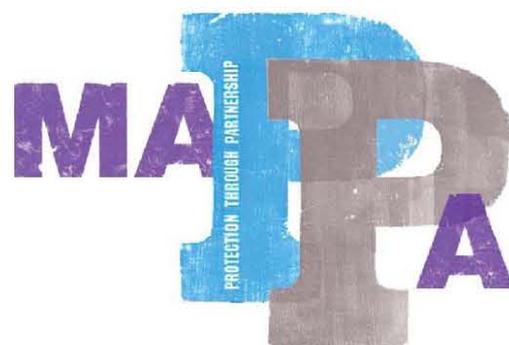


Northamptonshire



Annual Report 2010-11



Introduction

We are delighted to share with you our tenth annual report of the Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). The report outlines the work of MAPPA in Northamptonshire in protecting local communities from the sexual and violent offenders who pose the highest risk of harm and offending to local people.

The protection of the public remains our highest priority; core agencies are committed to this goal and partnership working across the agencies is crucial in achieving this objective. We recognise that sexual and violent crimes have a devastating effect on victims, families and the wider community. Within MAPPA, we are aware that the public has every right to demand the very best provision we can offer. Securing and promoting local confidence is our core object embraced by each of the partners.

The responsible authority agencies represented by the Police, Probation and HM Prison Services are committed to working collaboratively with our partner agencies to achieve our core objective of protecting the public. Local partnerships are crucial and include the active participation of:

- Youth Offending Service
- NHS to support mental Health issues
- St Andrews Health Care
- Housing providers from across the seven councils in Northamptonshire
- Adult Social Care
- Children's Services
- Crown Prosecution Service
- G4S
- Department of Work and Pensions
- Victim Support.

All of these agencies are represented and bring their collective knowledge experience and support to the arrangements. We embark on an exciting programme of work involving a range of initiatives cross the partnerships which builds on the achievements of MAPPA to date.

We commend this annual report which 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.

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	439	437	-	876
Level 2	2	6	5	13
Level 3	1	1	0	2
Total	442	444	5	891

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	32	142	46	220
Level 3	6	7	1	14
Total	38	149	47	234

RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	18
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Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders	
SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts	
SOPOs	46
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	3	17	4	24
Level 3	0	1	0	1
Total	3	18	4	25
Breach of SOPO				
Level 2	1	-	-	1
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	1	-	-	1

Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population	74
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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.

Northamptonshire

MAPPA

Governance Arrangements for MAPPA

These are overseen and reviewed by senior representatives from each agency involved in MAPPA. This partnership is the Strategic Management Board (SMB) and is jointly chaired by senior managers from Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Probation Trust. Board members comprise senior representatives from all agencies involved in MAPPA, who monitor arrangements, direct necessary improvements and prioritise initiatives relating to the development of MAPPA.

Members of the Responsible Authority are:

- Northamptonshire Police
- Northamptonshire Probation Area Trust
- HM Prison Service (East Midlands)

Duty to Co-operate Partners are:

- Children & Young People's Directorate / Adult Social Care Directorate
- Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- Northamptonshire Youth Offending Service
- Northamptonshire Adult Social Services Directorate
- Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- Job Centre Plus
- Catch 22
- Northamptonshire's seven borough and district Councils Housing Authorities.

The role of Northamptonshire Police

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

- The Dangerous Persons Management Unit manages Registered Sexual Offenders;
- The Domestic Abuse (DA) Unit contains specialist officers for the oversight and, where possible, the investigation of serious and complex DA issues.

The role of Northamptonshire Probation Trust

As part of the National Offender Management Service, Northamptonshire Probation Trust work to reduce re-offending and risk of harm to the public, by ensuring that enforcement and compliance measures are met.

The Trust carries out their undertaking:

- Advise courts of offender assessments and reports;
- Regularly review risk management arrangements for offenders under supervision;
- Supervise community sentence orders and offenders in custody for more than 12 months;
- Deliver accredited specified programmes of intervention to address offending behaviour, manage risk and promote rehabilitation in the community;
- Managing offenders subject of licence on release from custody;
- Manage key risk offenders using Approved Probation hostels either in or out of the county.

The role of the Prison Service

Most offenders managed under MAPPA at the highest level may have been in custody and served prison sentences. Early identification of high risk cases by Prison Staff prior to release is critical to ensure a multi-agency approach is undertaken prior to, and at the point of, release to facilitate robust risk management arrangements.

The role of Mental Health Services

Northamptonshire Mental Health Services work closely with MAPPA. Northamptonshire Healthcare Foundation NHS provide community mental health services commissioned by Northamptonshire Health, in collaboration with Northamptonshire County Council.

The Role of St Andrews Healthcare

St Andrews Healthcare holds risk management panels, chaired by the MAPPA Co-ordinator, which discuss patients who are eligible to be managed by MAPPA in the community after being discharged from hospital.

The role of Housing Authorities

The county's seven borough and district councils have designated Officers who play a full part in the case management of high-risk MAPPA offenders and attend relevant MAPPA meetings.

The role of Safeguarding Children / Safeguarding Adult Social Care

Both Services for Children & Young People and Adult & Children contribute to risk discussions and the management overview of cases that are presented.

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Northamptonshire
Probation Trust

