



Gloucestershire

Annual Report

2014 - 15

Introduction

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) for the period 2014 to 2015 relating to Gloucestershire.

I have now been chair of the MAPPA Board for the last 12 months. The changes in public sector provision have continued during this year and I endeavor to ensure that all agencies, both responsible agencies and duty to cooperate agencies, have what they need to discharge their responsibilities.

In the last 12 months I believe that we in MAPPA have weathered the upheavals within the public sector very well. I am of the opinion that we have continued to build on our existing commitment and skills.

During this year we have seen an increased take up of the MAPPA resource from Youth Justice. This has been mirrored in Health Services. This was as a direct result of the MAPPA Team engaging directly with these agencies to support positive change. This is encouraging and development work continues in these areas.

Local audit procedures have provided me with assurance that there is a good level of service delivery in MAPPA meetings.

The development of the new assessment framework has been progressing, relevant Police Officers have received training in the new Active Risk Management System 'ARMS' and Probation Services are in the process of rolling out the training to the staff teams.

We have continued to engage with a range of agencies to promote MAPPA and advise those agencies about their eligible cases. This has helped in increasing levels of engagement across the range of organisations promoting the delivery of public protection planning and delivery of interventions that manage or reduce risk.

The Strategic Management Board have concluded to focus on three main strategic themes in the forthcoming year;

- Victim Protection
- Engagement and Accountability
- Service Delivery

We are very keen to ensure that we provide a good service to victims and be able to demonstrate that.

Accountability and engagement is really important – we want to ensure that those at strategic level are committed to supporting the outcomes of MAPPA are comfortable with their level of accountability.

Service delivery is monitored and reviewed so we can engage in improvement of performance on a continuous basis.

What is MAPPA?

MAPPA background

- (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 each of the 42 Areas 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 each MAPPA area 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).
- 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.
 - 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 focussed upon the cases where they are most needed; generally those involving the higher risks of serious harm.
 - 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.Where senior oversight is required the case would be managed at **Level 3**.

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.gov.uk

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.

MAPPA Statistics

MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2015

	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	455	144	-	599
Level 2	1	3	2	6
Level 3	1	1	0	2
Total	457	148	2	607

MAPPA-eligible offenders in Levels 2 and 3 by category (yearly total)

	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 2	15	7	4	26
Level 3	1	2	0	3
Total	16	9	4	29

RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements

13

Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders

SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts

SOPOs	35
NOs	1
FTOs	0

Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Breach of licence				
Level 2	0	1	0	1
Level 3	1	1	0	2
Total	1	2	0	3
Breach of SOPO				
Level 2	0	-	-	0
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	0	-	-	0

Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population	84
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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.

Explanation commentary on statistical tables

MAPPA background

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% 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.

(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 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 court may make a SOPO 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) 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.

(h) Foreign Travel Orders – these prevent offenders with convictions for sexual offences against children from travelling abroad where this is necessary to protect children from the risk of sexual harm.

Local page

Goodbye from....

I have been acting as Interim MAPPA Coordinator since April 2014. I have been doing this to assist during the transforming rehabilitation transition. I have enjoyed my time working in the multi-agency role and have been able to see first hand how hard all the local Government agencies work together to contribute toward protecting the public from harm. I will be handing over to Tessa Broderick in November 2015. Kirsty Ridge, MAPPA Administrator, continues to deliver high quality organisational and clerical skills during this period of change.

The key challenge of the period 2014-2015 has been maintaining standards of services delivery during a period of significant upheaval for all services. Gloucestershire Probation Trust has been disbanded being replaced by a Community Rehabilitation Company and a newly established National Probation Service and they have retained the high risk offenders. To support our colleagues in Probation to maintain a high standard we at MAPPA have provided extra information regarding specific cases to help support timely referrals.

In the past 12 months the MAPPA Team have held a number of meetings with the local housing authorities and have continued to develop pathways for high risk offenders into appropriate and safe accommodation. Availability of housing resources remains problematic, therefore, the work to develop pathways has been a vital pillar in finding and maintaining ways to protect the public. All officers involved in managing offenders have continued to work hard to achieve the most positive outcomes in this area of risk management.

Both MAPPA and the Management of Sexual and Violent offenders (MOSOVO) unit have moved to the new Prism House. We are now working in the same office which facilitates a close working relationship between MAPPA and our colleagues in the Police specialist risk management unit. MAPPA meetings and business is now centred back in Waterwells in Quedgeley. I have continued to work to raise the profile of the work of MAPPA and how it can support the management of risk within the community. I promoted effective liaison between Safe Guarding Team, Adult Social Care and

Health Services by attending the Safe Guarding Road Shows, team meetings to discuss the issues and distributing written material. As a result Health services can now access on line guidance and referral forms. We have also supported health professional in assessment of presenting risks and assisted in this agency accessing the MAPPA process. This work continues and MAPPA continues to promote the use of our services for health professionals.

One of the key areas of development has been the developing levels of engagement from Youth Justice Services. As a result of our consultation and engagement with this key referring agency we have improved compliance with MAPPA administrative process and supported staff from these teams making referrals into the MAPPA Process. As a result there has been a significant increase in the engagement from Youth Services in the management of risk. Therefore public protection has improved as a result.

Plans

The thrust of next years work will be to focus on achieving best outcomes for risk management in partnership with other agencies, an example of this will involve reviewing Integrated Offender Management Protocols and identify overlaps with MAPPA processes and ascertain how best to work together collaboratively.

In our efforts to develop and improve public protection we are going to be seeking the views of victims, through the appropriate channels, about their understanding and experience of the process. We are interested in reviewing and developing our work in relation to domestic violence ensuring that perpetrators are effectively managed to ensure that there are less victims in future.

We will continue to work with promoting the use and understanding of MAPPA process with the range of public services and agencies. We in the MAPPA Unit remain committed to the effective delivery of public protection as do the agencies involved.

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National
Probation
Service

