

# West Yorkshire MAPPA



## Annual Report





# Introduction

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Welcome to the 2015-16 Annual Report of the West Yorkshire Strategic Management Board (SMB) for Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA).

The foundation of MAPPA is the partnership work between a whole range of organisations, both within and beyond the criminal justice system. By sharing information, jointly assessing risk, and co-ordinating activity, we are in a better position to protect individuals and local communities in West Yorkshire. These arrangements require a considerable investment of time and effort, but they are a key priority.

Whilst Police, Probation, and Prisons hold the prime responsibility for the effectiveness of MAPPA, they are actively supported by a diverse group of organisations including Youth Offending Teams, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health, Education, Home Office Immigration Enforcement, accommodation and electronic monitoring providers, to name just some. The aim is to get the right organisations around the table for each individual case when necessary.

We have maintained our focus on violent and sexual offenders, but have also continued to develop arrangements to manage violent extremists and those convicted of terrorism related offences. The involvement of and arrangements with Mental Health Services have also been a significant focus. This culminated in a MAPPA & Mental Health Conference in November 2015, attended by nearly 100 professionals from Mental Health, NPS, Police and MAPPA. From this, a plan with national and local objectives was developed in order to continue to improve West Yorkshires response to mentally disordered offenders who continue to pose a risk of serious harm.

As well as pooling the professional expertise of these organisations, MAPPA also benefits from the involvement of the Lay Advisor. Their role is to represent the public, by asking questions of MAPPA on behalf of local communities and by developing a sound knowledge of the operation of MAPPA, including observation of MAPP meetings for individual cases.

The MAPPA process commences whilst the offender is in prison or detained in hospital. Victims are informed of important milestones during the sentence, and their views are made

known and taken into account when key decisions are taken. When release / discharge conditions are being considered, victim safety is of the highest priority. MAPPA processes become more intense when the offender is released into the community, and the management of risk continues to be reviewed by agencies in accordance with the specific risk issues of each case.

It is recognised that no system, however good, can provide 100% guarantee that an offender assessed as dangerous will not go on the re-offend. However, last year more than 99% of MAPPA offenders did not go on to commit a serious further offence, and we will continue our efforts to reduce the risk posed by dangerous offenders in West Yorkshire. This report is intended to show how we go about achieving that aim.



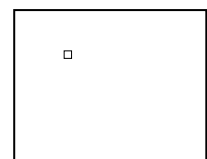
**Maggie Smallridge**  
Head of Probation –  
Bradford / Calderdale &  
MAPPA SMB Chair.  
National Probation  
Service – North East.



**Russell Foster**  
Assistant Chief  
Constable,  
West Yorkshire  
Police.



**Paul Foweather**  
Deputy Director of  
Custody,  
Yorkshire &  
Humberside.



# What is MAPPA?

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## MAPPA background

- (a) MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) are a set of arrangements to manage the risk posed by the most serious sexual and violent offenders (MAPPA-eligible offenders) under the provisions of sections 325 to 327B of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
- (b) They bring together the Police, Probation and Prison Services in each of the 42 Areas in England and Wales into what is known as the MAPPA Responsible Authority.
- (c) A number of other agencies are under a Duty To Co-operate (DTC) with the Responsible Authority. These include Social Services, Health Trusts, Youth Offending Teams, Jobcentre Plus and Local Housing and Education Authorities.
- (d) The Responsible Authority is required to appoint two Lay Advisers to sit on each MAPPA area Strategic Management Board (SMB) alongside senior representatives from each of the Responsible Authority and duty to co-operate agencies.
- (e) Lay Advisers are members of the public with no links to the business of managing MAPPA offenders and act as independent, yet informed, observers; able to pose questions which the professionals closely involved in the work might not think of asking. They also bring to the SMB their understanding and perspective of the local community (where they must reside and have strong links).

## How MAPPA works

- MAPPA-eligible offenders are identified and information about them is shared by the agencies in order to inform the risk assessments and risk management plans of those managing or supervising them.
- In the majority of cases that is as far as MAPPA extends but in some cases, it is determined that active multi-agency management is required. In such cases there will be regular MAPPA meetings attended by relevant agency practitioners.
- There are 3 categories of MAPPA-eligible offender: **Category 1** - registered sexual offenders; **Category 2** – (in the main) violent offenders sentenced to imprisonment for 12 months or more; and **Category 3** – offenders who do not qualify under categories 1 or 2 but who currently pose a risk of serious harm.
- There are three management levels intended to ensure that resources are focused upon the cases where they are most needed; generally those involving the higher risks of serious harm. **Level 1** involves ordinary agency management (i.e. no MAPPA meetings or resources); **Level 2** is where the active involvement of more than one agency is required to manage the offender but the risk management plans do not require the attendance and commitment of resources at a senior level. Where senior oversight is required the case would be managed at **Level 3**.

MAPPA is supported by ViSOR. This is a national IT system for the management of people who pose a serious risk of harm to the public. The police have been using ViSOR since 2005 but, since June 2008, ViSOR has been fully operational allowing, for the first time, key staff from the Police, Probation and Prison Services to work on the same IT system, thus improving the quality and timeliness of risk assessments and of interventions to prevent offending. The combined use of ViSOR increases the ability to share intelligence across organisations and enable the safe transfer of key information when these high risk offenders move, enhancing public protection measures. All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

# MAPPA Statistics

## MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2016

	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	2512	741	-	3253
Level 2	40	10	2	52
Level 3	2	1	1	4
Total	2554	752	3	3309

## 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	72	72	13	157
Level 3	5	4	1	10
Total	77	76	14	167

## RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements

60

## RSOs who have had their life time notification revoked on application

7

## Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders

### SHPOs, SHPOs with foreign travel restriction & NOs imposed by the courts

SHPO	78
SHPO with foreign travel restriction	0
NOs	5

## Number of people who became subject to notification requirements following a breach(es) of a Sexual Risk Order (SRO)

0

## Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody

	<b>Category 1: Registered sex offenders</b>	<b>Category 2: Violent offenders</b>	<b>Category 3: Other dangerous offenders</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Breach of licence</b>				
Level 2	7	6	1	14
Level 3	0	0	0	0
Total	7	6	1	14
<b>Breach of SOPO</b>				
Level 2	0	-	-	0
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	0	-	-	0

<b>Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population</b>	129
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This figure has been calculated using the Mid-2015 Population Estimates: Single year of age and sex for Police Areas in England and Wales; estimated resident population, published by the Office for National Statistics on 23 June 2016, excluding those aged less than ten years of age.



# Explanation commentary on statistical tables

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## MAPPA background

The totals of MAPPA-eligible offenders, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2016 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.

**(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 (x% 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 Harm Prevention Order (SHPO) – (replaced Sexual Offence Prevention Orders) including any additional foreign travel restriction.**

Sexual Harm Prevention Orders (SHPOs) and interim SHPOs are intended to protect the public from offenders convicted of a sexual or violent offence who pose a risk of sexual harm to the public by placing restrictions on their behaviour. It requires the offender to notify their details to the police (as set out in Part 2 of the 2003 Act) for the duration of the order.

The court must be satisfied that an order is necessary to protect the public (or any particular members of the public) in the UK, or children or vulnerable adults (or any particular children or vulnerable adults) abroad, from sexual harm from the offender. In the case of an order made on a free standing application by a chief officer or the National Crime Agency (NCA), the chief officer/NCA must be able to show that the offender has acted in such a way since their conviction as to make the order necessary.

The minimum duration for a full order is five years. The lower age limit is 10, which is the age of criminal responsibility, but where the defendant is under the age of 18 an application for an order should only be considered exceptionally.

**(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) Sexual Risk Order (incl. any additional foreign travel restriction)**

The Sexual Risk Order (SRO) replaced the Risk of Sexual Harm Order (RoSHO) and may be made in relation to a person without a conviction for a sexual or violent offence (or any other offence), but who poses a risk of sexual harm.

The SRO may be made at the magistrates' court on application, by the police or NCA where an individual **has done an act of a sexual nature** and the court is **satisfied that the person poses a risk of harm to the public in the UK or children or vulnerable adults overseas.**

A SRO may prohibit the person from doing anything described in it – **this includes preventing travel overseas.** Any prohibition must be necessary to protect the public in the UK from sexual harm or, in relation to foreign travel, protecting children or vulnerable adults from sexual harm.

An individual subject to an SRO is required to notify the police of their name and home address within three days of the order being made and also to notify any changes to this information within three days.

A SRO can last for a minimum of two years and has no maximum duration, with the exception of any foreign travel restrictions which, if applicable, last for a maximum of five years (but may be renewed).

The criminal standard of proof continues to apply, the person concerned is able to appeal against the making of the order, and the police or the person concerned are able to apply for the order to be varied, renewed or discharged.

A breach of a SRO is a criminal offence punishable by a maximum of five years' imprisonment. Where an individual breaches their SRO, they will become subject to the full notification requirements.

Nominals made subject of a SRO are now recorded on VISOR, as a Potentially Dangerous Person (PDP).

#### **(i) Lifetime notification requirements revoked on application**

##### **Change in legislation on sexual offenders**

A legal challenge in 2010 and a corresponding legislative response means there is now a mechanism in place which will allow **qualifying sex offenders to apply for a review of their notification requirements.**

Individuals subject to indefinite notification will only become eligible to seek a review once they have been subject to the indefinite notification requirements for a period of at least 15 years for adults and 8 years for juveniles. This applies from 1 September 2012 for adult offenders

On 21 April 2010, in the case of *R (on the application of F and Angus Aubrey Thompson) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2010] UKSC 17, the Supreme Court upheld an earlier decision of the Court of Appeal and made a declaration of incompatibility under s. 4 of the Human Rights Act 1998 in respect of notification requirements for an indefinite period under section 82 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

This has been remedied by virtue of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Remedial) Order 2012 which has introduced the opportunity for offenders subject to indefinite notification to seek a review; this was enacted on 30th July 2012.

Persons will not come off the register automatically. Qualifying offenders will be required to submit an application to the police seeking a review of their indefinite notification requirements. This will only be once they have completed a minimum period of time subject to the notification requirements (15 years from the point of first notification following release from custody for the index offence for adults and 8 years for juveniles).

Those who continue to pose a significant risk will remain on the register for life, if necessary. In the event that an offender is subject to a Sexual Offences Prevention Order (SOPO)/Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO) the order must be discharged under section 108 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 prior to an application for a review of their indefinite notification requirements.

For more information, see the Home Office section of the gov.uk website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-offences-act-2003-remedial-order-2012>



# West Yorkshire MAPPA in action

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## How MAPPA Operates Locally

**There are three MAPPA units in West Yorkshire – Bradford & Calderdale, Leeds, and Wakefield & Kirklees.**

The Strategic Management Board (SMB) in West Yorkshire is chaired by a Head of Probation from the National Probation Service. The role of the SMB is to ensure the quality and effectiveness of MAPPA work in West Yorkshire.

It is impossible to eliminate all risk when offenders are being managed within the community, but the three agencies comprising the responsible authority are fully committed to ensuring that, through MAPPA partnership, risks are reduced.

Those agencies, West Yorkshire Police, National Probation Service - West Yorkshire and the Prison Service in Yorkshire and Humberside, have worked hard to develop clear and effective communication mechanisms and to build a strong professional relationship with other agencies.

The **Prison Service in Yorkshire and Humberside** prepares offenders for release from prison and provides key release information on hundreds of prisoners each year in advance of their release back into Yorkshire and Humberside, as part of an agreed and managed joint process with community agencies.

Through **National Probation Service - West Yorkshire**, MAPPA has access to a range of interventions and group activities, some of which seek to restrict offenders' actions and behaviours, others try to help offenders change the way they behave. Licence conditions can impose restrictions on offenders such as exclusion zones. National Probation Service - West Yorkshire also works closely with victims of crime who have been affected by either a serious violent or sexual offence.

MAPPA enables **West Yorkshire Police** to coordinate with other agencies and contribute to the effective risk management of sexual and violent offenders. West Yorkshire Police take a lead in the management of Category 1, Registered Sexual Offender MAPPA cases. Officers who know the offender will contribute to risk assessment and action planning. Regular contact takes place between Probation Officers and Police staff across West Yorkshire.

The MAPPA Units coordinate meetings, undertake administration of MAPPA and provide a MAPPA Chair who objectively guides the meeting to develop a robust Risk Management Plan for each MAPPA Offender and holds agencies to account for completing the actions they have agreed to undertake. There is also a WY MAPPA Coordinator who acts as a bridge between the SMB and MAPPA agencies, supporting operational, policy and strategic development in accordance with SMB requirements and national MAPPA guidance, as well as acting as a single point of contact for other MAPPA areas and forging links at regional and national levels.

# **About the Responsible Authority Agencies involvement in MAPPA**

## **How West Yorkshire Police works with MAPPA**

West Yorkshire Police is committed to ensuring the safety of the public and MAPPA is an important way in which police and other agencies can co-ordinate their work in order to contribute to the effective risk management of sexual and violent offenders. The five West Yorkshire Police Districts take the lead in the management of MAPPA cases overseen by the Safeguarding Central Governance Unit.

The five policing Districts, namely Leeds, Bradford, Kirklees, Wakefield and Calderdale routinely co-ordinate local policing actions in order to address the risk posed by MAPPA managed offenders.

In practice, every MAPP meeting is attended by a Detective Inspector and, as required, other officers who know the offender and their offending history will attend the meeting and contribute to the risk assessment and action planning. The Detective Inspector is accountable for ensuring that actions relating to the police involvement in the management of the offender are carried out as agreed. Outside the MAPPA meetings, regular contact takes place between Probation Officers and the local Police to ensure that each plan continues to be robust and effective so that the public remain protected.

Effective risk management of MAPPA cases necessitates very close cooperation and understanding between agencies, not only during the MAPPA meetings, but also throughout daily activity around offender management. West Yorkshire Police has worked hard to develop clear and effective ongoing communication with the other responsible agencies within MAPPA, namely National Probation Service - West Yorkshire and the Prison Service, and has worked hard to build a strong professional relationship with other agencies subject to a duty to cooperate responsibly.

Considerable investment has been made in the use of the national ViSOR database as a means of sharing information and more effectively managing sexual and violent offenders by the Police, NPS - WY and Prison Service. This development is continuing and ongoing.

It is impossible to eliminate all risk when offenders are being managed within the community but West Yorkshire Police remains committed to ensuring that, through a strong and effective MAPPA partnership, we reduce those risks as much as possible.

## **How the National Probation Service, West Yorkshire (NPS-WY) works with MAPPA**

MAPPA is an essential element in how NPS-WY manages high risk violent and sexual offenders in the community. Probation Officers work closely with relevant agencies outside meetings to inform risk assessments and risk management. However, agency participation in the meeting enables full information sharing that provides the broadest perspective of the offender, their movements and actions and through the meeting we can implement and refine risk management plans to most effectively manage each offender.

MAPP meetings have the authority to harness resources from partners and agencies to deliver the risk management plan and can help to determine and coordinate appropriate actions for each organisation. Meetings provide a comprehensive view of each offender and agencies get an excellent overview, including understanding the overall risk management plan and contributing their own intelligence about the offender's behaviour. This third party information is vital in managing high risk offenders in the community, and ensures that by working together we are able to effectively protect the public.

An example of how this works in practice is in securing access to important services such as healthcare or accommodation. Staff at an appropriate level from relevant partner agencies are involved in the MAPP meetings and therefore decisions can be made immediately to fast track appointments with agencies, housing provision or other vital actions that can reduce reoffending. As meetings are held before offenders are released from prison, they also provide time for planning across a range of local services. All agencies are acting in partnership to achieve the best outcomes.

MAPPA has access to a range of interventions, some of which seek to restrict the offenders' actions and behaviours whilst others try to help the offenders change aspects of the way they behave. The NPS, in conjunction with the West Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company, offers a number of group activities which address specific aspects of offending behaviour, these include:

- Medium and high intensity domestic violence groups
- Anger management and alcohol fuelled offending groups
- Groups for sex offenders
- Groups to address substance misuse (alcohol and drug) related offending including Stop Binge Drinking and Drink Impaired Drivers
- Groups to address Thinking Skills and one-to-one sessions to address behaviour associated with hate crimes

**Licence conditions** – Every offender released from prison is released on Licence. Licences can have additional conditions added which include exclusion zones, residence requirements, non contact conditions protecting the victim or preventing association with other named people, requirements to allow access to / remove computer equipment - to name a few.

**Work with Victims** – Liaising with victims is a key part of NPS-WY work. Anyone who is the victim of offenders sentenced to 12 months or more or detained under the Mental Health Act 1983 for a specified sexual or violent offence is contacted by the Victims Services Unit. The contact offered includes regular updates for the victims so they know what is happening to the offender – if their sentence has changed, if they are approaching parole, if they are moving prison or location and when they are released, including their licence conditions. Contact continues when offenders are released and until the end of their licence period. The Victim Services Unit also ensures that victims' views are raised in all appropriate forums including Parole Board hearings and MAPP meetings.

## **Statement by Lucia Saiger-Burns, Head of Public Protection National Probation Service - NE Division**

### **Public Protection – A Priority**

2015 / 16 has been another year of change for the NPS. Public Protection has continued to be delivered through the very strong, positive partnership work guided by the MAPPA Strategic Management Boards in all NE areas in the Division.

- National developments are coming to fruition through the dynamic process embedded within the NPS of E3 - Excellence Efficiency and Effectiveness. E3 is a national programme of organisational change to ensure consistent processes and service delivery throughout England and Wales and is led by the 7 Deputy Directors in England and Wales and the Deputy Director responsible for Business Development.
- Changes will include improvements in Approved premises which will see the introduction of Psychologically Informed Enabling Environments along with dedicated Key workers for all residents who will work in partnership with Probation Officers in the Community.
- The MAPPA Website is now fully developed and in use and used regularly. Practitioners can also join the MAPPA community to share ideas with each other to manage some of the most challenging offenders in society.
- Other developments in MAPPA which will conclude going forward is a revision of MAPPA Guidance, MAPPA eligibility and a review of ViSOR which will focus on a consistent business model for NPS in the future which will maximise the use of ViSOR wherever possible.
- NPS have also introduced the Active Risk Management System in partnership with Police colleagues.
- NPS NE have provided staff with guidance on dealing with Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and this is a priority area of work for us all in identifying perpetrators and victims.

- We have also provided more training in Risk Management and will now focus training on ways of working with those convicted of sexual offences who are subject to community supervision. This will be carried out alongside the move to a Divisional Sex Offender Treatment Programme Team who will deliver all Court Orders for Sex Offender Treatment.
- In the next 12 months activity will continue to build on the E3 organisational model ensuring Excellence Efficiency and Effectiveness.

## **How Yorkshire and Humberside Prison Service works with MAPPA**

Over the past twelve months, the Prison Service in Yorkshire & Humberside has continued its commitment to working with community partners, aimed at increased protection of the public from dangerous offenders. This commitment is strongest in relation to preparing offenders for release from prison, and ensuring adequate notice and advance briefings are passed to the Police and Probation in agreed cases.

The Prison Service has begun contributing to ViSOR. In relation to serious crime, the sharing of information and intelligence between the key agencies is now agreed normal practice. Additionally, this joint approach by the key Criminal Justice Agencies has been extended to include and jointly manage extremism and counter-terrorism.

In meeting these commitments over the past year the Prison Service has supported and provided key release information on hundreds of prisoners in advance of their release back into Yorkshire & Humberside as part of an agreed and managed joint process with the community agencies.

Additionally, prison managers have made significant contributions to the strategic planning of MAPPA within Yorkshire and Humberside, contributing to joint training, business planning and clear communication to increase public confidence. Training has been continued and developed to increase the knowledge and skills of prison staff across the public protection arena, including awareness on domestic violence and abuse, extremism, and raising understanding of the joint approach to protecting the public. Prison staff have made an increased commitment to external and joint training, in particular working alongside our Police and Probation partners.

## MAPPA Case Study

AB was convicted of the rape of a female stranger and sentenced to Life Imprisonment with a minimum tariff of 11 years to serve in prison. When pleading guilty he claimed his intention had been to rob the victim in order to vent his anger over an argument with his partner. However, in the process of the robbery, AB suggested that he had become sexually aroused and decided to rape the victim. The seriousness of the offence was increased further by the fact that the victim's young child was present at the time. AB committed this offence 3 months after being released (as required by law) on licence from a 7 year sentence for another rape offence. On that occasion he claimed the offence started as a burglary but again, when he discovered the lone female victim in bed, suggested that he had become sexually aroused and then decided to commit the rape.

AB had 14 previous convictions at the time of the second rape for a range of offences including Burglary, Robbery, Thefts, Assault and an Indecent Assault of a Child when he himself was aged under 16 years. His history, poor compliance, inappropriate behaviour towards female staff and the seriousness of his offending led to the assessment that he posed a high risk of serious harm, specifically sexual and physical assault, to children, lone females, female staff in vulnerable situations and the public generally. These risks would be most significant if he were feeling aggrieved or angry about his personal circumstances, felt there was nothing positive in his life, if he became withdrawn or only associated with criminal peers or if he felt he had no support. Some of these areas were addressed by work undertaken in prison, including treatment programmes, but inevitably there would be a point whereby he would have to be tested in real situations in the community.

These factors would also be exacerbated by alcohol or drug misuse, preoccupation with sexual thoughts, breakdown in personal relationships, a lack of purpose or stability in the community and a lack of positive reinforcers such as accommodation or employment. Therefore, it was clear that, if he were to be released from prison, there would need to be a strong package of restrictive conditions that enabled him to be monitored closely over an extended period of time. Unfortunately there were barriers to putting such a package in place due to the fact that there were reasons AB could not return to his area of birth or family ties, that there were legal limits to what could be imposed and there was a need to engage with a number of agencies as to how to best manage the high risk of harm he posed.

AB was referred into MAPPA prior to a Parole Board review (10 years beyond his "tariff") and an initial Level 2 meeting was held early in 2015. Further meetings were held prior to his release a year or so later and have continued at Level 2 until the current time. In relation to the Risk Management Plan, MAPPA has helped to enable:

- Extensive in-custody work to engage AB and facilitation of assessment by various professionals including for possible personality disorder related issues that helped explain motivations for offending.
- A managed progression through the custodial element of his sentence including a move to open conditions and testing via temporary community leave to a Probation Hostel.
- MAPPA was able to ensure the correct range of agencies and departments within them were included in meetings and in the formulation of the risk assessment.
- This led to a clear and robust Risk Management Plan across the agencies involved which included:
  - An extensive list of restrictive licence conditions including residence requirements, an exclusion zone, additional curfew, non-contact with named individuals etc.
  - The highest priority of response to any indication of increased imminence of risk of re-offending.
  - An extended stay at a Probation Hostel following release from custody and additional work by Hostel staff to manage potential risks to female staff.
  - The coordination of Police activities, including direct contact and monitoring, with other agency interventions.
  - Facilitation of a voluntary agreement to be electronically "tagged" so movements could be tracked.
  - Referral to and assessment for Circles of Support and Accountability.
  - Support in AB obtaining appropriate employment which potentially reduced risks.
  - Significant input from housing in the offering and checking of suitable move-on accommodation.
  - Encouragement and monitoring of voluntary attendance at Alcoholics Anonymous.
  - Facilitation of disclosure of risk information to individuals / organisations where necessary for the protection of the public.

## **A Lay Adviser's Perspective**

**As my second term as the MAPPA Lay Adviser for West Yorkshire is about to end my reflections over the past seven years has witnessed numerous changes in both agency organisation and personnel. This being my final report I am pleased again to contribute some of my independent observations. These views are drawn from attendance at a variety of decision making meetings and in conversation with those involved in multi-agency work during the previous year.**

Lay advisers are members of the public who volunteer on a part-time basis to observe the decision making process of agencies involved in MAPPA meetings. Attendance at the MAPPA Strategic Management Board (SMB) brings an independent perspective and plays an important contribution to the discussions that explore the effectiveness of multi-agency working, reviewing and monitoring past and current initiatives relating to public protection issues, and offering a public voice.

The lay adviser role involves attending quarterly SMB meetings where the current MAPPA processes across West Yorkshire are discussed, regional and national initiatives explored and public protection themes are periodically presented by invited agencies/charities. An ability to listen and express opinions in a formal environment is fundamental to the role. These contributions are partly derived from attendance and observations at MAPPA level 2 and 3 meetings across the region throughout the year and discussions with respective agency members. Arguably by not being an employee of the Responsible Authority or belonging to a duty to co-operate agency, I am able to adopt the role of an informed observer and my contributions reflect those of a 'critical friend' at SMB meetings.

Being a 'critical friend' when attending the district-held MAPPA level 2 and 3 meetings affords me the opportunity to listen and observe how the decisions are made without interfering in the process. Discussions after these meetings with members of the Responsible Authority, allow me to be critically supportive whilst also remaining appreciative of the people who are accountable for making these important decisions.

Since the publication of the last Annual Report, I have remained mindful that the economic climate and recent political intentions continues to have significant consequences for the Responsible Authority and how each of these agencies has had to adapt to major changes. From attendance at meetings it has become evident that local and regional changes have impacted on duty to co-operate agencies. Maintaining an independent voice has continued to allow me to ask questions pertaining to public protection. There are challenges for all concerned but observations and discussions have confirmed that the ethos and standards of multi-agency working have not, as yet, been compromised and professional decision making continues to be vigilant around public protection issues.

As I am coming to the end of my second term I wish the incoming lay advisers success in their important independent roles and that they continue to offer critically friendly voices on public protection and multi-agency working.



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