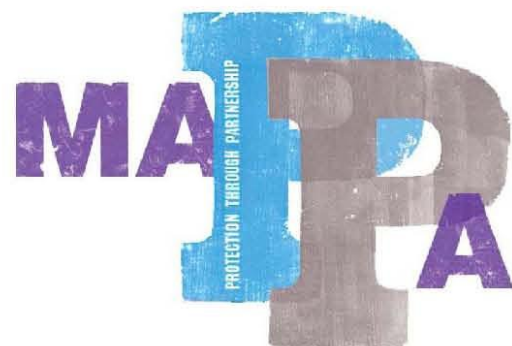


STAFFORDSHIRE



Annual Report 2015-16



Protecting People

New Service – Developments in Probation

On 1st June 2014 we saw the creation of a new National Probation Service (NPS) to manage all MAPPA-eligible offenders. The NPS is also responsible for all Court reports and the allocation of offenders to either the new National Probation Service or the Staffordshire & West Midlands Community Rehabilitation Company. This year has seen the introduction of a national change programme (E3) aiming to design and implement a new operating model for the NPS by:-

- Providing increased value for money while reducing risk
- Delivering the best possible services to offenders to achieve better outcomes
- Consistently applying best practice principles with proactive learning from experience of others
- Providing equality of opportunity for staff
- Ensuring professional standards are applied consistently

New Order to Manage Sex Offenders – What Happened Next?

In last years annual report we signaled the introduction from March 2015, of the Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO). These replace Sexual Offences Prevention Orders (SOPO) and provide a more flexible approach to protecting the public (in particular children and vulnerable adults) both inside and outside the UK. During the year 131 such orders were imposed by our courts. These are proving a useful policing instrument, enhancing the ability to achieve an individually tailored response to managing an offender in the community.

New Risk Assessment Tool – More Developments

Again last year we advised of the development of the Active Risk Management System (ARMS). This provides a framework for identifying the level of activity that needs to be in place to effectively manage the individual sex offender in the community, enhancing the opportunity for resources to be directed to where there is greatest benefit. During the year Staffordshire Police and the National Probation Service (Staffordshire) have been looking at how this assessment tool can enhance the collaborative approach to managing sex offenders. This has led to joint police and probation ARMS assessments increasingly being undertaken and it is anticipated that this will become the “norm” during 2016

Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) – Recruiting Now

A ‘Circle’ is a small group of trained and supervised volunteers who engage with an individual sex offender who has served their sentence and is now in the community. The aim is to help prevent re-offending by maintaining a focus on the relapse prevention/ new life plans of the offenders (known as “Core Members”) and by supporting them in, and holding them accountable for, carrying out their plans.

Over the last 2 years we have run 2 very successful Circles in the North and South of Staffordshire. This has involved recruiting and training some 11 volunteers from a diverse range of back grounds to work with a Registered Sex Offender living in the community. The 2 core members we supported over this period continue to do well and to date have remained settled in their local communities.

For 2016-17 we have a new Staffordshire coordinator in post Jason Leake and are looking to start another Circle in the near future. So if you know anyone who would like to train to become one of our volunteers then please get in touch with myself SDavies@lucyfaithfull.org.uk or Jason (at Staffordshire MAPPA jason.leake@probation.gsi.gov.uk)

Views From the Shop Floor

Working With The Victim

I am a Victim Liaison Officer based in the Victim Liaison Unit in Staffordshire. We work to ensure that the Victim's wellbeing is at the heart of any planning around managing the risk an offender may pose. I liaise with Staffordshire MAPPA Unit regularly via telephone, e-mail and in person when attending Level 2 and 3 Panels.

During the last year my contact with MAPPA has included case discussions with the MAPPA Unit when cases have been referred from Offender Managers /Hospitals; attendance at MAPPA Panels; and advice being provided by the MAPPA Unit on specific case issues.

Victim Liaison Unit engagement with MAPPA has been positive and in my view, successful. The MAPPA Unit always provide the Victim Liaison Unit with the opportunity to discuss cases both pre and post referral and when at panel. This provides us with the opportunity to share the concerns and views of the victim(s) in a confidential environment, which contributes to the risk management of the offender as well as the safeguarding of the victim(s). In addition to this, MAPPA also provides the Victim Liaison Unit with vital links with other agencies, for example the Police, who's input can be required in working with victims.

In my experience, Victim Liaison Unit involvement in MAPPA results in cases being explored thoroughly with support and guidance provided accordingly.

S.W. – Victim liaison Officer – NPS (Staffordshire)

Working To Protect The Community

I have been working in Staffordshire for eight years and have seen at first hand, the positive working relationships forged under Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements involving a range of agencies including the Probation Service and Staffordshire Police, to encourage the effective management of sexual and violent offenders. This does not just include the Level 2 and 3 panels in which agencies meet in order to share information and contribute to plans to manage and address the risks posed by offenders, but also the management of Level 1 cases, to ensure that all agencies are aware of appropriate information and can contribute to the protection of the public. I have confidence in the MAPPA process in Staffordshire to assist me when necessary and I know that all contributing agencies are committed to it's effectiveness. I know that I always have access to colleagues within the MAPPA unit for advice and support and can think of several occasions where I have used their knowledge and experience to support me in the management of my cases.

D.N. - Offender Manager – National Probation Service (Staffordshire)

Notes From A Retiring Lay Advisor

After seven years as Lay Advisor to the Staffordshire Strategic Management Board, now at last I feel confident in challenging and advising any of the Responsible Authority services (Police, Probation and Prison) and the several Duty to Co-operate agencies. I have reached this status through having received the education from many courses and seminars and had practical experience of participating in various committees, case audits and panel meetings over this period. So, the time has arrived when I am obliged to stand down. I think the theory for limiting the Lay Advisor appointment time is based on the fear that after seven years Lay Advisors become 'house-trained'. I have yet to meet one who is.

What is true is that we grow mightily in appreciation of the dedication, selflessness and sheer hard work of every one of the people involved in the process of formulating, actioning and monitoring the arrangements made to protect we, the public, from those who have done or may do harm in future. No system is perfect. The MAPPA net will never catch all but, in my experience, it is at all times as good as it could be whilst always in a state of challenging itself and improving its processes.

I have sat on several panels where the ingenuity and inventiveness that is put into effect to maximise the attention given to a subject is astounding. None should be in any doubt that panels are ever any less than thorough. Panels remain the critical success factor in MAPPA – the thing that must be carried out extremely well for the whole to succeed.

So, what do I think I have done to contribute? I have endeavoured to question how and why decisions or recommendations have been made if they are not clear (to me). I have on occasion complained that I did not believe the public was being protected by some arrangements – changes were made. I have enjoyed my time in the role. I have always been treated with courtesy and never patronised. I am grateful for the time given me and for the understanding of what it was I tried to do when sometimes I wondered myself what it was.

Finally, I say farewell to all I have criticised, upset, and argued with who are the same ones I have and continue to admire.

M.S. –Lay Advisor

(Interested in being a Lay Advisor? Staffordshire MAPPA are recruiting during the autumn of 2016.)

The View From The Chair



Having recently arrived in Staffordshire Police, I am pleased to take up the position as the Chair of the MAPPAs Strategic Management Board. I am a strong advocate for developing effective

relationships and partnerships in order to work together and share relevant information, if we are to make an impact on changing lives and protecting the public. But behind the effective implementation of that aspiration lies a set of complex relationships, individual agency responsibilities, and competing demands, that can unintentionally frustrate or inhibit such an approach. I want therefore to see the MAPPAs process continue to explore ways of encouraging efficient and effective cross agency strategies to enhance public protection. If those approaches also have the potential to allow us to target resources more cost effectively as well as improve practice (such as in the development of joint ARMS assessments referenced earlier in this report) then so much the better.

All agencies are having to look at how to work within reduced budgets. However, Staffordshire MAPPAs SMB (and the many agencies represented on the Board) is committed to making sure that the protection of the public remains the priority. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues across Staffordshire to keep up the commitment of all agencies in this endeavour, as demonstrated over the years.

**Assistant Chief Constable Emma Barnett
Staffordshire 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 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

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	989	298	-	1287
Level 2	13	2	1	16
Level 3	0	0	0	0
Total	1002	300	1	1303

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	27	12	1	40
Level 3	4	0	1	5
Total	31	12	2	45

RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	29
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RSOs who have had their life time notification revoked on application	3
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Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders	
SHPOs, SHPOs with foreign travel restriction & NOs imposed by the courts	
SHPO	131
SHPO with foreign travel restriction	0
NOs	0

Number of people who became subject to notification requirements following a breach(es) of a Sexual Risk Order (SRO)	0
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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	7	5	2	14
Level 3	1	0	0	1
Total	8	5	2	15
Breach of SOPO				
Level 2	1	-	-	1
Level 3	1	-	-	1
Total	2	-	-	2

Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population	102
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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 xxxxxxxx, 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 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>

Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements in Staffordshire

MAPPA Co-ordination Unit

MASH
Lindum House
Stone
ST15 0SD
(Postal Address – Staffs Police HQ, PO Box 3167,
Stafford ST16 9JZ)

Violent and Sexual Offender Management Unit

MASH
Lindum House
Stone
(Postal Address – Staffs Police HQ, POBox 3167,
Stafford ST16 9JZ)

Tel: 0300 123 4455
www.staffordshire.police.uk

National Probation Service (Staffordshire)

Stafford office
South Walls
Stafford ST16 3BL

Stoke teams
Melbourne House, Etruria Office Village
Forge Lane, Festival Park
Hanley
Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5RQ

Leek office
Cross Street
Leek ST13 6BL

Burton-on-Trent office
Horninglow Street,
Burton-on-Trent DE14 1PH

Tamworth office
Moor Street
Tamworth B79 7QZ

Cannock office
200A Wolverhampton Road
Cannock SW11 1AT

South Staffordshire Criminal Justice Mental Health
Team

Marston House, St George's Hospital
Corporation Street
Stafford ST16 3AG

North Staffordshire Criminal Justice Mental Health
Team
Upper Huntbach St
Hanley
ST1 2BX

Youth Offending Teams

South West Staffs
Staffordshire South West YOT
Anson House
Lamascote Rd
Stafford
ST16 3TA

South East Staffs
The Old House
Eastern Avenue
Lichfield
WS13 7SQ

North Staffs
Seabridge Community Centre
Seabridge Park
Ashway
Westlands
Newcastle
ST5 3UB

Stoke-on-Trent Youth Offending Service
Liberty House
Marsden Street
Hanley
Stoke-on-Trent
ST1 2BW

Her Majesty's Prison Service

www.gov.uk

Victim Support

www.victimsupport.org.uk

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

www.gov.uk

