

# North Wales



## Annual Report 2010-11

# Introduction

## Welcome

Now in its tenth year the North Wales Multi Agency Public Protection arrangements continue to provide a framework for protecting the public against the minority of offenders who pose the highest risk of harm to the public. This report reflects the first year of operation of the Wales Probation Trust, which saw the merge of the previous four Probation areas in Wales. The transition of the four Probation areas into one Trust has been a challenging exercise but great support has been given by all involved. This has not impacted on the day to day work of MAPPA practitioners and the commitment to public protection has at all times remained a high priority.

## All Wales MAPPA Conference

To build upon already well established working relationships, an All Wales MAPPA Conference was held on the 6th April 2011 at the Gregynog Conference Centre, Newtown. Representatives from across Welsh Responsible Authorities (Police, Prison and Probation) together with Duty to Co-operate Agencies (Jobcentre Plus, Local Authorities and Health Bodies) considered and shared best practice on the management of offenders. Practitioners also discussed and heard updates on the national and regional MAPPA processes, the new Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme (known as Sarah's Law), Mental Health and MAPPA, Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA), and the Prison Perspective. The conference was well received by the 200 delegates who attended.

Wales will continue to provide four separate quarterly reports to the MAPPA team and North Wales maintains its performance in terms of the Key Performance Indicators. This Annual Report reflects the contributions of all the agencies involved in the management of the risk of harm posed by MAPPA managed offenders. The safety of our communities & the protection of victims continue to drive MAPPA practice within Wales and the statistics contained within this year's MAPPA Annual Report demonstrate that the MAPPA process continues to positively impact upon the public protection arena.



Sarah Payne  
Chief Executive  
Wales Probation Trust



Ian Mullholland  
Head of HMPS Business  
Development Group and Deputy  
Director Custody Wales



Mark Polin  
Chief Constable  
North Wales Police

# What is MAPPA?

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## 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](http://www.justice.gov.uk)

# MAPPA Statistics

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## MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2011

	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	419	119	-	538
Level 2	59	12	8	79
Level 3	3	1	1	5
Total	481	132	9	622

## 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	61	60	45	166
Level 3	3	2	1	6
Total	64	62	46	172

## RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements

16

## Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders

## SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts

SOPOs	49
NOs	0
FTOs	0

<b>Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody for breach of licence or sent to custody for breach of SOPO</b>				
	<b>Category 1: Registered sex offenders</b>	<b>Category 2: Violent offenders</b>	<b>Category 3: Other dangerous offenders</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Breach of licence</b>				
Level 2	3	3	1	7
Level 3	0	2	0	2
Total	3	5	1	9
<b>Breach of SOPO</b>				
Level 2	1	-	-	1
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	1	-	-	1

<b>Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population</b>	80
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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

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## 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

## Strategic Management Board Sub-groups

- Training – During this year MAPPA training has been delivered to over 150 practitioners from the Responsible Authority and Duty to Co-operate agencies. This training has included basic MAPPA awareness; Foundation day; MAPPA Chairs; & Offender Managers training day.
- Communication and Strategic Partnership – This group has drawn together the contents of a MAPPA e-learning package, allowing Police Officers to access a basic awareness of MAPPA. It is planned to roll this out to other agencies by way of a CD-Rom. The group have also discussed other ways of publicising MAPPA more widely.
- Monitoring and Evaluation – This sub-group continues to monitor all aspects of MAPPA performance in North Wales. This monitoring includes auditing of MAPPA meetings as well as checking referrals & MAPPA minutes.

## MAPPA Key Performance Indicators

In order to be able to report nationally on MAPPA KPIs, a national reporting template has been developed in conjunction with the NOMS performance team. The electronically-based performance template has been subject to consultation & testing by five areas & the revised version is now being used nationally. Within North Wales MAPPA continues to perform well in all aspects of the KPIs, particularly with reference to attendance by the Duty to Co-operate agencies at MAPPA meetings.

## Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme

From 31 March 2011 a scheme was made available to parents, carers or guardians nationally, allowing them to make enquiries of the police as to whether a person who has significant contact with their child or young person has a record for sexual offences against children. The scheme was launched with three separate public awareness events across the North Wales force area. Training was also delivered on a multi-agency basis for staff who may be involved in this scheme.

## COSA

Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) is an initiative designed to enhance the safe integration into the community of men who sexually offend. COSA's aim is to substantially reduce the risk of future sexual abuse by assisting and supporting participants who have demonstrated a commitment to stop offending. Trained volunteers assist offenders to integrate within the community, giving them the opportunity to lead responsible, productive, accountable and crime-free lives. COSA was established in North Wales in 2007 and to date 73 volunteers have been trained and worked with over 71 offenders either as part of a group, or on an individual basis.

## ViSOR pilot

North Wales took part in a successful pilot programme to increase the use of the ViSOR amongst Probation staff. This involved the training of a number of Offender Managers to access the system & key benefits are that greater use will be made of the database with more detail of the day-to-day activity placed on case management systems transferred to ViSOR, thus enabling Police colleagues to access information which may be of some assistance in the prevention and detection of crime.

## Lay Adviser's Report

This will be my very last Lay Adviser's Report. Let me initially say how much I have enjoyed the past six years, possibly enjoyed is not the term I should use, benefited from is probably a better term. Has anything altered in six years? The answer to that is definitely yes. The main agencies involved in MAPPA co-operate far better than six years ago.

Finally I would like to pay tribute to the people at the sharp end of the MAPPA process, often working under great stress undertaking work that many of equal qualifications would not consider undertaking. Thank you for the support that was offered to me whilst I have been in the post. Have things improved? Yes, without a doubt.

## John Alun Jones

North Wales MAPPA is currently looking to recruit Lay Advisors. For more details, please contact the MAPPA Co-ordinator.

All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at:

[www.justice.gov.uk](http://www.justice.gov.uk)

Prawf Cymru  
Wales Probation



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Gogledd Cymru diogelach  
**NORTH WALES POLICE**  
A safer North Wales