

North Wales



Annual Report 2013 – 2014



Introduction

Welcome

"NOMS in Wales is committed to working in partnership with MAPPA agencies to prevent people becoming victims of serious harm. Although violent and sexual offending makes up only a small percentage of all crime in Wales the harm caused by such offending is considerable to victims, their families and communities. Existing and potential victims have a right to feel protected and safe and whilst it is never possible to eradicate the risk entirely, MAPPA is designed to bring agencies together to help manage that risk and keep it to a minimum. NOMS in Wales and all of the agencies involved in MAPPA place the protection of the public as their highest priority and this report reflects the determination of all involved to ensure that this important area of work remains at the forefront. I am proud of our staff, their successes of the past year and their commitment to excellence for MAPPA in Wales".

Now in its 13th year, the North Wales Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements continue to provide a framework for protecting the public against the group of offenders who pose the highest risk of harm to the public.

The number of sexual and violent crimes committed in North Wales represent a small proportion of the total recorded crime, but these crimes can have a major impact upon victims and their families. This is why here in North Wales protection of the public from the harm that some offenders pose, remains the highest priority for North Wales Police, working in partnership with the Prison and Probation Service, and Duty to Co-operate Agencies.

North Wales police take an active role in MAPPA at all Levels, have a responsibility in enhancing robust risk management plans, attend all Level 2 and 3 meetings, and provide a number of agencies with valuable training in the work of MAPPA. This Annual Report is designed to provide you with an overview of the work of the North Wales Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements and it is hoped that you find this report interesting and informative.



Sarah Payne
Chief Executive
National Probation
Trust



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



Mark Polin
Chief Constable
North Wales 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 focussed 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 2013				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	456	182	-	638
Level 2	39	20	0	59
Level 3	1	0	0	1
Total	496	202	0	698

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	56	77	25	158
Level 3	4	3	0	7
Total	60	80	25	165

RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	14
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Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders	
SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts	
SOPOs	56
NOs	2
FTOs	0

Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Breach of licence				
Level 2	6	6	0	12
Level 3	1	0	0	1
Total	7	6	0	13
Breach of SOPO				
Level 2	1	-	-	1
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	1	-	-	1

Explanation commentary on statistical tables

MAPPA background

The totals of MAPPA-eligible offenders, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2014 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

(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 (91% 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 behavior 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

North Wales MAPPA Conference 2013

Over 130 delegates from Police, Probation and partner agencies gathered in St Asaph recently for the 2013 North Wales MAPPA conference.



In an event centred on practice, attendees heard from a variety of key speakers not only on the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), but also on technological advances that can assist in the management of violent and sex offenders.

Entitled 'Protecting the Public through Partnership', the conference was the first of its kind to be held since 2009. It was arranged by Carolyn Clark, North Wales MAPPA Co-ordinator, in conjunction with North Wales Police, and a small team of colleagues, and after funding became available from the Ministry of Justice, National Offender Management Service.

Overall the day proved to be an overwhelming success with delegates attending from not only the three key partner agencies (Police, Probation and Prison) but also from Housing, Youth Justice, Social Services, local health board and the Crown Prosecution Service.

North Wales Police Crime Commissioner Winston Roddick opened the event with a keynote address in which he highlighted the importance of partnership work. Delegates were given an insight from the Head of MAPPA NOMS Becky Hart on the national perspective, current and future developments of the set of arrangements. Delegates were also given a presentation on the future of polygraph testing in the management of some High risk offenders.

The importance of multi-agency working and its effectiveness was brought home to those present with presentation on a case study involving an offender from the local community. The case study was presented by a Probation Offender Manager, Police Offender Manager, an Offender Supervisor from Prison, local CMHT staff, A Housing Officer, and North Wales Forensic Services. The work of the agencies and how all involved are continuing to work with, and support the individual while at the same time protecting the public, gave a true insight into effective partnership work.

Along with an opportunity to network with colleagues, the day also allowed the delegates to gain the most out of the presentations - with question and answer sessions following some speakers.

The value of the afternoon sessions proved to be no different. A range of workshops were held, where many were able to learn that much more about the latest developments in tags and a device to assist with alcohol monitoring. Other attendees also got to learn more about the work of an innovative project, Circles of support and Accountability, which involves volunteers from all over North Wales working with offenders. A third workshop allowed attendees to learn about specific pieces of work undertaken by the Probation Service with High Risk Offenders.

Detective Superintendent John Hanson of North Wales Police said: 'This multi-agency event has highlighted the strength and commitment that partner agencies have towards managing the risks posed by violent and sexual offenders living in North Wales, effectively and through established multi agency public protection arrangements.'

Andy Jones, Assistant Chief Executive of Wales Probation Trust said "Now in the 12th year, North Wales Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements continue to provide a framework for protecting the public against the small group of offenders who pose the highest risk of harm to the public. It is pleasing to note the level of interest and commitment shown by all of the partner agencies to continue to work together to improve our practice to ensure the highest level of protection for our Communities."



Ty Newydd Approved Premises

Ty Newydd Approved Premises is a 23 bed, adult male residential establishment and one of four of their kind in Wales. The other Approved Premises are located near Wrexham, in Cardiff and in Swansea.

Ty Newydd accept referrals from male adult offenders who pose a risk of harm, offenders who are in the main managed through the MAPPA process. Referrals are made from across and occasionally outside Wales, where there are particular reasons for an individual to be placed out of area.

The vast majority of residents are placed here as a condition of their licence upon release from custody, but occasionally referrals are accepted on Bail cases from Court and on a Residency Requirement as part of a Community or Suspended Sentence Order.

Prior to arrival at Ty Newydd we strive to have contact with the individual, by way of letter correspondence and undertake a video link interview so that the rules and expectations can be discussed fully. Occasionally a visit to the individual in custody will be undertaken, particularly in cases where there are significant mental or physical health needs.

Each resident is assigned a primary and secondary keyworker who will have overall responsibility for the management of the resident in respect to their time at Ty Newydd. Their Offender Manager, or Probation Officer in their home area will maintain overall management of their Licence or Order. It is expected that residents will return to their home area following their departure from Ty Newydd.

During their residency at Ty Newydd, each resident will undertake a minimum of 22 hours structured activity per week, some of which are mandatory, but some of which can be chosen by the individual depending on their own interests. The activities range from one to one structured offence focussed work with the keyworker to courses on financial management and other life skills. A significant amount of time is spent undertaking what are called 'pro-social activities' which can be very informal but which provide individuals with an often much needed opportunity to develop their interpersonal skills. Opportunities are also available with external agencies and organisations to undertake outdoor pursuits and other activities which take the residents out of the residential environment.

Agencies also attend Ty Newydd to provide training opportunities as well as how to apply for future employment safely via a disclosure course.

Ty Newydd staff undertake a number of practical activities including cooking, gardening and even a lively debating night which has been a surprise success. Ty Newydd is also currently undertaking an 8 month long project, funded by the Arts Council Wales with a professional writer and photographer, where the residents have a weekly creative writing and photography session. The results of this project will be toured around Libraries in Wales.

As well as providing the above range of activities, Ty Newydd staff work extremely closely with local Police, and in particular the local Police Public Protection Team. Behaviour and movements are monitored closely and the role of the Premises moves dynamically between that of rehabilitation to protection and enforcement.

Ty Newydd is currently working towards the Royal Society of Psychiatrists Enabling Environment award.

North Wales Fire & Rescue Service

North Wales Fire and Rescue Service (NWFRS) purchased standalone fire suppression systems for fitting within properties of vulnerable persons across North Wales.

The units are designed for installation within specific risk areas and provide single room coverage, they are a self-contained low pressure water misting system that are easily installed to provide effective fire protection for vulnerable persons who may be confined to one room.

The units provide either a temporary or permanent solution for persons who for whatever reasons find themselves confined to a single room; these units are linked to a smoke detector which allows for early detection and effective activation in the event of a fire.

On activation, the system rapidly suppresses the detected fire in the compartment/room; reducing fire spread within the room of origin and can reduce the traumatic effect on the occupier.

Currently NWFRS working closely with partners and the Probation Service have provided and installed one fire suppression unit at the Ty Newydd site in Bangor and two at Plas Y Wern, Wrexham.



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub
Fire and Rescue Service

Lay Advisor Update

Report provided by Mary Brough, Lay Advisor:

My contribution to the North Wales MAPPA has been limited this year through personal circumstances. However, attendance at the SMBs and the Audit Sub Group, has shown me that, despite funding cuts in **all** the involved agencies, the commitment to delivery of a first class service has not diminished. It would have been easy for agencies to claim that cuts in staffing prevent attendance in person but the audits conducted for the SMB indicate that this is not the case. Co-operation and commitment are still hallmarks of the North Wales MAPPA.

Supporting Sex Offenders to live safely in our Communities

It has now been seven years since the first Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) project was set up in North Wales. Back in 2007, North Wales Probation funded Community Justice Interventions Wales (CJIW) to develop the first COSA project to be run in Wales. If you are not familiar with what we do, COSA is about:

“building safer communities through local volunteers working with sex offenders to minimise alienation, support reintegration and so prevent sexual reoffending”.

Initially there were concerns that volunteers from across North Wales would not be interested in supporting the project, particularly in view of the almost constant stream of media stories about the sexual abuse of children. However, since 2007 COSA has had a steady flow of people from all the communities across North Wales and to date we have recruited, trained and supported over 140 volunteers.

For those of you who are not aware what we do, COSA is an initiative designed to enhance the safe integration of sex offenders into the community. COSA aims to substantially reduce the risk of future sexual abuse by assisting and supporting offenders who have demonstrated a commitment to stop offending. Carefully selected and comprehensively trained volunteers assist offenders in the task of integrating with their own communities, giving them the opportunity to lead responsible, productive and accountable lives.

In short, COSA is:

- a local community **volunteer response** to everyone’s wish for safer communities
- COSA volunteers work with the **most isolated of offenders**; individuals for whom there is seldom support other than from statutory agencies.
- And our purpose is to **prevent further offences** and harm.

COSA offers a circle of trained and supported volunteers for MAPPA Level 2 & 3 cases across the region.

Stop it Now! Wales is a child sexual abuse prevention programme funded by the Welsh Government and the Lucy Faithful Foundation. We work to protect children and young people from sexual abuse by working with parents and carers and multi-agency professionals as well as members of the public through awareness raising and education. We also offer a confidential helpline to any adult with a concern about child sexual abuse on 0808 1000 900.

Our services and resources are relevant to parents, carers, professionals, childcare workers, volunteer and, school staff; in fact, anyone who has contact with children or families in their personal or professional life.

Awareness raising sessions are currently being delivered across the whole of Wales, Gillian Jones the Assistant National Campaign Manager based in Flintshire manages the delivery for North Wales and Powys. The range of sessions available include Parents Protect!, Professionals Protect!, Prevention of Child Sexual Exploitation! and Internet Safety!

Gillian talks enthusiastically about how the work in North Wales has expanded over the past 2 years. She said: “Stop it Now! Wales secured funding to expand their work across the whole of Wales in 2012, with the delivery of the Stop it Now! programme across North Wales having greatly increased. 2013/14 saw the delivery of nearly 100 sessions of our Parents Protect! programme, reaching 1253 individuals who attended one of the sessions and gained additional and vital knowledge to help them prevent child sexual abuse.”

At the start of this financial year, Stop it Now! Wales received one year funding from the Welsh Government, along with a smaller amount from the Conwy Families First (CFF) programme. The CFF funding is aimed at the delivery of a new session, Parents Protect! Additional Needs, to meet the needs of families parenting and caring for children with additional Needs.

The Stop it Now! programme across the whole of Wales is available to any adult, parent, carer or professional and more information can be found on www.stopitnow.org.uk/wales. For more information on booking a 2-hour free awareness raising session in North Wales, please contact Gillian Jones, Assistant National Campaign Manager on gjones@stopitnow.org.uk or 07803 629628.

National Probation Victim Service

1) Who is eligible for the National Probation Victim Service?

Under the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004, the National Probation Service has responsibility for making contact with victims and/or the families) of:

- An offender who receives a sentence of imprisonment of 12 months or more after being convicted of a sexual or violent offence. (Schedule 15 list) Including harassment, threats to kill, false imprisonment, arson, death by dangerous/careless driving, assaults, affray, all sexual offences and aggravated burglary.
- An offender who is convicted of a sexual or violent offence and receives a Unrestricted/Restricted Hospital Order; or is transferred to prison under the Mental Health Act 1983 with a Restriction Direction; or receives a Hospital and Limitation Direction.
- Where the offence has resulted in the death of the victim.
- Victims can of course, opt not to access the support and information offered by the service. However, they can opt in at any time during the offender's custodial sentence and licence period.
- Victim Officers are unable to offer counselling, however they can signpost to appropriate agencies.
- Statutory cases do not include burglary of dwelling, common assault or breach of the peace. However, the service can take on any discretionary case if the risk to any individual is high.

2) What can the Probation Victim Service do?

Share information:

- On the sentencing process.
- If the offender is eligible for any temporary leave from Prison.
- When the offender is to be considered for release and ensure that victims' views and concerns are represented in release plans and licence conditions.
- The Victim Personal Statement process – where a victim or family directly informs the decision makers about the impact the offence/offender has had on their lives.
- In relation to the offender and identify any perceived risk to victim and family.

3) What does the Victim Officer do with information?

Information will not be disclosed to the offender. However, information is shared with relevant safeguarding agencies including all MAPPA 1, 2 & 3 meetings.

4) What is the role of a Victim Officer in a MAPPA Meeting?

Victim Officers are standing members in Level 1 & 2 meetings across North Wales and in Level 3 meetings where there is an identified victim. A Victim Officer ensures that victims or family members in cases where the victims are deceased have their views, concerns and representations shared directly into the process. Victim Officers ensure these are taken into account when planning for an offender's release from prison or managing an individual in the community.

5) What happens once the offender is released?

The offender will be released on licence and under the supervision of the Probation Service until the sentence expires. Licence conditions are put in place which the offender must adhere to. Victim Officers propose additional licence conditions of no contact and exclusions from certain areas in order to protect victims. Bespoke licence conditions can also be proposed for consideration.

6) What can be done to protect a victim?

- Preparing and informing victims and/or their /families of an offender's release and imposing protective licence conditions.
- Approved Premises accommodation with curfew and additional signing in times during the day.
- Identifying risk using assessments tools such as CADDA Dash, Stalking Dash, SARA (Spousal Assault Risk Assessment).
- Joint working with Police, IDVA's, ISVA's, CPN's, SSD Workers.
- Referring to Child Protection/Child in Need.
- Referring to GP/Counselling/Mental Health Services/Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA).
- Supporting Housing applications.
- Creating Safety Plans which can include Fire Safety/Arson Reduction signposting.

7) What is the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA)?

They are a Government organisation that can pay money (compensation) to people who have been physically or mentally injured because they were the blameless victim of a violent crime. They offer a free service processing applications.

www.justice.gov.uk/victims-and-witnesses/cica

8) How can I contact my local Victim Unit?

*Ynys Mon/ Gwynedd/ Conwy/
Denbighshire/Flintshire/Wrexham*
25 Conwy Road, Colwyn Bay, Conwy. LL29 7AA
Tel no. 01492 524000

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



HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU
Gogledd Cymru diogelach

NORTH WALES POLICE
A safer North Wales