gov.uk](http://www.justice.gov.uk)



## MAPPA Case Study

Mr Larry Davidson is a Registered Sex Offender who is visited regularly by a DPMU Police Officer. As well as sex offences against children, Mr Davidson has numerous convictions for violent offences against his partner Christina. His violence included physical and sexual assaults. With support from the Sunflower Centre, Christina had separated from Mr Davidson and obtained a Restraining Order to protect her from further violence. Mr Davidson has a long history of drug use and excessive drinking. He has never worked and has been unable to maintain a tenancy. A factor pulling him and Christina together is his inability to care for himself and his world view that he needs a partner to take care of him.

Mr Davidson frequently broke his Restraining Order by contacting Christina and resuming their relationship. Violence would quickly follow and Mr Davidson would be sent to prison for breach of Restraining Order. On release, the cycle would begin again. Mr Davidson then persuaded Christina to remove the Restraining Order making it extremely difficult to protect her.

Mr Davidson was referred to MAPPA Level 2 because the DPMU Officer was concerned about risk to Christina and to another party, Carol. Carol is Christina's elderly mother. Carol is seriously ill. She lived locally and when Christina and Mr Davidson were made homeless because of his behaviour, they moved to live with Carol.

Carol was subjected to physical assault by Mr Davidson and had to witness his physical and sexual abuse of her daughter. There was also considerable concern that Carol was being financially exploited. This impacted on her health and emotional wellbeing, to the concern of all, but Carol did not feel able to work with police or the Sunflower Centre to protect herself.

MAPPA assessed Mr Davidson as a risk of serious harm to Carol and Christina, to children and to professionals visiting Carol to care for her. MAPPA took the view any measures to protect Carol had to be taken with her knowledge and consent but at the same time, the steps taken should be presented as actions taken by "authorities" to protect Carol from backlash from Mr Davidson.

The Borough Council located a place in sheltered accommodation for Carol. Finding this was very challenging because Mr Davidson could also be a risk to other residents and hence a placement had to be found that did not expose other elderly people to risk. In addition, Carol could not bear to be separated from her beloved dog. Adult Social Care were able to rehome Carol's other pets.

Two borough councils then cooperated to place Mr Davidson and Christina in accommodation which met their needs.

Carol settled into her accommodation. Mr Davidson is not allowed access to her and staff are on hand to ensure that Christina does not bring Mr Davidson with her on visits. Carol had been estranged from her remaining family because she had "stood by" Christina. After her move, she was able to reconnect with her family and this has brought her much happiness. Whether it is moving away from the stress of her home life or the care available to her, Carol's health has significantly improved.

Christina has chosen to remain with Mr Davidson and the DPMU and DAU monitor them and will respond quickly to protect Christina. It appears however that being placed into their own accommodation has brought more stability to their relationship and incidents have reduced.

| MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2015 |                                            |                                     |                                             |       |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|
|                                           | Category 1:<br>Registered sex<br>offenders | Category 2:<br>Violent<br>offenders | Category 3:<br>Other dangerous<br>offenders | Total |
| Level 1                                   | 608                                        | 364                                 |                                             | 927   |
| Level 2                                   | 13                                         | 6                                   | 2                                           | 21    |
| Level 3                                   | 0                                          | 1                                   | 0                                           | 1     |
| Total                                     | 621                                        | 371                                 | 2                                           | 994   |

| MAPPA-eligible offenders in Levels 2 and 3 by category (yearly total) |                                            |                                     |                                             |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|
|                                                                       | Category 1:<br>Registered sex<br>offenders | Category 2:<br>Violent<br>offenders | Category 3:<br>Other dangerous<br>offenders | Total |

|         |    |    |   |     |
|---------|----|----|---|-----|
| Level 2 | 53 | 40 | 8 | 101 |
| Level 3 | 3  | 4  | 1 | 8   |
| Total   | 56 | 44 | 9 | 109 |

|                                                                     |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements | 16 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

| Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders |    |
|---------------------------------------------|----|
| SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts     |    |
| SOPOs                                       | 70 |
| NOs                                         | 0  |
| FTOs                                        | 0  |

| Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody |                                            |                                     |                                             |       |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|
|                                             | Category 1:<br>Registered sex<br>offenders | Category 2:<br>Violent<br>offenders | Category 3:<br>Other dangerous<br>offenders | Total |
| <b>Breach of licence</b>                    |                                            |                                     |                                             |       |
| Level 2                                     | 4                                          | 8                                   | 2                                           | 14    |
| Level 3                                     | 0                                          | 0                                   | 0                                           | 0     |
| Total                                       | 4                                          | 8                                   | 2                                           | 14    |
| <b>Breach of SOPO</b>                       |                                            |                                     |                                             |       |
| Level 2                                     | 0                                          |                                     |                                             | 4     |
| Level 3                                     | 0                                          |                                     |                                             | 0     |
| Total                                       | 0                                          |                                     |                                             | 4     |

|                                                                           |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| <b>Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population</b> | 100 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|

This figure has been calculated using the Mid-2014 Population Estimates: Single year of age and sex for Police Areas in England and Wales; estimated resident population, published by the Office for National Statistics on 25 June 2015, excluding those aged less than ten years of age.

## MAPPA Statistics Explained

The totals of MAPPA-eligible offenders, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2015 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

**(a) MAPPA-eligible offenders** – there are a number of offenders defined in law as eligible for MAPPA management, because they have committed specified sexual and violent offences or they currently pose a risk of serious harm, although the majority 98 percent this year are actually managed under ordinary agency (Level 1) arrangements rather than via MAPP meetings.

**(b) Registered Sexual Offenders (RSOs)** – those who are required to notify the police of their name, address and other personal details and to notify any changes subsequently (this is known as the “notification requirement.”) Failure to comply with the notification requirement is a criminal offence which carries a maximum penalty of 5 years’ imprisonment.

**(c) Violent Offenders** – this category includes violent offenders sentenced to imprisonment or detention for 12 months or more, or detained under a hospital order. It also includes a small number of sexual offenders who do not qualify for registration and offenders disqualified from working with children.

**(d) Other Dangerous Offenders** – offenders who do not qualify under the other two MAPPA-eligible categories, but who currently pose a risk of serious harm which requires management via MAPP meetings.

**(e) Breach of licence** – offenders released into the community following a period of imprisonment of 12 months or more will be subject to a licence with conditions (under probation supervision). If these conditions are not complied with, breach action will be taken and the offender may be recalled to prison.

**(f) Sexual Offences Prevention Order (SOPO)** – a SOPO was made at the time of dealing with certain sexual offenders or when the police make a special application on account of the offender’s behaviour in the community. The full order lasts for

a minimum of five years, and can last indefinitely. A SOPO will require the subject to register as a sexual offender and can include conditions, for example to prevent the offender loitering near schools or playgrounds. If the offender fails to comply with (i.e. breaches) the requirements of the order, he can be taken back to court and may be liable to up to five years’ imprisonment.

### **(g) SHPO (Sexual Harm Prevention Order).**

The SHPO replaces the SOPO. The SHPO was designed to be a more usable order that consolidated the old SOPO and FTO (foreign travel order). The Police can apply for foreign travel conditions as part of a SHPO instead of having to apply for two court orders.

Some offenders received a SOPO that was in force for longer than the time they had to register as a sex offender. In some cases, the SOPO made them registerable for life. Under the new legislation, anyone subject to a SOPO that extends their time on the sex offenders register, will come off the register on 1st March 2020 unless the police apply for a new SHPO. All offenders subject to the sex offenders register for life, with an accompanying SOPO are unaffected – it is only the ones who are kept on because of the SOPO that will come off.

The relevant law is S114 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

### **(h) SRO**

A Sexual Risk Order (SRO) can be applied for by the police whether a person has been convicted of a sex offence or not. An application can be made based on intelligence of sexual risk. It makes the person subject to the order have conditions (for example not to work on his own in another person’s house, in the case of a builder who was exposing himself to clients, but was not convicted). They also have to register their name and address to the police every year or if there are any changes. The order does not make them a registered sex offender, so they will not receive visits from the DPMU.

If the person breaches their SRO, it is a criminal offence for which they can be arrested, and if convicted, they then become a registered sex offender and qualify for management by DPMU.

**(i) Notification Order** – this requires sexual offenders who have been convicted overseas to register with the police, in order to protect the public in the UK from the risks that they pose. The police may apply to the court for a notification order in relation to offenders who are already in the UK or are intending to come to the UK.

Year on Year Comparison – the figures in each category for recent years have been broadly consistent. There has been a decrease in the numbers of offenders managed at MAPPA level 2 and Level 3. This reflects the MAPPA Panel's increasing confidence in maintaining the thresholds between MAPPA levels and the need to prioritise the "critical few" by ensuring that cases are managed at the lowest level possible.

## MAPPA background

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(a) MAPPA-eligible offenders – there are a number of offenders defined in law as eligible for MAPPA management, because they have committed specified sexual and violent offences or they currently pose a risk of serious harm, although the majority (93% this year) are actually managed under ordinary agency (Level 1) arrangements rather than via MAPP meetings.

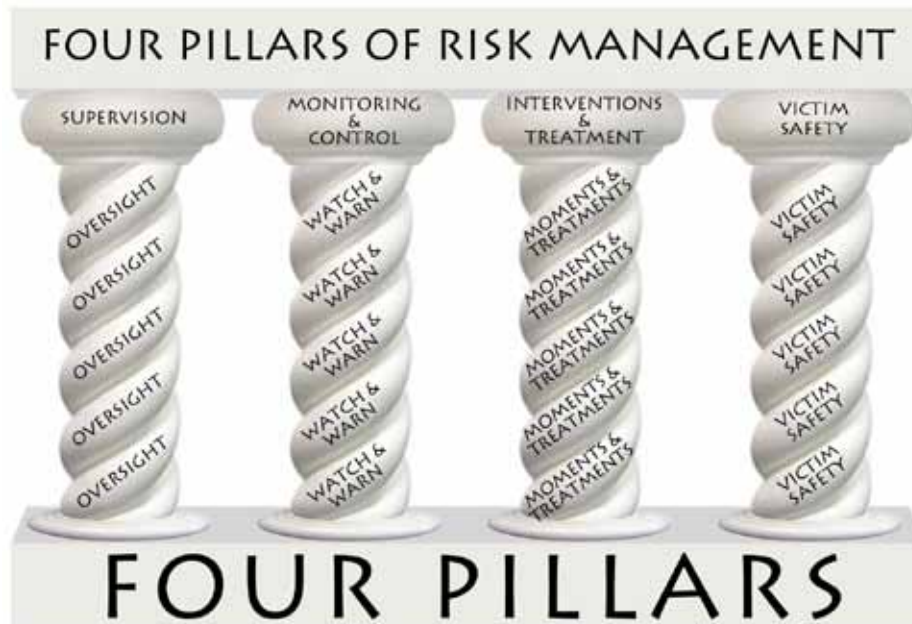
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(d) Other Dangerous Offenders – offenders who do not qualify under the other two MAPPA-eligible categories, but who currently pose a risk of serious harm which requires management via MAPP meetings.

## Four Pillars of Risk Management

On the 25th of June 2015 Northants Police hosted the national launch of the Four Pillars of Risk Management with speakers Hazel Kemshall and Andy Edwards. The launch was followed by a day of training for prospective trainers. On July 15th 2015 the MAPPA Strategic Management Board formally agreed that Northants MAPPA will adopt –this approach.



### The benefits of this approach are:

- Proactive information exchange and active risk management
- Efficient reviews focused on change
- Proactive risk management planning and implementation
- Well targeted risk management plans delivered with integrity
- Best use of value-added
- Increased defensibility and evidenced based decision making
- Duty To Cooperate agencies are proactive in MAPPA

### The Changes MAPPA attendees will see:

- The Offender views are sought prior to each meeting
- Offender Thought maps are completed with the offender to capture the offender's own view of their risk.
- Offender Managers update the Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan prior to each meeting

# Four Pillars of Risk Management

## The Changes MAPPA attendees will see:(contd.)

- The MAPPA A Referral Form includes new PSNLI (Pattern, Seriousness, Nature, Likelihood, Imminence and Impact) and 4 Pillars (Supervision, Interventions and Treatment, Monitoring and Control and Victim Safety Planning).
- MAPPA Meetings will have a structured focus on the PSNLI & 'The Four Pillars' (which merges the risk assessment with the Risk Management Plan) and a 360° supervision wheel.
- Each case will have a Contingency Plan
- The Voice of the Child will be considered at every MAPPA meeting
- A Risk of Harm Framework will be used to agree a MAPPA view of Risk of Serious Harm.
- 'The Change Question' will be asked at every meeting.



## Training

- 15/10/15 1 Day event for Core Panel member agencies – Police DAU and FIB, Mental Health, Children's Services, Adult Services and Housing Officers.
- 10/11/15 1 Day Event for Probation Managers and MAPPA and Minute Takers.
- 4/12/15 2 Hour Briefing for Level 3 Panel (scheduled to commence after the Panel sits).
- From 16/11/15 onwards, 4 X1 Day event for NPS, DPMU and YOS Offender Managers and Victim Liaison Officers.
- Dec 2015 Half Day event for Prison Offender Supervisors
- Dec 2015 Two Hour Presentation to Probation Hostel Officers.
- Jan 2016 2 Half Day Presentations to DTC agencies.
- Jan 2016 1 Day Event for NPS Trainee POs.

On the 8/1/16 the MAPPA Level 3 will sit using the Four Pillars followed by MAPPA Level 2 on 3/2/16.

## Governance Arrangements for MAPPA

MAPPA is overseen and reviewed by senior representatives from each agency involved in MAPPA. This partnership is the Strategic Management Board (SMB) and is chaired by senior managers from the Responsible Authorities. In 2014 the Chair moved to ACC Ivan Balhatchet. Board members monitor arrangements, direct necessary improvements and support practitioners in overcoming barriers and accessing resources to implement Risk Management Plans.

### Members of the Responsible Authority are:

- Northamptonshire Police
- National Probation Service
- HM Prison Service (East of England)

### Duty to Co-operate Partners are:

- Children & Young People's Directorate
- Adult Social Care Directorate
- Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- Northamptonshire Youth Offending Service
- Job Centre Plus
- Northamptonshire's Local Authority Housing providers and the Registered Social Landlords who work with them.
- Electronic Monitoring Companies
- Home Office Immigration Enforcement
- The Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Community Rehabilitation Company (BeNCH)

In addition MAPPA works closely with CATCH22 and C2C.

## The National Probation Service

The National Probation Services manages offenders who present a risk of serious harm to others. As part of the National Offender Management Service, the Northamptonshire Local Delivery Unit work to reduce re-offending and risk of harm to the public, by ensuring that Community Orders are enforced and that offenders' comply with their licence post sentence.

The Service carries out this undertaking by:

- Providing advice to Courts, by way of detailed assessments of offenders and their risk of harm and reoffending. Officers prepare reports for Courts to assist in sentencing;
- Regularly review risk management arrangements for offenders under supervision;
- Supervise community sentence orders and offenders in custody;
- Deliver accredited specified programmes of intervention to address offending behaviour, manage risk and promote rehabilitation in the community;
- Manage offenders subject to licence on release from custody and return offenders who fail to comply to prison;
- Manage high risk offenders using Approved Probation hostels either in or out of the county.

A Senior Probation Officer attends each MAPPA Level 2 meeting as a core panel representative and the Assistant Director sits on the Level 3 Panels and is a member of MAPPA SMB.

In addition to the direct supervision of offenders, the Service provides a Victim Liaison Officer Service to assist those who have been a victim of serious crime as defined under the Victims Charter. A key part of the role is to act as an advocate for the victims to ensure that necessary protective measures form part of the risk management plan.

The Probation Instruction PI 48/2014 extends this advocacy to those potential victims who would not have necessarily have had specific protection in the past. It recommends that contact should be offered to victims of domestic abuse when the offender receives a custodial sentence of less than 12 months or a Suspended Sentence Order and is assessed as posing a high risk of harm to the victim. This service was previously only offered to victims where the offender received a custodial sentence of 12 months or more for a serious violent or sexual offence. If there are concerns for a victim who fall outside of the remit of the Victims Charter a request for discretionary contact can be considered.

## The Victim's Charter and Victim Liaison

MAPPA assesses and manages the risks posed by dangerous offenders to reduce the chances of anyone becoming a victim of crime. In many cases the perpetrator who commits a violent or a sexual offence will have been known to the victim in that, sadly the perpetrator can be a partner, parent or trusted family member. In cases where a serious offence has been committed and an offender is sentenced to a minimum of 12 months in prison, Victim Liaison Officers, who are employed by the National Probation Service, make contact with the victims via letter. If victims choose to opt into the Victims Charter, these specially trained officers present information on behalf of individual victims to the MAPPA meeting. This is an opportunity for victims to give their views in regard to the threat the offender may still continue to pose. This is a dynamic process. The Victim Liaison Officer forms a vital link between the MAPPA and the victim, updating MAPPA on changes and developments and enabling the MAPPA agencies to respond to changes in risk by reviewing and updating their risk management strategies.

The duties of a victim liaison officer also include:

- providing Information to the victim on the custodial sentence and release supervision arrangements
- making contact at key points during the sentence to explain the changes that may be happening
- Relaying information from the victim to parole board meetings, and
- Notifying the victim of licence conditions that directly affect them – for example that the offender is not to approach the victim or the area where they live.



## Case Study

The offender was sentenced to life imprisonment with for the offence of murder which he committed in March 1994. He was sentenced in December 1995 and therefore has not been in the community for nearly 20 years.

The offender has a long list of previous offences and has been sentenced to numerous custodial sentences of significant length.

This case was brought to MAPPA due to an upcoming Parole hearing, with the possibility of the offender being released.

The family of the deceased are as scared of the offender now as they were in 1994, nothing has changed for them. A lot of the family reside in the town where the offence took place and therefore the offender knows where they live. They are frightened that the offender will find them once he is released and are constantly in fear.

Exclusion areas have been agreed as Northamptonshire and areas in other counties where the victim's family live.

During MAPPA, concerns were raised about the locality of the proposed approved premises. This has led to the offender manager looking at other possible options.

## The Prison Service

Our purpose is to protect the public from serious harm that is caused by offenders, to punish them and also to rehabilitate offenders whilst in our care so as to reduce the likelihood of further victims being created when they are eventually released.

Each prison will have a number of offenders who have been identified as falling under the MAPPA when they are released. These are classed as 'MAPPA nominals'. Prison staff and in particular Offender Supervisors, have an important role to play in sharing information with external agencies (e.g. police, probation, health, housing) about the risks that they pose, resettlement plans and relevant security intelligence. In addition, if a MAPPA nominal is referred to a MAPP Level 2 or 3 meeting, the Offender Supervisor will contribute to that meeting either in person, or via a formal report. By striking a balance between protective measures and rehabilitation, it is the aim of the Prison Service that the offender is released into the community posing a lower risk of serious harm than when they commenced their sentence and having skills (e.g. qualifications, educational attainment, and enhanced thinking skills) which will enable them to become contributing members of their community.

## Northamptonshire Police

Northamptonshire Police share responsibility for identifying, assessing and managing sexual, violent and other dangerous offenders through information sharing, multi agency planning, or by the Police as a single agency. Dedicated units concentrate on specific areas of public protection:

- The Dangerous Persons Management Unit (DPMU) manages Registered Sexual Offenders
- The Domestic Abuse (DA) Unit contains specialist officers for the oversight and, where possible, the investigation of serious and complex Domestic Abuse
- Specialist Officers in Force Intelligence (FIB) work with MAPPA to identify and collect intelligence on high risk violent offenders.
- Integrated Offender Management Officers work for the Rose programme working with the most Prolific Priority Offenders (PPO's) in Northamptonshire, those that commit Serious Acquisitive Crime Offences and also commit serious violent offences such as Robbery.



## DPMU

At the Northamptonshire Force Awards, the Deidre Newham Cup for Justice Award was awarded to the Dangerous Persons Management Unit for their work in making Northamptonshire a county in which families can flourish protected from serious harm from Registered Sex Offenders and violent offenders.

The DPMU officers were singled out for being a vital contributor to the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements. At MAPPA meetings their thorough approach to managing Registered Sex Offenders and their openness to collaboration with partners is an exemplar to others. The following was noted in the citation to celebrate their achievement.

The DPMU Officers interact with offenders with humanity, respecting their dignity and mindful of the capacity of many offenders to live non abusive lives post sentence. The most effective control of a sex offender is the control that he/she imposes on himself. In this regard, the DPMU have made an important contribution to the rehabilitation of offenders in the way that they engage with offenders, promoting openness and honesty and offering support and assistance to offenders to prevent relapse into abuse.

There are sadly a percentage of sex offenders whose overriding aim is victimisation. The DPMU are unrelenting and successful in their work to apprehend and convict such offenders. In doing so they have transformed performance, and are managing the challenging implementation of a new and more demanding risk assessment system.

The DPMU remain passionate and committed about their work because every member of the team is

aware of the awful things that human predators can do to victims. Their day to day work takes them into scenarios which are every parent's nightmare, every partner's worst fear. They carry this burden lightly, using humour and team work and their passionate commitment to thrive in a difficult environment, with the simple aim to protect the public and prevent further victims.

## Active Risk Management (ARMS).

In 2014 the DPMU officers completed training in ARMs and have since used ARMS to assess risk. ARMS is a Dynamic Risk Assessment framework that draws together assessment outcomes into a risk management plan. Rather than relying upon historical factors to guide our risk assessment, ARMS focuses on the 'here and now' and a range of dynamic factors found to be predictive of recidivism or desistance from offending.

Rather than replacing existing core arrangements for the risk assessment of sexual offenders ARMS was developed to be integrated with Risk Matrix 2000 and OASys. It was also aligned to factors within SARN and incorporated research derived from strength based models of offender rehabilitation such as the Good Lives Model.

ARMS consists of 5 key stages, the assessment of a range of risk factors, assessment of a range of protective factors, an overall priority assessment of the case, a Risk Matrix 2000 assessment, a

combination assessment of RM2000 and ARMS  
Priority assessment to arrive at a General Level of Risk Management and finally a Risk Management Plan.

ARMS is considered to provide a number of benefits;

- Consistency across not only force areas but also across agencies in arriving at an evidenced based risk assessment.
- Provide a more holistic and balanced approach to the assessment of risk
- In identifying evidence based actions aimed at reducing risk or increasing strengths in offenders
- As an aid to identifying priority for work in relation to actions identified for the management of risk.
- As a guide to decision making following the static assessment
- A guide to establishing a visiting timetable in line with national standards
- To aid sentence and risk management planning
- In support of decision making within a multi agency approach particularly within the MAPPA framework
- Consistency in defining risk levels that are more linked to the current risk associated with the case
- In support of applications for civil orders where a more evidenced based assessment of risk is required
- Where there is an application by the offender to be removed from the register under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Remedial) Order 2011 (F@ Thompson)
- National Standard for risk management planning
- Provides supervision with a clear and precise rationale for why certain activity and actions are being undertaken that can be reviewed and measured over time
- Support the work of HMIC/P and IPCC

## DPMU Case Study

The Dangerous Persons Management Unit became aware of a registered sex offender who suddenly moved to Northamptonshire and presented as homeless whilst temporarily living at his Mother's flat. A prompt visit was carried out by DPMU officers during which an ARMS risk assessment was completed.

The visit and risk assessment caused officers great concern owing to the negative influences within the offender's life, his unstable social situation and attitude towards offending. The offender was subsequently assessed as very high risk and active management by the DPMU began.

An emergency MAPPA meeting was called within a few days which enabled the effective sharing of information between the police, health and housing. A risk management plan was initiated which involved the offender wearing a GPS tracker to monitor his activity and joint working between DPMU and housing to secure suitable accommodation.

Intrusive monitoring and information sharing between all the parties involved through MAPPA led to increasing concerns about the offenders lack of motivation to desist from offending and the risk assessment was used to justify intensive Police tactics.

Evidence was quickly gathered which showed that the offender was in breach of his sexual offences prevention order and he was promptly arrested during a police operation. The offender was subsequently charged for breaching his SOPO and remanded into custody where he awaits trial.

Working through MAPPA allowed officers from the DPMU to gather information quickly about a case which they initially knew little about and it was this information that allowed an accurate risk assessment and promptly identified the need for robust police action. Working with partner agencies ensured that all options were considered to assist the offender and steer him away from offending which meant that police action was proportionate and justified to the risk that the offender posed.

The conclusion to this case was that the community was protected through the identification of the risk the offender posed and the quick and effective apprehension of the offender who proved he was unable to desist from offending.

## Force Intelligence Bureau FIB

FIB work with MAPPA partners to manage the risk presented by violence offenders and offenders involved in organised crime. Each MAPPA level 2 or 3 violent offender has a designated officer who attends

MAPPA meetings and supports partners in proactively managing the offender. The following case history illustrates how this works in practice.

### Case Study

At age 24 years, AB was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment for an offence of GBH. The victim, a young male who was stabbed, was fortunate to survive his injuries. AB had previous convictions for offences of Robbery and there was intelligence that he was associated with organised crime and that the stabbing may have been connected to organised criminal activity. When preparing for his release from prison a range of licence conditions were agreed on to manage risk. These included a requirement that AB notify his Offender Manager about any vehicles he used or travelled in and a curfew (the stabbing took place at night time). A curfew can be monitored using a basic electronic tag which ensures that the offender remains at his home during curfew hours. AB was invited to wear a BUDDI Tracker so that information about his activities could be collected as well as evidence of his compliance with curfew. AB's licence was revoked because he refused to comply with his curfew, however, while he was in the community, the evidence collected via the BUDDI indicated that AB was not involved with organised crime and hence, when he is next released, informed decisions can be made about his risk and resources targeted accordingly.

## Child Sexual Exploitation

The Reducing Incidents of Sexual Exploitation (RISE) team is a multi-agency, co-located team based at Mereway, Force Headquarters. The team comprise staff from Police, Safeguarding and Children's Services, a specialist nurse from Health and CAN – a third sector organisation supporting young people with drug, alcohol and other issues. They overall team is managed by a Northants Police Detective Inspector, seconded to Children's services into the position of Service manager. The Det. Inspector also manages the Initial Return Home Team, who conduct return home visits to all missing / found children in the county and the Paedophile On-line Investigation Team (POLIT) who target the highest risk distributors of Indecent images of Children across the county, conducting up to 10 search warrants per month. This approach ensures that On and Off line CSE is co-ordinated and the links between missing children and CSE are explored and discussed as part of a daily meeting process.

This year significant additional resources have been placed into tackling CSE in Northamptonshire. The number of dedicated CSE investigators within RISE has just increased to 6 ; A new Safeguarding desk has been established within the Force Intelligence Bureau to improve the intelligence picture; A Safeguarding

Proactive Team, comprising a Detective Sergeant and 6 constables has also been set up. This new structure increases the Forces capacity to gather, develop and action intelligence and target perpetrators of not only CSE but also Domestic Abuse, Sex Offenders and others that cause harm, for example human traffickers. In July 2015 The National College of Policing conducted a Peer review of Northants Police response to CSE and stated the Force had made a "significant commitment to tackling the challenge of CSE" praising its "passionate, committed and determined staff focused upon delivering an effective service to children and young people." They were also complimentary about the extensive CSE awareness raising campaign that had taken place this year. One impact of the increased focus on perpetrators of CSE is a likely growth in the numbers of Registered Sex Offenders as convictions of sexual offences begin to increase – creating more work for the MAPPA process.



DI Richard Tompkins  
Service Manager of RISE

## **The Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Community Rehabilitation Company (BeNCH)**

The Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Community Rehabilitation Company (BeNCH CRC) is one of 21 CRCs which have been created as part of the Transforming Rehabilitation agenda. The CRCs manage those service-users who are not assessed as posing a high risk of serious harm and who have not committed a MAPPA-eligible offence. However, the CRCs continue to have a responsibility to protect the public, reduce the incidence of further offending and deliver the sentences of the Court. This role has extended to include statutory supervision of those service-users who receive custodial sentences of less than 12 months. As a result of the changes to the delivery of Probation services, the BeNCH CRC, along with all the other CRCs, no longer refer service-users to MAPPA. It will, though, contribute to and support multi-agency risk management plans when required to do so.

Over the last 12 months, BeNCH CRC have continued to work collaboratively with NPS colleagues. A number of case discussions have been held between CRC Senior Probation Officers and NPS where we have assessed that the risk of serious harm has increased to high. The number of cases transferred to NPS as a result of a risk escalation review in the last quarter is 7; for a twelve month period from June 2014 a total of 16 cases were risk escalated from the CRC to NPS. In addition, CRC Offender Managers have worked with NPS colleagues in handing over cases which are current to CRC but have subsequently been convicted of a MAPPA eligible offence. Offender Managers have worked together to ensure safe handover of service users to the NPS. The CRC and NPS continue to meet monthly to ensure that the interface between the two organisations is effective.



Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

## Community Offender Mental Health Team

### Mentally Disordered Offenders and the work of the Community Offender Personality Disorder Pathway Project

This Pathway established collaboration between Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and the National Probation Service in Northamptonshire.

The Pathway has the following objectives:

- A reduction in repeat serious sexual and/or violent offending
- Improved psychological health, wellbeing and pro social behaviour
- Improved competence, confidence and attitudes of staff working with complex offenders who are likely to have traits of personality disorder

In order to meet these objectives the service works closely with the MAPPA panel and Offender Managers in providing consultation and advice on managing MAPPA cases.

### Case Study

An offender was being discussed in MAPPA as a level 2 cat 2, the core panel member from the healthcare was the PD link worker and from listening to the case it was felt that he met the criteria for the PD Pathway as he was vulnerable in the community, offender manager was having difficulty engaging with him as he presented very chaotic. The offender would reoffend and return to prison as he would find it difficult to cope in the community, he had been assessed under Section 136 of the mental health act and was not deemed suitable for sectioning which he would have liked. There were also underlying issues with anxiety which was leading to paranoia.

As part of the MAPPA actions the PD link worker organised a consultation with the offender manager where current problems were discussed, concerns with engagement and risk, a formulation was written and sent to the offender manager, which provided the offender manager more information and understanding into the offender's difficulties and advice and support, self-referrals to wellbeing service and MIND, the offender manager continued to receive support from the PD Link worker.

Over time the offender was engaging well with the offender manager and despite his difficulties regarding not having any accommodation he continued to work with his Offender manager. He was also able to self-refer himself to the wellbeing service to address his anxiety and also refer himself to MIND for additional support.

The offender was able to work with his Offender manager until the end of his licence.

With the offender being discussed in MAPPA the difficulties were identified and signposted to the right services which led to supporting the offender manager understanding and working with offender in a different way. This helped the offender feel more supported and managed to get to the end of his licence without offending or being recalled.



### MASH-The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is the first point of contact for safeguarding referrals from both professionals and members of the public. It is a partnership arrangement that includes colleagues from Northamptonshire County Council Children's Social Care, Education and Targeted Prevention services, Northamptonshire Police, NHS, Fire Service and Probation. By working together, MASH aim to effectively gather and collate information to enable informed decisions as to risks to children. If there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer from significant harm, enquiries in accordance with S47 Children Act (1989) are instigated. If the threshold for significant harm is not met, the MASH team will signpost the referrer to a suitable service.

The Northamptonshire MASH has been operating since August 2013, and has demonstrated a number of benefits due to the fact that information is shared in a timely way. This enables a more comprehensive analysis and assessment of risk resulting in informed and joint decision making and timely and appropriate responses to safeguarding concerns.

The positive working relationship and interface between MAPPA and MASH are ensured via the participation of the Children, Families and Education Directorate's representatives at all MAPPA levels. These are also aided by the close proximity, with MASH and MAPPA based on the same floor of the Criminal Justice Centre.

The MASH Service Manager attends all MAPPA level 3 meetings and the MASH Senior practitioners attend MAPPA level 2. The presence of MASH at MAPPA meetings ensures that the wellbeing of children is a constant concern and is considered from a position of skill and experience.

## Northamptonshire County Council Adult Social Care

Northamptonshire County Council Adult Social Care (ASC) is the lead Agency for the protection and Safeguarding of adults but working with its partners has been and continues to be vital in protecting our citizens from abuse and neglect.

Our role within MAPPA is to ensure that the needs of the offender are addressed in a holistic manner, either whilst in custody or as part of their risk management plan on release. During 2013/14 the key challenges have involved offenders with mental health problems or those who have developed eligible needs that can no longer be met in a prison setting.

The implementation of Care Act in April 2015 has been an important consideration for ASC over the last year. The act has codified some of the Local Authority's existing practices into law, as well as adding some new ones. In terms of Adult Safeguarding, the act requires Local Authorities to make enquiries, or ensure other agencies make enquiries, where they think an adult with care and support needs is at risk of abuse or neglect.

From April 2015 Local Authority areas that contain prisons or approved premises will be responsible for continuity of care for offenders coming into their area on release from prison. In preparation for this Adult Social Care is working locally with partners in the implementation of the Care Act recommendations and is developing pathways for referral and training of staff in HMP Onley and Ryehill. Adult Social Care Staff have received MAPPA training and are represented at all Level 2 and Level 3 meetings.

## Northamptonshire Youth Offending Service

The YOS is a multi-agency partnership between Northamptonshire Police Service, the National Probation Service Northamptonshire, NHS Nene CCG, NHS Corby CCG, and Northamptonshire County Council.

It was set up following the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and is a statutory partnership. Other agencies and partners contribute to the work of the YOS including the Police and Crime Commissioner, Connexions and volunteers.

The stated aim of the YOS is to reduce offending and reoffending by children and young people. The YOS sits in both children's services and the criminal justice system; so it aims to improve the wellbeing of young people within wider legislation such as The Children Act and safeguarding guidance, while also making them less likely to reoffend and diligently implementing court sentences.

The Area Manager attends all MAPPA level 3 meetings and level 2 meetings are attended by YOS staff when the YOS has a contribution to make, or are the lead agency.

Very few young people meet the threshold for adoption by MAPPA. The vast majority of young people are not involved in the commission of serious sexual or violent offences. Those young people that do meet the criteria, and are adopted by MAPPA, have often experienced or have been the victims of, traumatic life events, which may have had some impact on their behaviour. However, in such circumstances, the YOS and MAPPA work together in order to protect the public from harm, while attempting to locate and secure the appropriate resources for the young person concerned.

In the case of sexual offences, this may involve work with colleagues in Children's Social Care to locate a therapeutic environment. This reduces the likelihood of young people becoming sex offenders in adulthood.



## The Arson Task Force

The Arson Task Force is a partnership between the police and the fire service with a remit to reduce arson across the county of Northamptonshire.

The ATF work with offenders who have an arson history and are subject to MAPPA, we will if appropriate:

- Carry out home fire safety checks for victims
- Work with Crime Prevention to target harden addresses and reduce risk
- Visit prisons to risk assess offenders prior to release
- Carry out intervention work with offenders ensuring they understand the risk of arson and thereby negating any future defence of ignorance regarding the consequences of their actions
- Support police investigations and provide initial impact statements
- Work with housing, mental health, probation and other agencies to provide a holistic approach to rehabilitation and robust offender management
- Work with Universities to develop an intervention programme for arsonists
- Link in with victims of arson related domestic violence whose ex-partners are subject to MAPPA
- Identify and work with vulnerable children who are engaging in fire setting.
- Ensure release addresses are suitable for arson offenders.

### Cases which illustrate the work of ATF within MAPPA

In July 2014 the Arson Task Force (ATF) working with Crime Prevention Officers were asked to assist with protecting an officer of the court who lived out of County. By virtue of merely doing their everyday job they were subjected to veiled threats to themselves and their family from a prolific offender.

Our joint response was to immediately visit the officer's home address in their county and target harden the property. This type of response is not uncommon and is exactly what MAPPA is about – Protecting our Public and those who support the criminal justice system.

MAPPA Referral highlights Julie who lives in fear of a near relative being released from prison imminently, she fears he will find her and target her family and home. The relative has a history of Arson. ATF contacted her, she lives some distance outside of Northamptonshire but following our conversation with the potential victim arrangements were put in place for another Fire Authority to attend the address and improve fire security and increase confidence. A recent follow up call with Julie has indicated that she and her family feel safer as a result of the response from all agencies. There are no cross-border restrictions when it comes to MAPPA safety and our counterparts in other areas of the UK respond immediately and without question when requested.

George is a high risk MAPPA client who is currently serving his sentence for Arson in the North of the country, he is being released shortly. It is important that following other courses carried out within the prison regime that ATF present their fire intervention presentation to George prior to release. Having a full knowledge of the case and understanding the offending triggers allows the ATF to tailor the presentation to ensure a positive reception and response from the client. The MAPPA process ensures everyone has a clear understanding of complex cases and can tailor the best approach to help achieve positive outcomes. ATF visited the prison, completed the presentation and produced a risk based assessment of the client which can assist when trying to secure housing.



## St Andrews Healthcare

St Andrews is a large independent psychiatric hospital where many offenders are treated. It is one of only a few hospitals in the country who have wholeheartedly embraced the MAPPA processes and they hold monthly risk management panels, chaired by the MAPPA Co-ordinator and attended by Police representatives, which discuss patients who are eligible to be managed by MAPPA. This has been helpful in making decisions about Section 17 Leave (Mental Health Act 1983) and been invaluable in discharge planning for some very complex patients. A total of 37 patients have been discussed under the MAPPA umbrella in the last twelve months. St Andrew's have also hosted three multi-agency training days during 2015 and will continue to do so through 2016. Previous events have been well received with delegates being able to both increase their MAPPA knowledge whilst also networking with colleagues from different professional groups. Details of the training dates on offer for 2016 will be sent out to stakeholders later in the year. Training will be updated to include the Four Pillars work. .



## Jobcentre Plus

Jobcentre Plus is part of the Department for Work and Pensions. In relation to managing MAPPA offenders, we have two primary functions:

- To assist offenders into suitable employment or to access suitable training as this reduces their risk of reoffending and thus protects the public.
- To restrict the types of employment and training when this applies to certain offenders.

This will result in:

- Giving offenders of working age the help and support to which they are entitled to enable them to work.
- Benefitting offenders as appropriate employment and training can reduce reoffending rates by between a third and a half. Employment provides stability and gives purpose to what are often chaotic lives.
- Giving offenders the opportunity to contribute positively to their local community, to society in general and to lead law-abiding lives.
- Offenders being prevented from accessing unsuitable employment and training which could put themselves and the public at risk of serious harm.

Receipt of form MAPPA J is the official sharing mechanism between the Responsible Authority and Jobcentre Plus. Without form MAPPA J, Jobcentre Plus is unable to place appropriate restrictions on MAPPA cases when considering employment and training opportunities.

## Catch22

Catch22 has been working alongside MAPPA since 2007. Our referrals come through Probation and DPMU. Catch22 works in conjunction with other agencies such as CRI, Can, C2C, Support Wellingborough. We are also in partnership with the NHS Foundation Trust to support Personality Disorder Offenders.

Catch22 staff are invited to attend MAPPA meetings to discuss the support we can offer to High Risk offenders, we also attend to share information on distance travelled, successes and any other issues that may arise.

Catch22 have a pool of trained Volunteers who are skilled in working with hard to engage offenders and provide extra monitoring and support.

The team's main objectives are to source and sustain accommodation and we will also help with all monetary issues which include budgeting, accessing bank accounts, benefits and debts. The service we provide has a very holistic approach, and our support is personal to encompass each individual's needs.

We also provide support for individuals' wellbeing including signing up with Doctors and Dentists. We promote healthy living and teach basic cooking skills to enable Service Users to live independently and healthily.

Some of our work includes helping other family members and providing support with court appearances and child access.

The majority of our referrals are unable to work due to mental health and or substance misuse issues. However, after working with Catch22 many Service Users have gone on to successfully start voluntary work, employment and training.

In April 2014 it was agreed at a MAPPA meeting that Catch 22 would work with DT an adult with Learning Difficulties. DT has a history of non engagement with professionals and to overcome his resistance it was agreed that Catch22 would visit DT in prison to try and establish and develop a professional relationship with DT before release.

Catch22 staff and a volunteer went to meet and assess DT at the prison and it was agreed that two

volunteers would support DT to visit weekly upon release.

Catch22 staff and volunteers have now built a good working relationship and DT responds well to intervention; some of this has included basic cooking skills, anger management sessions and applying for benefits.

Catch22 works closely with the offender manager and MAPPA, attends regular meetings to update and share information.

At a recent Catch22 review DT went on to say

**' I will not have a bad word said against Catch22, because if I have a problem then I can speak to staff and I know they will help me. I used to think I was worthless until I meet people from Catch22 and I see things better now as I felt I was in a black hole before'**

Work continues to progress with DT, Catch22 staff and volunteers will continue to support DT moving in to his own tenancy to integrate him within the community to enable him to live independently and safely.

## C2C (Crime to Christ)

C2C support any individual at any stage of the Criminal Justice System by inspiring and motivating them to take personal responsibility for their behaviour, in order to reduce re-offending.

This has a huge impact on their lives, their children, wider families & local communities creating a safer, stronger Northamptonshire.

We provide our service to people regardless of faith, or none, and regardless of their crimes, age, ethnic or cultural background, gender, sexuality or disability. Our services are based in Northamptonshire and are accessible to young people, men and women at any stage in the criminal justice system.

We are motivated by our Christian Faith and commit ourselves to serving others by aspiring to follow standards in all our community work

We have a number of projects providing specific services, with staff and volunteers working together in all projects:

- Mentoring & Befriending
- Community Orders
- Youth Work
- School Watch
- Appropriate Adult Work
- The Good Loaf Bakery
- Prison Work

C2C have mentored MAPPA offenders providing support for isolated offenders who lack social skills and struggle to live independently.



## Northamptonshire Local Authorities and Accommodation Providers

Suitable accommodation is the foundation on which most risk management plans are built and Northants MAPPA have been able to safely manage the most risky offenders in the county because of the excellent partnership work on the part of our housing colleagues. With the co-operation of the seven Northamptonshire Local Authorities and their partner Social Landlords, it has been possible to secure appropriate housing for the majority of MAPPA managed offenders during the past year.

The Housing Authorities are represented at every MAPPA meeting and play a key role in determining eligibility, signposting into the private sector and locating safe placements for offenders.

There are a small number of offenders who are especially difficult to accommodate for a variety of reasons; some offenders are required by licence conditions to relocate within Northamptonshire, usually to protect a victim, some offenders have specific needs such as for a property adapted for disability. To ensure that such offenders are placed in accommodation safely and quickly, the seven Local Authorities established a MAPPA Housing Panel. The MAPPA Housing Panel members are senior housing officers. The first meeting was in September 2014 and the Panel has met each month when there has been an offender in need of accommodation. Each case is presented at the Panel with risk being the overriding consideration. Of the 7 local authorities, Northampton, Kettering, Daventry, East Northants, South Northants and Corby, have taken it in turn to place one or more offenders and to date 7 offenders have been placed via the Panel.



## MAPPA Lay Advisors

Both Lay Advisors attended the annual Lay Advisors Conference on March 30th held at Newbold Revel, Rugby. The conference was organised and run by the National Offender management Service (NOMS). Various staff members from NOMS outlined their role and responsibilities within the organisation and how this impacts on local MAPPA arrangements. There was a major input on the 4 Pillars process and its introduction across the country. Most areas who are already using this process were very positive about its effectiveness. In some areas there is a Young Persons MAPPA panel which sounded very interesting.

Clarity on the role and function of the Lay Advisors across the country still needs standardisation and is being taken up by NOMS. However, the 2 Lay Advisors from Northamptonshire were able to report to the conference of their inclusiveness and general acceptance within the working of Northamptonshire MAPPA.

Financial constraints across the partner agencies has meant some of the support offered to MAPPA clients has been reduced and the future of funding is still under serious discussion which is of concern.

Re-housing of MAPPA clientele remains a challenge but the introduction of the MAPPA Housing Panel is a positive step forward. It provides a useful opportunity for the Borough Councils to look at the more complex re-housing issues together and identify the best solutions. In recent months concerns have arisen about the shortage of appropriate emergency accommodation and the potential for victims of domestic and sexual abuse to be placed alongside offenders. The Housing Panel has been tasked by MAPPA SMB to look at this and develop measures to introduce more effective safeguards to manage these risks.

Access to the range of mental health assessment has improved over the last 12 months and it is hoped this will continue, particularly for the more challenging individuals with dual diagnosis.

The Lay Advisors have been invited and are taking part in 2 serious case reviews, one of which is ongoing.

Despite the various reorganisational changes and financial challenges occurring in the various agencies, the Northamptonshire MAPPA remains a very important multi agency forum to ensure the safety of the local community in this county.

## Risk Screening and Information Sharing Tools for Faith Based Communities

When people from all communities come together, it is likely that Registered Sex Offenders will be part of that group. The protection of those vulnerable to abuse, especially children, is important to all of us. At the same time, research on men who commit sexual offences against children indicates that they are more likely to stop abusive behaviour if they receive support to control their behaviour. One of the triggers for reoffending is social isolation and loneliness. If communities, including faith based groups include rather than isolate such men, they can make a significant contribution to the rehabilitation of such offenders and the safety of children and vulnerable adults. It is equally important that this is done in a safe way. MAPPA partners, Police and Probation and the Safe Guarding Advisor for the Diocese of Peterborough worked together to develop a support package for Faith Based Communities. The tools in this pack can assist Faith Based Communities in offering support to offenders and support you in doing this safely.

The pack includes a Risk Screening Tool, a sample Covenant that can be adapted by Faith Based Communities and a sample Information Sharing document which will give you an overview of the type of information that can be made available from the agencies who work with Registered Sex Offenders.

### Information Sharing

Registered Sex Offenders have been convicted of a sexual offence and are required to notify police about their residence and travel for a period that is decided by the Court. Within Northamptonshire, Registered Sex Offenders are managed by the Dangerous Persons Management Unit within Northants Police. Some Registered Sex Offenders will also have a Sex Offence Prevention Order. This Order will prevent the offender from certain activities or going to certain places. These Orders are overseen by the DPMU. Registered Sex Offenders who have served a prison sentence or who have been sentenced to a Community Order (Probation) are also managed by the National Probation Service. In most cases, the offenders will have conditions on a licence or Order which from prevent him from certain activities or going to certain places.

Restraining Orders are sometimes issued to protect individuals who have been in an abusive relationship. They usually require the aggressor to avoid any contact with their victim and sometimes to avoid places where they may encounter their victim.

If Registered Sex Offenders are assessed as very risky and complex they will also be overseen by the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). MAPPA brings together the professionals working with an offender to share information and develop and deliver a Risk Management Plan that will protect others.

The professionals working with sex offenders depend on organisations, including faith based communities, to work together by sharing information. This pack includes an Information Document which covers the types of information that can be shared with you to protect vulnerable members of a Faith Based Community.

### Risk Screening Tool

Research that shows that there are common signs which can be observed by an offender, and those he has contact, with prior to perpetrating sexual abuse. It is possible to intervene and offer help or take protective steps to prevent further abuse. The Risk Screening Tool can assist you with signs to look for in your interactions and questions to ask. This tool should only be used for screening men that you have a relationship with and some knowledge of; you are looking for changes in behaviour and you therefore need to know what is normal for them. You may observe signs yourself or others within your community may mention them to you. It also helps to be self conscious or aware of the effect he has on you; do not ignore your own feelings if contact with him leaves you feeling uncomfortable, worried or confused.

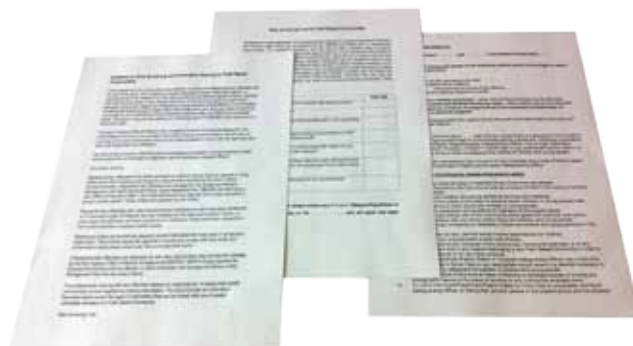
There are two steps to using this tool. The first step sets out seven questions which you can answer from your observations or from information from others. We advise that if any of these changes are observed you seek advice either from your own safeguarding advisor or from the DPMU or Probation Service.

The second step is an outline interview with questions that can be addressed to the offender. It is important that these questions are asked sensitively and without embarrassment. Ease in this situation can only be achieved if there is an existing warm and supportive relationship. Undertaking this discussion should be considered carefully and may be best if this discussion is referred to the safeguarding advisor.

## Covenant

This is a sample Covenant or safeguarding agreement which can be adapted for use in a Faith Based Community in the event that that Community does not already have an agreement of this type. The Covenant was developed by the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor for the Church of England at Peterborough and is based on their expertise and developed from the Cof E National Document Set. This Covenant can be adapted to reflect the values of Faith Based Communities and the particular risk presented by the individual offender and/or his restrictions. It would assist in managing risk if the Covenant was copied to the DPMU/NPS.

Availability: The pack is available on request to [MAPPA@Northants.pnn.police.uk](mailto:MAPPA@Northants.pnn.police.uk)



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The pictures of street scenes in this annual report have been used to give a pictorial representation of Northamptonshire and are not directly connected with the work of the MAPPA.



THE TIMELINE KETTERING

All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at: [www.justice.gov.uk](http://www.justice.gov.uk)



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National  
Probation  
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[www.northants-probation.org.uk](http://www.northants-probation.org.uk)

