Wiltshire & Swindon
Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

MAPPA Annual Report
2009-2010
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“The Strategic Management Board will work with all co-operating agencies in a spirit of trust and accountability to provide positive leadership and direction to Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) for the effective delivery of public protection to make Wiltshire and Swindon the safest county in the country”

The Annual MAPPA Report provides us with a welcome opportunity to present evidence of the successful work undertaken by the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) in keeping Wiltshire & Swindon communities safe.

The work of MAPPA is concerned with managing and reducing the risk offenders convicted of sexual and serious violent offences present to our community. Though there is never room for complacency when dealing with high risk offenders, the following pages will show that the most serious offenders managed through MAPPA have been supervised effectively thereby preventing them re-offending and causing further harm. High rates of compliance by offenders are demonstrated and where they have not fully complied, offenders have been returned to court or prison minimising the risk of further serious offences. This report reassures our communities that whilst we cannot control every individual action this partnership is actively keeping safe the public visiting and living in Wiltshire and demonstrates to staff that their work is successful and meaningful.

The Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements in Wiltshire & Swindon serve the community by allowing agencies to be more effective in managing sexual, violent and dangerous offenders. This works through streamlining information exchange, supporting agencies assessments and facilitating appropriate actions. Police, Probation and Prisons together with ‘Duty to Co-operate Agencies’ can then avoid duplication of effort, and focus resources on those cases assessed as a higher risk to the public. No single agency has the capacity to provide public protection alone and success is dependent upon sustained and proactive participation in MAPPA via the agencies involved.

Looking ahead to what is universally recognised as difficult financial times when public services are under tight budgetary constraints, it is important to ensure that our processes not only maintain but increase their efficiency, effectiveness and remain responsive to the needs of the communities they serve. The greatest opportunity for delivering and sustaining public protection remains where agencies collaborate for that purpose. All agencies involved in MAPPA across Wiltshire & Swindon have reaffirmed their commitment to these processes for 2010 and 2011 and the vision for the Strategic Management Board continues to be that they will lead and direct the work of Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements to make the communities of Wiltshire and Swindon the safest in the country.
Key Achievements

This has been another successful year for Wiltshire & Swindon MAPPA in terms of:

- Successful management of cases resulting in low reconviction rates.
- Compliance of offenders with their monitoring requirements.
- Enforcement when offenders do not co-operate.
- Using court orders to control behaviour and protect the public.
- Disclosures to those who need to know to be aware of specific risks from specific offenders.
- Improvement of management structures which support MAPPA in Wiltshire and Swindon.
- During the year Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) in Wiltshire and Swindon has continued to work successfully with over 800 cases in the community, in prison and in hospitals.
- Those convicted of serious violent and sexual offences in Wiltshire and Swindon are closely supervised and monitored, with rapid enforcement of those who breach licences. The offenders realise this as evidenced in a high compliance rate by sex offenders with their registration.
- In all MAPPA level 2 and 3 meetings the need to disclose the offenders' risk or convictions relating to violent or sexual offences to any particular members of the public is considered. This can for instance assist someone to protect themselves or be able to make informed choices as to their family's contact with the offender.
- New Management structures are now in place to support MAPPA in Wiltshire with greater devolvement of responsibility to Duty to Co-operate agencies and a clearer separation of strategic, tactical and operational work.
- Improved expectations of inter-agency cooperation has allowed better information exchange between all agencies regularly involved in MAPPA reducing the need for formal MAPPA meetings.
- Operationally MAPPA has continued to hold more than 140 meetings over the last year in respect of Level 2 & 3 cases. Risk management action plans to protect victims, prevention of their re-victimisation and minimising the chance of new victims being created have been agreed, actioned and are reviewed in all these meetings.
- The revised (April 2009) National Guidance has been integrated into local practice. This has assisted identification and safe sharing of information on offenders eligible for inclusion in MAPPA processes.
- Memorandum of understanding across all agencies working in MAPPA have been modified to comply with the new National Guidance. This has broadened the agencies that were previously included in Wiltshire and Swindon area. For example JobCentre Plus have been provided with improved information on those offenders who are prohibited from working with children.
- Training of more staff from the Police and Probation to chair MAPPA Level 2 meetings has been undertaken thereby giving more flexibility to operational and administrative arrangements and free co-ordinator time for developments of the local MAPPA system.
- The financial arrangements under which the local MAPPA operate have been clarified by confirmation of contributions from Duty to Co-operate agencies.
- The boundaries between MAPPA and other multi-agency systems such as the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), which focuses on the risks posed towards victims in domestic abuse, have been clarified. This minimises duplication and clarifies responsibility and decision making which contributes to enhanced levels of public protection.

Key plans for the coming year

Looking ahead it is clear that there will be increasing restrictions on public spending and pressure for efficiency and effectiveness. MAPPA has a role in facilitating communication and avoiding duplication of effort by agencies. This will help agencies facing pressures related to staff availability and material resources.

Key plans are to:

- Continue to broaden secure e-mail agreements so that all agencies can share appropriate information quickly, easily, economically and safely.
- Further improve the use of the VISOR database across the Prisons and Probation Services to speed information exchange and through centralisation of records to allow more useful analysis of both current status and trends in the offender groups with which we work.
- Extend delivery of short focussed training to practitioners on how to understand the opportunities presented by MAPPA to get the best value out of MAPPA.
- Implement a new Service Level Agreement between Wiltshire Police and Wiltshire Probation for the support of MAPPA management and administration.
- Confirm the relationship of MAPPA to developing areas of public protection including extremism, gangs and potentially dangerous offenders.
Who are MAPPA-eligible offenders?

There are 3 categories of offender eligible for MAPPA:

**Category 1 - Registered sexual offenders:** Sexual offenders who are required to notify the police of their name, address and other personal details and notify the Police of any subsequent changes;

**Category 2 - Violent offenders:** Offenders sentenced to imprisonment/detention for 12 months or more, or detained under hospital orders. This category also includes a small number of sexual offenders who do not qualify for registration and offenders disqualified from working with children; and

**Category 3 - Other Dangerous Offenders:** Offenders who do not qualify under categories 1 or 2 but who currently pose a risk of serious harm, there is a link between the offending and the risk posed and they require active multi-agency management.

How are they managed?

There are 3 levels at which offenders are managed which are based upon the level of multi-agency co-operation required to implement the risk management plan effectively. Offenders will be moved up and down levels as appropriate:

**Level 1 - Ordinary Management:** These offenders are subject to the usual management arrangements applied by whichever agency is supervising them. But this does not rule out information sharing between agencies, via ViSOR and other routes.

**Level 2 - Active Multi-agency Management:** The risk management plans for these offenders require the active involvement of several agencies via regular multi-agency public protection (MAPP) meetings.

**Level 3 - Active Multi-agency Management:** As with level 2 but these cases additionally require the involvement of senior officers to authorise the use of special resources, such as police surveillance or specialised accommodation, and/or to provide ongoing senior management oversight.

What is the role of the Strategic Management Board?

Senior representatives of each of the agencies involved in MAPPA form a Strategic Management Board (SMB) which meets at least quarterly to monitor the arrangements and direct any necessary improvements.

The role of Lay Advisers

The Responsible Authority is required to appoint two lay advisers to sit on the SMB. The lay advisers 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 or have strong links.

**Recruitment of new Lay Advisers**

The role of the Lay Adviser is to attend the MAPPA Strategic Management Boards on a quarterly basis, observe a number of MAPPA Level 2 and 3 meetings in a year and attend some of the sub-groups of the SMB which focus on audit and improvements of MAPPA practice. They provide an unbiased view of the operation of the system, constructive advice to the Strategic Management Board and look out for the interests of the community the MAPPA in Wiltshire and Swindon serves.

Both of the existing MAPPA Lay Advisers have now been in post since Lay Advisers were first appointed and there will be a vacancy during 2010-11. Wiltshire & Swindon MAPPA will therefore be advertising for new Lay Advisers in this coming year. If any residents of Wiltshire or Swindon are interested in taking on this unpaid role as a "critical friend" to the MAPPA system they should contact the MAPPA Co-ordinator, whose address is at the back of this document.

**ViSOR**

ViSOR is an IT system for the management of people who pose a serious risk of harm to the public. Since implementation of ViSOR the three MAPPA Responsible Authority agencies - Police, Prison and Probation - are able to work on the same IT system which enables the sharing of risk assessments and risk management information on individual violent and sex offenders in a timely way to reduce re-offending.
How the MAPPA operates locally
Under the direction of the Strategic Management Board

The Police, Probation and Prison Services are the core of the “Responsible Authority” for the MAPPA. On practical case management they work with other agencies to share information and assessments, decide on risk individuals pose, meet to share plans and review actions. The active partners are:

Wiltshire Police - 2009-10 Chair of Strategic Management Board and Chair of Media and Communications Sub-Group

Wiltshire Probation Trust

HM Prison Service - Current Deputy Chair of Strategic Management Board

Swindon Borough Council: Department of Health and Social Care; Housing.

Wiltshire Council: Children and Families Department; Adult Care; Housing

NHS Wiltshire

Victim Support (Wiltshire)

Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust: Chair of Serious Case Review Sub Group

Stonham Housing Association

Wiltshire Youth Offending Service: Chair of Quality Assurance Sub-Group

Swindon Youth Offending Team

Job Centre Plus

Group Four Services (electronic monitoring providers)

Other Registered Social Landlords and Housing Associations

Work over the last year in Wiltshire and Swindon MAPPA.

- The structure of MAPPA management has continued to evolve over the last year with improved participation of agencies in strategic management and planning.
- New Memorandum of Understanding were issued to clarify the operational, management and strategic responsibilities of all agencies including the Responsible Authority and Duty to Co-operate.
- Victim Support (Wiltshire), Wiltshire Youth Offending Service and NHS Wiltshire took responsibility for particular sub-group areas of business such as Quality Assurance & Audit and Serious Case Reviews. This assured and improves the impartiality of important processes and freed full time MAPPA staff for other developmental work.
- Annual audits of practice, agency analysis of their compliance with MAPPA and practitioner involvement continued and were reported back to the strategic and management boards with detailed improvements indicated and actioned.
- The MAPPA Strategic Board reported to The Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board on business plans, decisions, operational priorities and statistics on Wiltshire and Swindon MAPPA work.
- The MAPPA Management Board received reports from the four sub-groups:
  - Quality Assurance
  - Finance
  - Media, Communication and Training
  - Serious Case Review and Preventative Planning
- At the end of the year the structure was rationalised with the Strategic and Management Boards amalgamating and in future there will be one Strategic Management Board to which the sub-groups will report.
How MAPPA Makes Communities Safer
MAPPA FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions

Q – Does MAPPA make my children safer?

Answer - The purpose of the MAPPA system is to provide a joined up approach to manage those who could be a risk to the public, including children. For instance at a MAPPA meeting agencies will work together identifying those who present a risk of serious harm to the public, sharing information between agencies on those individuals and sharing risk assessments. We can then put in place plans and take actions to reduce risks. Examples of the type of actions proposed in meetings then actioned by the police and probation services are Sex Offender Prevention Orders (SOPOs) or Licence conditions. These can prohibit specific actions by offenders such as going to parks, playgrounds or specific places, being alone with children and informing specific people who are in contact with an offender about the type of risk they can present. These types of restrictions are supported by agencies co-operating in identifying if conditions are kept and acting quickly if they are not.

The new Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme builds on the success of the established principles of informing those who need to know if someone with whom a child is in contact is identified as a risk to them and will complement the work already done. Under the scheme a parent, carer, guardian or another interested party, can ask the police to check whether someone who has access to their children has a record of committing child sexual offences. If they are found to have convictions for sexual offences against children, and pose a risk of causing serious harm to the child or children concerned, then this information may be disclosed.

Q – What do you do for victims, do you listen to them?

Answer – In cases of sexual and violent offending where the offender has been imprisoned for 12 months or more Victim Liaison Officers (VLOs) will offer to inform them on the progress of an offender through the prison and licence systems. VLOs are invited to all MAPPA meetings and attend or supply reports in cases where they are involved. With the permission of the victim in appropriate cases they can tell parole boards and other agencies more about the offender, offence and the effects of the offence which can help to give indications as to when an offender could be a higher risk in the future and how to better manage their supervision. The victims’ voice is an important one and one which agencies in MAPPA are prepared to hear.

MAPPA has public protection as its core and in relation to victims this means to protect them from further harm. Each MAPPA case has a lead agency, all are aware of the need to protect victims. This is achieved by identifying any risk factors and developing a plan to manage these identified risks. These plans may focus on managing the risks posed by the offender, the risks faced by any known or potential victim or on occasions, both. For example, restrictions may be placed on the movements of the offender and for the victim, re-housing or providing alarms.

Q – Why don’t I have a right to know where sex offenders are in my area? Are they protected more than the public?

Answer – Throughout the whole of the UK the police have a very good knowledge of where sex offenders live, as they must register with the police to tell them where they live. They are not automatically identified to the public and it has been found that in other countries where they are, up to a third move and do not tell the authorities where they are for fear of public retribution. A registered sex offender in the UK is subject to conditions with which they must comply and can be imprisoned for up to 5 years for breaching them in addition to any other offence penalty. Each year in Wiltshire and Swindon offenders who are identified as having broken the conditions of their licences, community orders or civil order restrictions are brought to account and often returned to custody, prosecuted or fined. The aim of the agencies dealing with them is for this to happen before they commit more offences and in this we have a very good record with a high degree of compliance and low re-conviction rates.

When it is needed the disclosure of an offenders risks or convictions to a member of the public can be approved in a MAPPA meeting, authorised by the police or children’s services. This system has been successful for as long as MAPPA has been running in Wiltshire and Swindon but will now be complemented by the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme.
Mr A Aged 39

Background

Mr A was convicted of offences related to domestic abuse including threatening to kill his partner, a physical assault on one of his own children and assault on the police when he was arrested. The disturbance at the family home put family and neighbours at risk of physical harm. He was presenting as very disturbed emotionally and his mental health was of concern. It was difficult to establish if his explanation as to his emotional state was as a result of his early life experiences or a more recent illness. As a result of the offences Mr A received a 3 year term of imprisonment. He did not co-operate during the prison part of the sentence with assessments and had difficulty in understanding or accepting the breakdown of his family relationships.

Risk Assessment

Mr A was initially assessed as a high risk of physical and psychological harm to his children and partner and a medium risk to his neighbours, public and staff dealing with him. He was also assessed as presenting a risk of harm to himself.

Risk Management Plan

MAPPA Level 3 meetings were held involving police, probation, children’s services, local authority housing and mental health. As Mr A had a determinate length sentence he had to be released on a particular date. The priorities were to protect his family and children, however they did not want to move and he asked to have contact with his children. Children’s services were working with the children and family. Mental Health services had assessed Mr A as suffering from a personality disorder rather than a specific mental illness for which there would have been a clear treatment. The police provided alarms at the family home which could be activated if Mr A breached his licence conditions and returned. Probation who managed his licence identified accommodation for Mr A and sought to get him to constructively manage his anger. If this was successful the potential for contact with his children could be reassessed.

Outcome

On release Mr A initially co-operated then left his accommodation without permission. Probation requested the Ministry of Justice to immediately recall Mr A to prison. This was agreed and a warrant was issued for his arrest by the police and return to prison. Agencies contacted neighbouring areas to pass on information to assist in his arrest. The local authority housing department assisted his family to move and children’s services continued to work with the family on their particular needs. The wider information sharing assisted the re-ontest of Mr A in a neighbouring county. He was then returned to prison.

After serving a further period of his sentence Mr A was re-released. This has been more successful with Mr A co-operating with the Probation Offender Manager on how to how to manage conflict and prove if he is able and it is appropriate to have any contact with his family. MAPPA assisted in drawing all agencies into one combined risk management plan, protecting adult victims, protecting children and deterring Mr A from re-contacting his family. Mr A was later able to seek assistance to resolve some of his problems in a constructive manner.
Mr B Aged 30

Background

Mr B had a number of convictions of dishonesty, motoring offences and less serious violence before being convicted for a very serious offence when an elderly man died during a distraction burglary. Drug abuse was identified as both a financial motive linked to his offending as well as a disinhibitor. During his 8 year prison sentence his association with other professional criminals and those with drug dealing or drug problems was a concern. His conviction was in another part of the country however he wished to return to his family in Wiltshire where his wife and children now lived. He would be subject to a lengthy licence period.

Risk Assessment

Mr B was assessed as high risk of physical and emotional harm to public particularly the vulnerable and elderly.

Risk Management Plan

Mr B is a Violent Offender, Category 2 case in the MAPPA system and considered at level 3, as described in Section 3 above. The police gathered information on his offending in other parts of the country and more information from the prisons where he had been as to his attitude to his offending, his sentence and his overall behaviour. Children’s services, the local authority housing department and the probation trust were all involved in sharing information to determine where Mr B should be accommodated. He could then be monitored to see if he was returning to his previous patterns of behaviour associated with his offending and risk to the public. The priority was to protect the public by preventing Mr B from returning to previous criminal activity, to recall to prison to serve his remaining sentence if any evidence of further high risk behaviour was seen, while offering Mr B all relevant assistance to change his lifestyle if he was motivated to do so. He was to be placed in a neighbouring area approved premises (a hostel) run by the local probation trust until he demonstrated he was fully complying with his licence and expectations to seek lawful work, avoid drug use and not associate with his previous co-defendants. JobCentre Plus was informed so that they did not place him in direct contact with the vulnerable or elderly.

Outcome

On release Mr B went to the Approved Premises in a neighbouring area. He co-operated with the Probation Trust who supervised him and planned to return to this area and take up appropriate paid work. He was monitored carefully and after three months successful placement in the hostel months was allowed to return to his family address. He quickly took up work and appeared to be co-operating. Checks with his employers revealed that he had started to associate with a previous co-defendant. A detailed check was made by the police on his work and it was found that he was again trying to seek work cold calling at the homes of the elderly. Probation requested to the Ministry of Justice that he should be immediately recalled. This was agreed and a warrant was issued for his arrest by the police and he was immediately returned to prison.

The MAPPA processes allowed full information sharing with Police, Probation and JobCentre Plus. This was particularly important as his pattern of serious offending was associated with his work. Through effective monitoring his failure to co-operate was quickly identified and protective action taken.
Mr C Aged 16

Background

Mr C is a young offender who had committed sexual offences against his step-sister. He was made subject to a 3 year Supervision Order to be supervised by the Youth Offending Service. Mr C was immature for his age and lacked understanding of the seriousness of his offences and the need to avoid situations which could put other children at risk.

Risk Assessment

Mr C was assessed as being at high risk of reoffending and high risk of harm to other children if he was not successfully treated.

Risk Management Plan

On all young offenders cases the agencies dealing with them have a responsibility to take the educational and developmental interests of the child offender into account while also protecting victims and public. Accommodation, education and work training potential needed to be combined with offence focussed work to reduce the chances of future sexual offending. This work included developing the confidence to have age appropriate sexual interests, developing victim empathy and techniques to avoid temptation and reduce risks. In this case the family understanding of the risk he presented to the step-sister needed to be developed so that in future she was safeguarded. Appropriate accommodation needed to be secured so that some parental contact could be maintained but away from the victim. This needed to provide for the wider developmental needs of the offender as well as work with him to reduce his risk of further sexual offending.

Outcome

Mr C's case was discussed at level 2 and 3 in MAPPA involving senior management from police, youth offending service, local authority children's services and accommodation providers to secure appropriate accommodation to meet the complex needs of the case. This took some time to resolve during which the police, children's services and the youth offending service worked together to ensure the family were involved and protected their own daughter. The offender was closely supervised while he was assessed as to the best way to treat him. Accommodation was found and funding from the local authority children's services was agreed which included treatment in relation to sexual problems, offending and personal development towards normal independent adult life to give the best chance of a long term successful outcome. The MAPPA process was important to bring together all agencies in a complex high risk case where there was potential for different agencies to work to different priorities. Instead a common plan was devised and implemented which covered the need to manage and reduce risk to the public, reduce risk to the victim and the long term development of the young offender.
Over the year the Lay Advisers have continued to attend MAPPA Strategic and Management meetings as well as the Quality Assurance and Media Communication and training sub-groups. We have seen how the Strategic Management Board has sought to develop itself to be more responsive to both the changes of the 2009 National Guidance and the constraints of public sector finances.

- The strategic and management structure of MAPPA has now been further developed to ensure agencies are better and more consistently represented.

- We have seen how the overall use of the MAPPA system by agencies seems to be changing and developing with better information sharing at lower levels of cases needing fewer Level 2 and level 3 meetings.

- Through the reporting of the MAPPA Key Performance Indicators we are aware of performance such as agencies participation in meetings, the use of disclosures to individuals in the public on high risk cases and the appropriate timing of review of cases.

- The performance of the MAPPA in this area has been good with improvements over the year on timeliness of meetings and recording of disclosures.

- The audits of minutes has continued and reported good quality minutes.

- The use of interagency electronic information sharing is slowly developing between non criminal justice agencies.

- The use of the VISOR database across Police, Probation and Prisons is subject to improvement and a pilot to improve use.

- All agencies have now worked on Memorandum of Understanding to clarify their responsibilities to public protection and how they are implementing them through MAPPA.

In the coming year it is important that public protection maintains its high priority and resources are allocated to it appropriately. There are competing demands on agencies for instance with a number of multi agency meetings such as for child protection conferences, MARAC and MAPPA there is a need to be efficient in holding meetings only when we need to.
This section contains comments specific to the statistical section common to all area MAPPA Annual Reports. The statistics reported on are as prescribed by the Ministry of Justice. Wiltshire and Swindon compare well with the other areas recognised as being most similar and overall remains one of the safest areas in which to live and work.

Number of MAPPA eligible offenders at 31 March 2010

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<th>Level 1</th>
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<th>Level 3</th>
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<th>Category 2: Violent Offenders</th>
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<th>Level 3</th>
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<td>124</td>
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<tr>
<th>Category 3: Other Dangerous Offenders</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
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Enforcement for offenders managed via MAPP meetings

Returned to custody for breach of licence:
- Level 2 - 7
- Level 3 - 1
- Total - 8

Sent to custody for breach of Sexual Offences Prevention Order (SOPO):
- Level 2 - 0
- Level 3 - 0
- Total - 0

Further data on Registered Sexual Offenders

Registered Sexual Offenders in:
- Swindon 157
- Wiltshire 246

Total number of registered sexual offenders in Wiltshire & Swindon per 100,000 head of population:
- 69.91

Registered Sexual Offenders cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements:
- 5

Sexual Offences Prevention Orders (SOPOs):
- Applied for: 29
- Interim Order issued: 1
- Full Order issued: 28

Notification Orders:
- Applied for: 1
- Interim Order issued: 1
- Full Order issued: 1

Foreign Travel Orders
- Applied for: 1
- Interim Order issued: 1
- Full Order issued: 1

Explanation/Commentary on the Statistics

The totals of MAPPA eligible offenders, broken down by category, reflects the picture on 31 March 2010, (i.e. a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2010.

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 and/or currently pose a risk of serious harm, although the majority (95% on 31.03.10) are actually managed under ordinary agency (Level 1) arrangements rather than via MAPP meetings.

Category One: Registered Sexual Offenders (RSOs) - those who are required to notify the police of their name, address and other personal details and notify any changes subsequently. Failure to comply with the notification requirements is a criminal offence which carries a maximum penalty of 5 years’ imprisonment.
Total number of registered sexual offenders in Wiltshire & Swindon per 100,000 head of population - The figure has been calculated using the 2009 Mid-Year population estimate published by the Office for National Statistics on 24 June 2010, excluding those aged less than ten years of age. It is not directly comparable to figures published in previous years.

The overall trend in the figures for the total registered sex offender population in Wiltshire and Swindon appears to be for a smaller percentage increase. Last year’s figures showed a small (1%) fall in total numbers, the numbers have again increased by 5% this year; however this is still a smaller percentage increase than for preceding years.

The registered sex offenders population in this area had previously risen each year by 10 to 15%. Sex offenders convicted as an adult can be subject to registration requirements for 5, 7, 10 years or their lifetime, therefore registration totals are expected to continue to gradually rise for many years.

Category Two: Violent Offenders – this category includes violent offenders sentenced to imprisonment/detention for 12 months or more, or detained under hospital orders. It also includes a small number of sexual offenders who do not qualify for registration and offenders disqualified from working with children.

We assess this figure is not related to a comparative rise in violent crime. It is a result of factors including counting more mental health service managed cases, offenders serving longer on licence for extended sentences those released on life licence and imprisonment for public protection. Wiltshire and Swindon continue to have a nationally low violent crime rate.

Category Three: Other Offenders – offenders who do not qualify under the other 2 MAPPA eligible categories, but who currently pose a risk of serious harm which requires management via MAPP meetings.

This snapshot figure represents currently active cases as of 31.03.10 where more than one MAPP meeting is scheduled. A more substantial number of cases are heard in “one-off” meetings where information is shared, assessments shared and actions decided but it is not needed to reconvene and cooperative work can continue on a normal basis.

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.

The public when reading these figures should be reassured that MAPPA offenders on licence to the Wiltshire Probation Trust continue to be supervised rigorously with good compliance and low recall rates in relation to Sex Offenders. But as expected higher recall rates for violent offenders who are more unstable and tend to be more disorganised and less likely to initially cooperate.

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 5 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, they can be taken back to court and may be liable to up to 5 years’ imprisonment.

Wiltshire Police together with Wiltshire Probation have an established protocol for applications for to the courts for SOPOs. This indicates appropriate practice in protecting the community with these useful prohibitions on actions. This year’s figures indicate we have considerably increased their use and could be described as evidence of a positive and pro-active work pattern to deter reoffending and reduce the risks to the people of Wiltshire & Swindon.

Notification Order – requires sexual offenders who have been convicted overseas to register with police, in order to protect the public in the UK from the risks that they pose. Police may apply to the court for the order in relation to offenders in or intending to come to the UK.

While these orders enable the Police to bring an offender convicted abroad into the British Sex Offender Registration system, there is little opportunity to use them in Wiltshire or other counties due to numbers of potential offenders and the needs for evidence from abroad. However the single incidence of its use over the last year indicates we remain aware of, and prepared to use this measure when appropriate.

Foreign Travel Orders - prevent offenders with convictions for sexual offences against children from traveling abroad where it is necessary to do so to protect children from the risk of sexual harm.

Until 1st April 2010 these were of limited utility for while they prohibited a sex offender from travelling abroad they only lasted 6 months. Wiltshire Police have applied for and gained one on a man deported from a foreign country last year. It indicates we are aware of the range of tools to us and continue to use them as appropriate. The evidence needed to apply for them can be from a longer period, not be limited to the last 6 months and their duration has increased to 5 years so they may be used more in coming years.
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