

MAPPA is a set of arrangements designed to protect the public, including previous victims of crime, from serious harm by sexual and violent offenders. They require the local criminal justice agencies and other bodies dealing with offenders to work together in partnership.

MAPPA is not a statutory body in itself, but is a mechanism through which agencies can better discharge their statutory responsibilities and protect the public in a coordinated manner. Agencies at all times retain their full statutory responsibilities and obligations.

The Criminal Justice Act 2003 identifies a number of agencies as having a “Duty to Cooperate” with Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements including Children's and Adult Social Care, Local Authority Housing, Health, Job Centre, Immigration Services and Youth Offending Teams.

Why is it important?

MAPPA seeks to ensure that agencies work in a coordinated manner to manage the risk posed by eligible offenders by creating one Multi-Agency Risk Management Plan incorporating the actions of all the agencies involved and ensuring that information is shared appropriately.

How do we do it?

There are three Categories of MAPPA offenders:

- **Category 1** - Registered Sexual Offender as specified under Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
- **Category 2** - Violent Offenders and Other Sexual Offenders: An offender convicted of murder or an offence specified under Schedule 15 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (CJA 2003) who received a custodial sentence of over twelve months or a Hospital Order.
- **Category 3** - Other dangerous offenders: a person who has been cautioned, reprimanded, warned or convicted of an offence which indicates that he or she is capable of causing serious harm and requires multi-agency management.

The Police, National Probation Service, Youth Offending Teams and Mental Health providers all act as MAPPA Lead Agencies whilst supervising offenders on relevant statutory sentences or subject to Sex Offender Notification Requirements. Lead Agencies are required to identify and manage MAPPA offenders according to national guidelines and to ensure Multi-Agency Risk Management Plans are in place.

Offenders are managed under three levels of MAPPA Management-

- **Level 1**- Ordinary agency management. Level 1 is where the risks posed by the offender can be managed by the agency responsible for the supervision or management of the offender. This does not mean that other agencies will not be involved. It is essential that information-sharing takes place, disclosure is considered, and there are discussions between agencies as necessary.
- **Level 2** - Cases managed at level 2 require formal meetings and the active involvement and co-ordination of interventions from other agencies to manage the presenting risks of serious harm. Multi-agency management adds value to the lead agency's management of the risk of serious harm posed.
- **Level 3** - Level 3 management should be used for cases that meet the criteria for level 2, but where the management issues require senior representation from the Responsible Authority and Duty-to-Cooperate agencies. There may be a need to commit significant resources or where, although not assessed as high or very high risk of serious harm, there is a high likelihood of media scrutiny or public interest in the management of the case and there is a need to ensure that public confidence in the criminal justice system is maintained.



One Minute Guide Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)



Multi-Agency Risk Management Plans are created to minimise potential harm to the public and include actions to supervise, monitor and control offenders. Plans include interventions to address offending behaviour and to ensure victim safety.

Post custody license conditions and civil orders (such as Sexual Harm Prevention Orders) prevent offenders from undertaking activities that increase the risk of re-offending and promote interventions linked to drug and alcohol misuse, mental health, thinking and behaviour and other issues to target problem areas in an offender's life.

Technology such as GPS tracking and internet monitoring software, is utilised to support risk management and to detect offending.

Where necessary Disclosure is made to third parties such as schools, partners and employers to ensure risk information is shared. Disclosure needs to be agreed by relevant agencies in advance and managed appropriately, ensuring all relevant agencies know what information has been shared, to whom and what to do as a result of having information.

Lead Agency Offender Managers, or Case Managers, monitor the behaviour of offenders in the community and take action if conditions are breached. Action can include issuing warnings, imposing more restrictions or returning offenders to Court or prison if the breach puts the public at risk. Multi Agency information sharing is an important contribution to decisions in the management of offenders.

Agencies contributing to multi agency risk management plans should be clear about their responsibilities and actions to take if they become aware of a breach or concerning behaviour and the MAPPA Lead Agency offender manager should be contacted to coordinate a response.

For more information:

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