



Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements

# GWENT



# Annual Report



# Intro

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We are pleased to introduce the 2019/20 MAPPA Annual Report for the Gwent Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Management Board. Please note, we have published the statistics for 2019/20 later than usual as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic delaying access to data during lockdown.

2020 has been a year of great challenge following the breakout of the COVID-19 global pandemic. It has impacted upon many organisations and has consequently led to changes in the way services are conducted. However, during these unprecedented times, the effectiveness of MAPPA has not been impacted. This is due to the commitment from all organisations involved in ensuring that public protection is our utmost priority to keep our communities safe.

This report outlines the work the Strategic Management Board has undertaken to improve the effectiveness of MAPPA during the year in managing violent and sexual offenders to both reduce reoffending and protect the public. It also offers the opportunity for us to demonstrate our accountability to the local communities we serve.

Protecting the public is essential to the MAPPA Responsible Authority (Police, Prison and National Probation Service) and everything we do is focused on ensuring the continued safety of our communities. This is supported by the valued contribution of the Duty to Co-operate and other agencies. Sexual and violent offending forms a small percentage of the crimes dealt with by the four constabularies across Wales. However, the devastating impact these incidents have on both victims and communities is huge. Members of the public can be assured, through this report, that work continues 24 hours a day, seven days a week to protect the communities we live in.

It is never possible to eliminate entirely the risks posed by serious offenders. However, what can be expected is that all reasonable steps have been taken to reduce the risk of serious harm to

the public from known offenders and promote rehabilitation.

Therefore, this report not only contains statistical information about those who are managed under MAPPA during the last business year, but it also provides information about how these arrangements work in practice locally.

The Strategic Management Board's achievements reflect the significant contributions made by all agencies involved in MAPPA across Gwent and we would like to thank all our partners who have contributed to these arrangements over the last year. The breadth of experience and expertise in managing MAPPA cases is exceptional and there is no doubt of the commitment agencies demonstrate to achieve the highest of standards. We also trust that this report illustrates the commitment and professionalism of our staff whose demanding and complex work rarely receives public attention. Their dedication is key to ensuring our communities remain safe.

In recommending this report to you, we hope it provides a valuable insight into our work and offers reassurance that public protection and the needs of victims remain our highest priorities.



**Nicola Davies**  
**Wales Divisional Director**  
**National Probation Service**

# What is MAPPA?

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## MAPPA background

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.

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.

A number of other agencies are under a Duty to Co-operate (DTC) with the Responsible Authority. These include Social Services, Health Services, Youth Offending Teams, Jobcentre Plus and Local Housing and Education Authorities.

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 DTC agencies.

Lay Advisers are members of the public appointed by the Minister with no links to the business of managing MAPPA offenders who 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 between agencies to inform the risk assessments and risk management plans of those managing or supervising them.

That is as far as MAPPA extend in the majority of cases, but some cases require structured multi-agency management. 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** – mainly violent offenders sentenced to 12 months or more imprisonment or a hospital order; 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 levels of management to ensure that resources are focused where they are most needed; generally those presenting the higher risks of serious harm.

- **Level 1** is where the offender is managed by the lead agency with information exchange and multi-agency support as required but without formal MAPPA meetings;
- **Level 2** is where formal MAPPA meetings are required to manage the offender.
- **Level 3** is where risk management plans require the attendance and commitment of resources at a senior level at MAPPA meetings.

MAPPA are supported by ViSOR. This is a national IT system to assist in the management of offenders who pose a serious risk of harm to the public. The use of ViSOR increases the ability to share intelligence across organisations and enable the safe transfer of key information when high risk offenders move, enhancing public protection measures. ViSOR allows staff from the Police, Probation and Prison Services to work on the same IT system for the first time, improving the quality and timeliness of risk assessments and interventions to prevent offending.

All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

# MAPPA Statistics

<b>MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2020</b>				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	763	319	-	1082
Level 2	21	60	3	84
Level 3	1	2	3	6
Total	785	381	6	1172

<b>MAPPA-eligible offenders in Levels 2 and 3 by category (yearly total)</b>				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 2	23	89	5	117
Level 3	1	3	0	4
Total	24	92	5	121

<b>RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements</b>	14
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<b>RSOs who have had their life time notification revoked on application</b>	3
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<b>Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders</b>	
<b>SHPOs, SHPOs with foreign travel restriction &amp; NOs imposed by the courts</b>	
SHPO	37
SHPO with foreign travel restriction	0
NOs	0

<b>Number of people who became subject to notification requirements following a breach(es) of a Sexual Risk Order (SRO)</b>	0
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<b>Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody</b>				
	<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	6	13	4	23
Level 3	1	0	0	1
Total	7	13	4	24
<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>	149
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This figure has been calculated using the Mid-2019 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, excluding those aged less than ten years of age.

(Please note we have published the statistics for 2019/20 later than usual as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic delaying access to data during lockdown)

# 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 2020 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

**(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 are actually managed at Level 1 without formal MAPPA meetings. These figures only include those MAPPA eligible offenders living in the community. They do not include those in prison or detained under the Mental Health Act.

**(b) Registered Sexual Offenders (RSOs)** – those who are required to notify the police of their name, address and other personal details and to notify of any subsequent changes (this is known as the “notification requirement.”) These offenders are assessed and managed by the police. They may also be managed by probation or health services if they are subject to licence or a hospital order. Failure to comply with the notification requirement is a criminal offence that 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. These offenders are assessed and managed by the National Probation Service, Youth Offending Team or Mental Health Services.

**(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 MAPPA

meetings. These offenders are assessed and managed by whichever agency has the primary responsibility for them.

**(e) Breach of licence** – offenders released into the community following a period of imprisonment 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) (including any additional foreign travel restriction).** Sexual Harm Prevention Orders (SHPOs) and interim SHPOs replaced Sexual Offence Prevention Orders. They 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. They require 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 (including 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 committed 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, including 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 full notification requirements.

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

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

A legal challenge in 2010 and a corresponding legislative response means there is now a mechanism in place that allows qualifying sex offenders to apply for a review of their notification requirements. Persons do not come off the register automatically. Qualifying offenders may submit an application to the police to

review their indefinite notification requirements. The police review the application and decide whether to revoke the notification requirements. This decision is made at the rank of Superintendent. Those who continue to pose a significant risk will remain on the register for life, if necessary.

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



# Local page

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## Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) and Gwent Police:

**Amanda Lewis**, Head of Gwent Probation Delivery Unit – Probation  
**Giles Mason**, Governor, HMP Usk and HMP/YOI Prescoed and Cilwrgi Farm Training Centre

**Ian Roberts**, Assistant Chief Constable, Gwent Police

The Gwent MAPPAs Strategy Management Board's (SMB) vision of ensuring offenders are managed at the right level with the appropriate amount of resources underpins the work of the Multi Agency Public Protection Panels (MAPPAs) throughout the Probation Delivery Unit (PDU). The MAPPAs are jointly chaired by the Probation and the Police, and each MAPPAs Chair ensures the inclusion of the Responsible Authorities (RA)/ Duty to Co-operate (DTC) agencies in order to establish a robust risk management plan and co-working approach in managing offending behaviour and with the screening of cases discussed during a MAPPAs meeting.

There is a mutual respect and understanding between the RAs and DTCs about the challenges experienced by each agency, especially housing, which has created a more responsive relationship and resources being utilised in a more cost effective and risk-appropriate manner.

Senior representatives from agencies involved in managing/ supporting offenders are invited to SMB meetings to present their organisation's aims and objectives and demonstrate how their input feeds into risk management plan. This in turn increases the range of available resources to encourage desistance and victim safety.

Gwent's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) indicates positive attendance of all relevant agencies at MAPPAs meetings and is reflective of how the MAPPAs ethos enables the management of offenders and the protection of the public. This is demonstrated by the commitment of partners to attend meetings, which are sometimes called at short notice, to ensure there is a robust risk management plan in place. The KPIs also indicate the responsive nature of cases referred and scheduled for MAPPAs meetings.

The Gwent MAPPAs unit is managed by the Wales Public Protection and Approved Premises (PPAP) Team and is based within Gwent Probation, which ensures open communication and consistency of practice.

As the lead agency, Gwent Probation, govern and co-ordinate the management of all offender management processes as well as MAPPAs cases. This enables an effective and cohesive approach to the identification and management of risk, to reduce reoffending, protect the public and safeguard victims.

Gwent Probation is consistently striving to improve the service provisions and develop practices that complement the MAPPAs arrangements, like the introduction of a single point of contact for the transition of MAPPAs cases throughout England and Wales. There are also some exceptional cases that are no longer under statutory management of Probation and are solely managed by the Police. When these cases are identified as requiring additional management, Gwent Probation continue to provide voluntary supervision for those offenders within the community, thus providing ongoing support, monitoring and liaison with the appropriate agencies.

The Management of Sexual and Violent offender officers (MOSOVOs) is managed by the Police Public Protection Unit (PPU) which is closely supported by other policing teams. These include the Digital Media and Cybercrime Investigators, who can scrutinise and monitor the use by offenders of telecommunications and the internet. Targeting teams are often deployed to enhance the work of MOSOVOs to ensure compliance with restrictive orders, while the Neighbourhood policing teams play an important role in supporting the work of specialist staff from all agencies within MAPPAs. This has

resulted in many successful outcomes, both in deterring further offending and in identifying and addressing breaches of restrictive orders and notification requirements.

Gwent Probation and the Police continues to work effectively with partners and remains committed to the effective management of MAPPA to reduce the risks posed within the community.

HMPPS Prisons in Wales are also integral to the management of offenders in custody and contribute to the risk management plans of offenders being released into the community, to ensure continuity of interventions and sharing of information.

COVID 19 has presented many challenges in relation to the imposed restrictions to contain the spread of the virus, however in Gwent and across Wales special measures have been implemented including the use of technology to ensure the MAPPA arrangements continue to be undertaken.

Evidence of continual improvements are set out in our MAPPA Annual Strategic Plan. Sharing good practice throughout Gwent and across Wales ensures local communities and the wider criminal justice system have confidence in MAPPA and Public Protection work. We look forward to building on this further in 2020/2021.

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

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