

# MAPPA - General Awareness Briefing

The aim of this briefing is to provide a basic overview of MAPPA to support and inform the work of front-line practitioners within the Statutory and Duty to Co-operate Agencies.

## What is MAPPA?

MAPPA stands for Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. It is the set of arrangements through which Police, Probation and Prison Services work together with other agencies to help reduce the re-offending behaviour of sexual and violence offenders in order to protect the public, including previous victims, from serious harm. As well as these 3 statutory agencies, a number of other agencies are under a duty to co-operate with the Responsible Authority and referred to as Duty to Co-operate (DTC) agencies. The purpose of DTC agencies is to help strengthen MAPPA to make defensible decisions about the management of offenders and to acknowledge their crucial role in the resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders in order to reduce the risk of harm posed and risk of reoffending. 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. Other Agencies

Statutory Agencies	Duty to Co-Operate Agencies	Not Duty to Cooperate Agencies
<b>Police</b>	Children's Services	E.g. - Identified when looking at the individual case
<b>Probation</b>	Adult Social Services	Faith Communities' - Children & Adults Safeguarding Leads
<b>Prison Services</b>	NHS Trusts, Health Providers and Integrated Care Board (ICB)	Women's Aid / Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
	Youth Offending Teams	Independent providers of Services.
	Local Housing Authorities	Children's Care Centres
	Job Centre Plus	Adult Care Homes
	Certain registered social landlords	Fire & Rescue Service
	Electronic monitoring providers	Ambulance Trust

## Who can be Referred to MAPPA?

There are 3 categories of Offenders who are eligible for MAPPA.

**Category 1 - Registered Sexual Offenders** (They must notify the police of their name, address and personal details (Sexual Offences Act 2003)).

**Category 2 - Violent Offenders (and other Sexual Offenders)**. Those sentenced to 12 months or more in custody or to detention in hospital, who have been convicted of a sexual or violent offence listed in Schedule 15 CJA 2003. This includes those offenders sentenced to Suspended Sentence Orders, as long as the period of custody suspended is 12 months or greater.

**Category 3 - Other Dangerous Offenders**. Those who have committed an offence, who do not meet the criteria for Cat 1 or 2, which indicated capacity to cause serious harm to the public and who, because of the assessed risk, need multi-agency management at level 2 or 3.

**Category 4 – Terrorism, Terrorism Connected or Terrorism Risk Offender**. Those who are convicted of a relevant terrorism offence or offence with a terrorism connection as determined by the court.

**What is Serious Harm?** - Serious harm can be identified as an event which is life threatening and / or traumatic, from which recovery, whether physical or psychological, can be expected to be difficult or impossible. Risk of serious harm is the likelihood of this event happening It should be recognised that the risk of harm is a dynamic concept that should be kept under regular review

The below chart depicts the 3 Levels of Management which can be used depending on the level of identified risk.

MAPPA cases should be managed at the **lowest Level** that provides a **defensible** and **robust** Risk Management Plan

There are 3 Levels of management depending on what is needed to manage an individual's risk			
There are 4 Categories of offenders that are MAPPA eligible	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	<p>Multi-agency support for Lead Agency risk management with information sharing</p> <p><b>Most MAPPA cases are managed at Level 1</b></p>	<p>Multi-Agency Meetings, active involvement of more than one agency (outside of PS, Police and Prisons) to manage the individual</p>	<p>Multi-Agency meetings and extra resources, the '<b>Critical Few</b>' including Critical Public Protection Cases (CPPC)</p>
<p><b>Category 1:</b></p> <p>Offenders Subject to Notification Requirements</p>	<p><b>Level 1 management does not mean the individual is low or medium risk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 1 cases can be high risk, providing the Lead Agency can sufficiently manage the risk</li> <li>Multi-agency input is still required, but there is no need for formal MAPPA meetings</li> </ul> <p>The Lead Agency will have sufficient powers to manage the case effectively, but:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information sharing with other agencies is still required</li> <li>Professionals meetings should still take place</li> </ul>	<p>Cases should be considered for Level 2 management where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formal multi-agency oversight at a more senior level would <b>add value</b> to the management of an individual's <b>RoSH</b></li> </ul> <p><b>And at least one of the below:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The individual is assessed as posing a <b>high or very high risk of serious harm</b></li> <li>The case requires <b>active involvement and co-ordination of interventions</b> from other agencies to manage <b>RoSH</b></li> <li>The case was <b>previously managed at Level 3</b> but no longer requires Level 3 management</li> </ul>	<p>Cases must at least meet the criteria for Level 2, <b>and</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require <b>senior oversight</b> from Responsible Authority and Duty to Cooperate agencies</li> </ul> <p><b>This may be because:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a perceived <b>need to commit significant resources at short notice</b></li> <li>High likelihood of <b>media scrutiny or public interest</b></li> <li>A need to <b>ensure public confidence in the criminal justice system</b> is preserved</li> </ul>
<p><b>Category 2:</b></p> <p>Violent Offenders and Other Sexual Offenders (non-registered) who are sentenced to 12 months or more in custody (immediate or suspended) or detained under a hospital order</p>	<p>The Risk Management Plan will be significantly robust enough to manage identified risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>No barriers</b> to the implementation of multi-agency actions that cannot be resolved via line management</li> <li>Such barriers would require a referral to Level 2 or 3</li> </ul> <p><b>A referral can be made at any time</b></p>	<p><b>Category 3 cases can only be managed at Level 2 or 3</b></p> <p>Responsible Officers must assess whether those convicted of offences outside the criteria for Category 1 or 2 require a multi-agency approach at Level 2 or 3 to manage their <b>RoSH</b>. In these instances a referral to Category 3 should be considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cases include <b>all non-MAPPA qualifying serial domestic abuse and stalking perpetrators</b>, as well as those convicted of <b>Terrorist Act or terrorist-related offences, Domestic Extremism offences, or Serious Group Offending</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Category 3:</b></p> <p>Other Dangerous Offenders who pose a high risk of serious harm (<b>RoSH</b>) but do not qualify for Category 1 or 2</p>	<p><b>Category 4: Terrorism, Terrorism Connected or Terrorism Risk Offender</b></p> <p><b>Automatic Category 4:</b> Convicted of relevant terrorism offence or offence with a terrorism connection as determined by the court</p> <p><b>Discretionary Category 4:</b> Offender must have either a conviction for any offence; or received a formal caution or reprimand/warning (if young person) for any offence; or been found not guilty of any offence by reason of insanity; or been found to be under a disability (unfit to stand trial) and to have done any act charged against them <b>and</b> the Responsible Authority believes that they may be, or become involved in terrorism-related activity. <b>Discretionary Category 4 offenders will be identified by Counter-Terrorism Police or the regional Probation Service Counter-Terrorism Network</b></p>		



### Sharing Information - What are the benefits of sharing information with other agencies?

- The value of MAPPA is information sharing among the agencies to get a better more informed overall picture of the individuals risk and make the right decisions about him or her
- Reviewing information available to you about a case prior to attending MAPPA meetings can help you to be clear about the information you are sharing and communicating with other agencies as well as what you hope to gain from MAPPA meetings to assist you with the management of the case.
- MAPPA through joint agency working can help you address any challenges or barriers you have to obtaining and sharing information. It provides an opportunity to raise issues at the earliest opportunity to all agencies involved.
- Capturing the roles and responsibilities of all agencies in a Risk Management Plan and the MAPPA B Minutes can ensure all professionals are clear on their role in the management of the case and actions they are responsible for. Particularly in contingency where emergency actions may need to be undertaken and acted upon quickly.
- There is an agreed protocol in place for the use of ViSOR for statutory agencies. ViSOR is a shared MAPPA database to which Probation, Police and Prisons have access and is an important basis for storing and accessing risk related information. These agencies can use ViSOR to access and share information, including record decision-making and liaison with other statutory agencies. DTC agencies do not have access to ViSOR.

**Remember;** MAPPA Meetings themselves are not the only opportunity to share information.



### Risk Management- How can MAPPA provide opportunities to strengthen risk management?

In most cases ordinary management (level 1) should suffice to manage the risk, this does not mean that you are not working in a multi-agency way. However, MAPPA Serious Case Reviews found that offenders continued to be managed at MAPPA Level 1 when there were several opportunities to strengthen risk management through escalation to MAPPA Level 2.

- To help decide on the right MAPPA level, agencies should think about what the gaps are in the case. Are there issues with the individual which you cannot resolve on your own? Can the best plan be achieved via normal working or do you need to break down barriers and work collaboratively with all agencies?
- MAPPA meetings can help ensure that the overall risk posed by individuals is managed and avoids seeing or managing risks in isolation.
- MAPPA provides opportunity to gain new information, review the effectiveness of the RMP and decide if the case can still be managed at the current MAPPA level.
- When transferring cases from one area to another MAPPA can ensure a clear line of communication is established, all risks are captured and continuity in the risk management of a case.
- MAPPA can help practitioners with difficult and challenging cases. Such as seeking information from the mental health team as to whether an offender was displaying symptoms that indicated mental health issues and/or regularly keeping informed on any specialist intervention or progress.
- MAPPA can also assist to identify risks posed to professionals from the individual such as lone working risk. The risk management plan can document what action should be taken to mitigate the risk identified.





### **Attendance - Having all agencies regularly provide and share information can ensure that vital information does not get missed;**

- There are actions that the lead agency or the MAPPAs administrator may be able to undertake to ensure consistent representation such as sending invitations out at the earliest opportunity or raising awareness with other agencies about the benefits of MAPPAs and how they can contribute to it.
- If you or another agency are unable to attend a meeting. Often providing a replacement and/or providing a report to the meeting to update on progress on developments and actions can avoid delays and ensure continued collaborative management of the case.



### **Accommodation** Discussing accommodation with all agencies involved in the case through MAPPAs can ensure that;

- Accommodation is properly assessed for suitability particularly regarding geographical locations and attitudes towards other occupants.
- Appropriateness of accommodation, ensuring that individuals are placed where risks can best be managed. This includes considering the location of the offender's past and current victims.
- Where alternative accommodation may not be available MAPPAs can assist in ensuring supporting measures have been considered
- The MAPPAs website should also be used to see what other areas are doing for solutions regarding accommodation which may help inform and assist you further in any challenges you may be facing.



### **Victims and Disclosure**

MAPPAs should provide;

- Victim focus and co-ordinated response between MAPPAs and MARAC.
- Opportunities to address challenges for agencies or practitioners in managing cases where the victim is continuing to have contact with the offender.
- MAPPAs should always be used to support you to make decisions on the risk and benefits of disclosure
- Where the need to disclose is identified outside of a MAPPAs meeting and requires urgent and immediate response, where possible the views of MAPPAs partners should be sought to help you during the disclosure process.
- Victim focus and co-ordinated response between MAPPAs and MARAC.
- Opportunities to address challenges for agencies or practitioners in managing cases where the victim is continuing to have contact with the offender.
- MAPPAs should always be used to support you to make decisions on the risk and benefits of disclosure

*See below links for further information on Disclosure*

## How to Make Referral to MAPPA

Any Responsible Authority or Duty to Co-operate Agency can refer an Individual for Level 2 or Level 3 Management. Referrals made by completing the MAPPA referral form (MAPPA A attached below) which is forwarded to the MAPPA Co-Ordinator via email. Anyone who submits a referral will receive a decision within 10 working days (usually much sooner). Whilst the referrals are primarily reviewed by the MAPPA coordinator, consultation does take place with other managers from relevant RA/DTC partners to aid assessment where appropriate/necessary.

Cheshire MAPPA Co-ordinator is **Gemma Noden**. MAPPA referrals and queries can be emailed to –

**[NWNPS.cheshire.MAPPA@probation.gov.uk](mailto:NWNPS.cheshire.MAPPA@probation.gov.uk)**

## Preparing for Attendance at a MAPPA Meeting

MAPPA meetings will generally be chaired by either a Senior Probation Officer or Senior Police Officer. The meeting is structured and follows a formal process through the MAPPA B minutes document. During the meeting all agencies will be invited to give their updates regarding the individual as well as progress on actions previous actions identified. Any attendee may also be allocated agreed actions during the meeting.

All agencies will also be invited at the conclusion of the meeting do give their views on the risk management level and category.

Please ensure you –

- Attend or send an update or representative in your place.
- Ensure you are in a confidential space during the meeting and cannot be overheard.
- Take time to read previous minutes and research your own systems in advance of the meeting.
- Review any actions set for you in plenty of time to ensure you have completed and can update the meeting.
- Ensure you research your systems and records and prepare any updates you have to contribute to the meeting.
- Consider what interactions you have had with the nominal since last meeting and have any notes/records to hand.
- Also consider what information you have from your agency regarding the children/vulnerable persons named within the MAPPA B.
- Raise anything which you feel is important or relevant. Don't be afraid to raise your team's hand to contribute to a point in issue rather than wait to be invited for your agency input.
- Know what your involvement and contribution is to the risk management plan under the 4 pillars. What is your agency's role in supervision, monitoring and control; interventions and treatment and victim safety planning? The RMP is not just owned by the lead agency but is jointly agreed.
- Remember – we CAN share information under MAPPA.

## Useful Links and Documents –

### MAPPA Example Case Studies



Case 1.docx



Case study 2.docx

### Probation Thresholding Document in assessing appropriate risk level.



Thresholding v2.0  
2022\_2\_(1).pdf

[Official MAPPA Website Link](#) – Contains all up to date MAPPA Guidance. You can log on and register with work email address to receive weekly updates.

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

### 7 Minute Briefing on Disclosure.



Seven-minute-briefing-MAPPA-Disclosure.docx

### MAPPA A Referral Form



MAPPA A.docx

### MAPPA B Minutes Document



MAPPA B.docx

**Glossary of Terms** – common terms and acronyms within MAPPA documentation and meetings by different agencies.



Glossary of  
Terms.xlsx

**Useful Podcasts -**

[Working with Partner Agencies - YouTube](#)

[Implementing the MAPPA Level 1 Policy Framework - YouTube](#)

[Case Escalation in MAPPA - YouTube](#)

[Working with the Victim Liaison Officer - YouTube](#)

[MAPPA and Disclosure - How to remove the anxiety around disclosure - YouTube](#)

[Having an honest conversation with a MAPPA nominal - YouTube](#)

[Working with the Prison Offender Manager within MAPPA - YouTube](#)

[Police Offender Managers and MAPPA - YouTube](#)

[Offender Personality Disorder \(OPD\) Pathway and MAPPA - YouTube](#)

[Conscious/Unconscious Bias and its impact on those subject to MAPPA - YouTube](#)