

Norfolk MAPPA



Annual Report 2014/ 2015



Norfolk MAPPA

Working together to keep our communities safe

Welcome to our Annual Report 2014 – 2015. Norfolk MAPPA continues to manage the most serious sexual and violent offenders in Norfolk. We are fortunate to have the following agencies actively engaged and fully committed in our MAPPA processes:-

- Norfolk Constabulary
- National Probation Service (NPS)
- HM Prison Service
- Norfolk County Council – Children’s Service’s
- Norfolk County Council – Adult Service’s
- Norfolk & Suffolk Foundation Trust (Mental Health)
- NHS
- Job Centre Plus
- Youth Offending Team
- Housing Authorities
- Victim Support
- UKBA

There is ample evidence of a very strong and successful partnership approach to managing the risks presented by violent, sexual and potentially dangerous offenders in our Norfolk communities.

Norfolk MAPPA understands that in order to be successful we must work together and support each agency in that process. It is clear that these agencies all share a common determination with regards to protecting the public from harm. We achieve this by embracing a joint working approach where we can effectively communicate, avoid duplication and efficiently focus our resources.



Polygraph Testing for Sexual Offenders

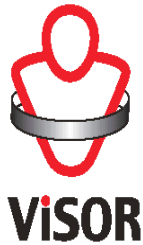


This last year has seen the introduction of “Polygraph Testing” and this has had a positive impact in relation to MAPPA offenders. When someone is being released on probation licence from custody, probation officers can apply to have “Polygraph Testing” inserted as a licence condition for certain sexual offenders released on licence.

The eligibility criteria to have such a condition added are:-

- Offenders must be on Licence
- Aged 18 or over
- Sentenced to at least 12 months custody
- Are assessed as high risk of harm and High risk of sexual reoffending

In addition, provision will be made to allow NPS discretion to propose polygraph conditions for a number of other sexual offenders who do not meet these criteria, provided the condition is both necessary and proportionate to manage the risk they pose. For example, an offender who has committed one very serious sexual offence will not score highly on RM2000, but his previous non-cooperation with reporting instructions, current behaviour/attitudes in prison and likely circumstances of his release may be considered by his Offender Manager and MAPPA contributors to put the public at very high risk of harm.

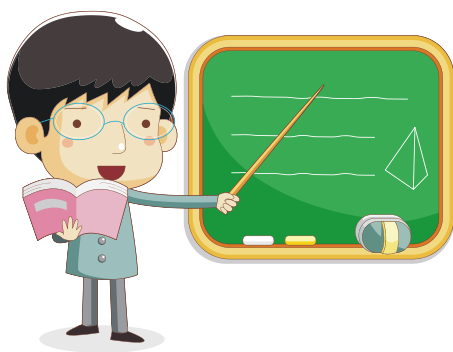


MAPPA continues to be supported by ViSOR. This is a national IT system for the management of people who pose a serious risk of harm to the public. As the three Responsible Authorities, Police, Probation and Prison, are all using the same database for managing serious sexual and violent offenders, this has improved 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, thereby enhancing public protection measures.

MAPPA Training

There is always a need to deliver good quality training in respect of MAPPA. We were fortunate this year to have delivered six separate MAPPA Training events to staff from a variety of agencies within Norfolk, as well as our MAPPA Co-ordinator delivering a session to Social Work students at the University of East Anglia. These events were very well received, with several agencies requesting follow up workshops with their individual teams. This has served to increase confidence in the MAPPA process and further engage our agencies. There are further four training events planned for February 2016 – please see our website for further details!

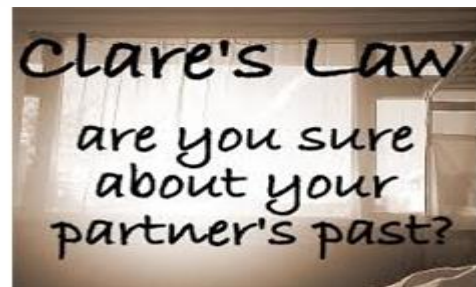


We have developed an interactive training programme for MAPPA awareness and this can be found on our website www.norfolkmappa.org.uk.

Clare's Law

People with concerns about their partner's history are able to request background information from Norfolk police.

The aim of this scheme is to provide a formal mechanism to make inquiries about your partner if you are worried that they may have been abusive in the past. If police checks show that your partner has a record of violent behaviour, or there is other information to indicate that you may be at risk from your partner, the police will consider sharing this information with you.



A disclosure under this Scheme is the sharing of specific information about your partner with either you or a third person for the purposes of protecting you from domestic violence.

- *You can make an application about your partner if you have a concern that they may harm you.*
- *Any concerned third party, such as your parent, neighbour or friend can also make an application if they are concerned about you.*
- *However, a third party person making an application would not necessarily receive information about your partner. It may be more appropriate for someone else to receive the information, such as you, or a person that is in a position to protect you from the abuse.*
- *Information will only be given to someone who is in a position to use the information to protect you from the abuse.*

How do I make an application?

- *Visit a police station.*
- *Phone **101** the non-emergency number for the police; or*
- *Speak to a member of the police on the street*

If you believe there is an immediate risk of harm to someone, or it is an emergency, you should always call 999.

Lay Advisers

We are fortunate to have sustained the engagement of two Lay Advisers who support Norfolk MAPPA.

This is a voluntary role and we are very grateful for their support and assistance. Sam Earl, one of our MAPPA Lay Advisers has written the following submission for this report:

It has been over a year since I was appointed as one of the Norfolk MAPPA Lay Advisers. During this time I have both enjoyed and found valuable the opportunity to take part in MAPPA meetings and positively influence the delivery of MAPPA in Norfolk.

Since the last annual report, it is ever more apparent that the success of MAPPA pivots on the strong, co-ordinated, multi-agency approach to ensure offender risk is managed properly in society, and that the established community are protected correctly. In the delivery of this, the role of properly funded statutory and voluntary agencies is crucial. I am increasingly concerned that the consequence of even deeper public sector cuts and rapid changes will weaken the strength and cohesiveness of those agencies tasked with the delivery of public protection and multi-agency working.

Despite the very tough financial context faced, it remains clear that Norfolk MAPPA is particularly fortunate to have Donna Monk, as Norfolk Coordinator, steering the organisation forward. Her skill and knowledge, together with all those who assist in the MAPPA process, remains a key constant throughout.

Sam Early
Norfolk MAPPA Lay Adviser

MAPPA In Action!



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Mr T is a MAPPA Category 2 offender who was managed at MAPPA Level 2.

"Tony" was referred to Norfolk MAPPA by a probation officer based in Kings Lynn approximately 6 months before he was due to be released from custody. Tony had received a 3 year custodial sentence for a serious violent assault on his partner.

Since Tony was sentenced, the victim had moved to another area and the police had provided her with a panic alarm, had flagged the case as a priority and all agencies involved in the case liaised regularly with each other. Upon release, Tony had licence conditions which meant that he had to live in Approved Premises and whilst there he was under a strict curfew and was expected to report to the Hostel every two hours. Due to the effective and timely planning that was undertaken during the MAPPA meetings that were held, Tony was able to commence on an accredited offending behaviour programme designed for male domestic abuse perpetrators. Tony was made aware that any failure to attend the programme or breach of his licence would result in an immediate recall to prison.

The victim from his offending reported to the Victim Liaison Officer that due to the safety measures the MAPPA process had put in place for her, she felt that she was able to continue with her life after he had been released.

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 Statistics

MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2015				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	829	230	-	1059
Level 2	19	14	8	41
Level 3	0	0	0	
Total	848	244	8	1100

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	45	27	13	85
Level 3	1	4	0	5
Total	46	31	13	90

RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	20
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Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders	
SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts	
SOPOs	89
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	4	6	8	18
Level 3	1	0	0	1
Total	5	6	8	19
Breach of SOPO				
Level 2	0	-	-	0
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	0	-	-	0

Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population	108
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This figure has been calculated using the mid-2014 estimated resident population, published by the Office for National Statistics on 25 June 2015, excluding those aged less than ten years of age.

Explanation commentary on statistical tables

MAPPA background

The totals of MAPPA-eligible offenders, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2015 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

(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 (96.2% this year) are actually managed under ordinary agency (Level 1) arrangements rather than via MAPP meetings.

(b) Registered Sexual Offenders (RSOs) – those who are required to notify the police of their name, address and other personal details and to notify any changes subsequently (this is known as the “notification requirement.”) Failure to comply with the notification requirement is a criminal offence which carries a maximum penalty of 5 years’ imprisonment.

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

(d) Other Dangerous Offenders – offenders who do not qualify under the other two MAPPA-eligible categories, but who currently pose a risk of serious harm which requires management via MAPP meetings.

(e) Breach of licence – offenders released into the community following a period of imprisonment of 12 months or more will be subject to a licence with conditions (under probation supervision). If these conditions are not complied with, breach action will be taken and the offender may be recalled to prison.

(f) Sexual Offences Prevention Order (SOPO) – a court may make a SOPO at the time of dealing with certain sexual offenders or when the police make a special application on account of the offender’s behaviour in the community. The full order lasts for a minimum of five years, and can last indefinitely. A SOPO will require the subject to register as a sexual offender and can include conditions, for example to prevent the offender loitering near schools or playgrounds. If the offender fails to comply with (i.e. breaches) the requirements of the order, he can be taken back to court and may be liable to up to five years’ imprisonment.

(g) Notification Order – this requires sexual offenders who have been convicted overseas to register with the police, in order to protect the public in the UK from the risks that they pose. The police may apply to the court for a notification order in relation to offenders who are already in the UK or are intending to come to the UK.

(h) Foreign Travel Orders – these prevent offenders with convictions for sexual offences against children from travelling abroad where this is necessary to protect children from the risk of sexual harm.

**All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at:
www.justice.gov.uk**