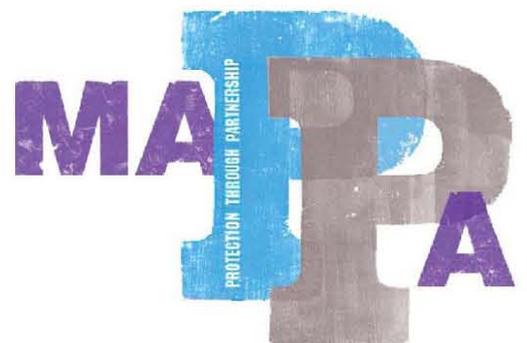


Gloucestershire



Annual Report 2010-11



Introduction

MAPPA Annual Report 2010–11

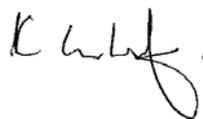
This annual report marks the tenth successful year of operation for the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) within Gloucestershire. The three Responsible Authorities – the Police, Prison and Probation, together with other statutory bodies and non-profit organisations, pursue their objective of ensuring that national guidance is tailored to our local requirements.

This report demonstrates the continuing commitment of the partnership to protect our communities from harm from a small group of high-risk offenders. A beneficial result of this joint working is the risk to the public is considerably reduced. This can only occur as a result of the commitment of all agencies involved from the operational and strategic level.

Much has been achieved over the past year, but we are not complacent in our response and continue to strive to ensure the highest level of public protection. In seeking to improve our response we will conduct a full audit of Level 1 MAPPA managed offenders. This group would usually be managed by a single agency, but a combined review of each agency's current risk considered and amended by skilled operatives accordingly.

The Strategic Management Board will also complete an initial appraisal of ViSOR (Violent and Sex Offenders Register) use in order to recognise main areas for improvement in the management of risk. As before, the aim is to ensure consistency of approach; improve further the quality of risk assessments and suitability of interventions.

We have recently welcomed two new Lay Advisors to the group and are certain that they will bring a new perspective to the partnership. Whilst the current economic climate continues to provide challenges to all involved, Gloucestershire MAPPA seeks to develop innovative ways in which to keep people safe from harm.



Kevin Lambert
Assistant Chief Constable
Gloucestershire Police

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).

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.
- 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. **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.justice.gov.uk

MAPPA Statistics

MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2011				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	349	117	-	466
Level 2	10	8	7	25
Level 3	2	0	0	2
Total	361	125	7	493

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	28	25	31	84
Level 3	4	3	2	9
Total	32	28	33	93

RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	12
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Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders	
SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts	
SOPOs	35
NOs	0
FTOs	0

Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody for breach of licence or sent to custody for breach of SOPO				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Breach of licence				
Level 2	2	6	0	8
Level 3	1	0	1	2
Total	3	6	1	10
Breach of SOPO				
Level 2	0	-	-	0
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	0	-	-	0

Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population	68
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This figure has been calculated using the 2010 Mid-Year Population Estimate published by the Office for National Statistics on 30 June 2011, 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 2011 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

(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 (94% 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 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

How the MAPPA operate locally

- The MAPPA are overseen by a Strategic Management Board. This Board plays a critical role in ensuring that the MAPPA in Gloucestershire are effective in safeguarding our local communities from violent and sexual offenders. The representatives on the Board are senior managers from Police, Probation, Prison, Children and Young Persons Directorate, Adult Social Services, Local Authority Housing, Youth Offending Service, 2gether Partnerships NHS Trust, Jobcentre Plus and Lay Advisers.
 - Agencies involved in MAPPA are responsible for the identification of eligible offenders. Comprehensive risk assessments and risk management arrangements are put in place in order to protect known or potential victims. The coming together of agencies around the table at MAPPA meetings to share relevant information – which informs the assessment of risk, is what makes the MAPPA work. The assessment includes establishing the level of risk of harm the offender poses to the public, known adults, children, staff and also any risks to self - (offender). Factors relevant to risk are identified such as alcohol misuse, relationship difficulties, poor thinking skills. A multi-agency risk management plan, utilising the particular expertise skills and resources that different agencies will have is constructed to address the identified risks. Offenders subject to the MAPP arrangements are regularly reviewed by the relevant agencies to ensure any changes to the risk assessment, both positive or concerning are recorded and that risk management plans are amended accordingly.
 - The Probation Service is required to contact the victim, (or members of their family in cases where there has been a death) of offenders who have received a prison sentence of 12 months or more for a violent or sexual offence. Additionally victim support, police or a domestic abuse specialist could also be in contact. The purpose of this contact is to keep the victim apprised of the offender's progress through prison, their release dates, possible area of release, and to provide the victim with the opportunity to express their views with regard to the licence conditions to which the offender may be subject after their release.
- Information from the victim will also inform the risk assessment. Licence conditions can, for example, include no contact either directly or indirectly with the victim and geographical exclusions from areas or towns if there is sufficient concern.
- The need to consider disclosure is required for all MAPPA managed offenders. Routinely as part of the overall risk management plan, consideration is given as to whether information about the offender's conviction or behaviour needs to be disclosed to another person or group of people in order for them to protect themselves or to protect others. This reporting year within Gloucestershire disclosures have been made to schools, employers, a church group, leisure facilities, youth groups, voluntary projects and new partners.
 - It is critical that as part of the risk management plan, failure to comply is planned for. MAPPA offenders subject to licence conditions on release from prison can be recalled to prison. Once it has been established that the offender has failed to comply with conditions on their licence, for example, breaching a condition forbidding contact with a victim, notification is sent to the recall section at the Ministry of Justice and if recall is sanctioned a warrant for the offenders arrest is issued.
 - Gloucestershire MAPPA has established formal links with other local public protection and safeguarding structures ensuring they are aware of MAPPA activity. Individuals on the MAPPA SMB are also representatives on the area Gloucestershire Stronger Safer Justice Commission (GSSJC), Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adults Board. This ensures that the MAPPA are incorporated into planning arrangements and strategically the links are made to strengthen Gloucestershire's Public Protection arrangements.

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Gloucestershire
Probation Trust



Gloucestershire Constabulary
Striving for a Safer Gloucestershire