

HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

Annual Report 2023-24





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INTRODUCTION



Linda Pickering
Chair of Strategic Management Board
and Head of Public Protection, South
Central Division, Probation Service



Paul BartolomeoAssistant Chief Constable,
Hampshire Constabulary



James BourkeGovernor, HMP Winchester

As the Hampshire Strategic
Management Board (SMB) chair, I
am pleased to present the annual
report covering the period 202324 on behalf of the SMB.

This provides the annual statistics for the area and details how the three Responsible Authorities of Prison, Probation and Police and the Duty to Cooperate agencies have worked together to fulfil the statutory duties under MAPPA with a strong focus on public protection and keeping communities safe.

Hampshire MAPPA SMB continue to work together to ensure key priorities for our area are developed and there are clear delivery outcomes and oversight. We have used our SMB meetings productively to develop a shared understanding of business priorities and also to understand more about how each agency contributes to the effectiveness of MAPPA. We continue to provide assurance around processes, practice and learning. We look at ways we can continue to demonstrate quality and effectiveness or better ways of doing things and to provide robust governance in accordance with national guidance and in collaboration with each other. We have utilised a nationally developed SMB self assessment tool to support development and also to highlight what we do well as a Board so we can build on this.

Whilst it is not possible to eradicate risk entirely, by working together to identify and risk assess, provide robust risk management and by sharing information in a timely manner, we can evidence that all reasonable steps have be taken to reduce the risk of serious harm and protect victims. We continue to make good use of national guidance and tools to support effectiveness.

Our main business priorities have focussed on several main areas. We are endeavouring to improve the use of the Violent and Sexual Offenders Register (VISOR) as the database that supports MAPPA work and facilitates effective sharing of information between the three MAPPA Responsible Authorities and substantial progress is being made. We also want to ensure that there is clear oversight of cases managed at Level 1 and that there are appropriate arrangements in place to review and manage such cases in a coordinated way.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

It is also important that there is continued commitment to learning from MAPPA Serious Care Reviews by implementing recommendations and ensuring these are followed through and learning is embedded especially when practice has needed to change.

Whilst these priorities are carried forward to our new business plan, we have identified other areas we also wish to concentrate on. This includes incorporating a revised national quality assurance tool to our existing SMB auditing schedule and also looking at the quality of MAPPA chairing to develop consistency and to support chairing arrangements.

I would also like to give thanks to our outgoing MAPPA Co-Ordinator, Robbie Turkington and to welcome our new MAPPA Co-Ordinator, Joanne Bridgeman who has recently taken up post. Their commitment to the operational aspect of coordinating MAPPA and supporting the SMB is worthy of mention.

In reflecting on my time as SMB chair, I have also been impressed by the role of the Lay Advisors, Claire Cox and Jo Ash within MAPPA. Their independent role is to represent the public and they contribute to MAPPA by observing meetings, supporting audit activity, asking questions and providing an overview to the SMB to support the

effectiveness of how we operate. Our lay advisors bring experience, knowledge, commitment and drive to this very important role and it is much appreciated by the SMB.

On behalf of the SMB, I would like to end by thanking all of our partners and colleagues who are involved in MAPPA, both at the strategic level and the frontline professionals. The expertise, engagement and contribution of everyone involved in managing MAPPA cases continues to demonstrate a strong and robust approach to public protection with an overwhelming commitment from all and a collective voice in the crucial role they play. I would also like to add that the SMB will continue to strive to ensure MAPPA plays an integral part in keeping our communities safe through effectiveness and oversight of the work undertaken.

Linda Pickering

Chair of Strategic Management Board
South Central Probation Head of Public Protection



WHAT IS MAPPA?

MAPPA background

MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) are a set of arrangements to manage the risk posed by individuals who have committed the most serious sexual, violent and terrorist offences (MAPPA-eligible individuals) 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 Cooperate (DTC) with the Responsible Authority. These include Social Services, Health Services, Youth Offending Teams, Department for Work and Pensions and Local Housing and Education Authorities.

Local Strategic Management Boards (SMB) comprising senior representatives from each of the Responsible Authority and DTC agencies are responsible for delivering MAPPA within their respective areas.

The Responsible Authority is also required to appoint two Lay Advisers to sit on each MAPPA SMB.

Lay Advisers are members of the public appointed by the Minister with no links to the business of managing MAPPA eligible individuals 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 individuals 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 more senior oversight and structured multi-agency management. In such cases there will be regular MAPPA meetings attended by relevant agency practitioners.

There are 4 categories of MAPPA-eligible individual:

Category 1 – subject to sex offender notification requirements;

Category 2 – mainly violent offenders sentenced to 12 months or more imprisonment or a hospital order;

Category 3 – individuals who do not qualify under Categories 1, 2 or 4 but whose offences pose a risk of serious harm.

Category 4 – terrorism convicted and terrorism risk individuals

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 individual 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 individual.

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 individuals who pose a serious risk of harm to the public.



The use of ViSOR increases the ability to share intelligence across organisations and enables the safe transfer of key information when high risk individuals move between areas, enhancing public protection measures. ViSOR allows staff from the Police, Probation and Prison Services to work on the same IT system, improving the quality and timeliness of risk assessments and interventions to prevent offending.

MAPPA and Terrorism

The government published an Independent Review of the MAPPA used to Supervise Terrorism and Terrorism risk individuals on 2 September 2020 and published its response on 9 December. Both documents are available at

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ multi-agency-public-protection-arrangements-review. The report made a number of recommendations, the majority of which have been implemented, including via the Counter-Terrorism and Sentencing Act 2021 and the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. The Secretary of State has also revised the statutory MAPPA Guidance on terrorism offenders.

The Probation Service, via its National Security Division, has created a specialist dedicated and highly skilled workforce, which provides an enhanced level of management and intervention for the most high-risk, complex and high-profile individuals in the community. This includes the management of terrorist connected and terrorist risk offenders. The NSD and Counter-Terrorism Policing work closely with local SMBs to ensure the robust management of terrorism cases. Data on Category 4 individuals is not included in this report due to data protection issues related to low numbers. This data will be aggregated and published nationally.

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

MAPPA STATISTICS

MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2024

	CATEGORY 1: Subject to sex offender notification requirements	CATEGORY 2: Violent offenders	CATEGORY 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	2333	448	-	2781
Level 2	18	11	16	45
Level 3	1	2	3	6
Total	2352	461	19	2832

MAPPA-eligible offenders in Levels 2 and 3 by category (yearly total)

	CATEGORY 1: Subject to sex offender notification requirements	CATEGORY 2: Violent offenders	CATEGORY 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 2	48	46	32	126
Level 3	3	6	7	16
Total	51	52	39	142

Notification Requirements

Category 1 cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	Category 1 who have had their lifetime notification revoked on application
59	13

Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders

SEXUAL HARM PREVENTION ORDERS AND NOTIFICATION ORDERS IMPOSED BY THE COURTS

Sexual Harm Prevention Orders (SHPOs) and Notification	Orders (NOs) imposed by the courts
Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPOs)	253
SHPOs with foreign travel restriction	0
Notification Order (NOs)	4

People subject to notification requirements for breach of a Sexual Risk Order (SRO)

Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody

BREACH OF LICENCE

	CATEGORY 1: Subject to notification requirements	CATEGORY 2: Violent offenders	CATEGORY 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 2	13	18	12	43
Level 3	1	1	1	3
Total	14	19	13	46

BREACH OF SOPO/SHPO

CATEGORY 1: Registered sex offenders		
Level 2	2	
Level 3	0	
Total	2	

Total number of Registered Sex Offenders per 100,000 population 130

This figure has been calculated using the mid-2022 estimated resident population, published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 21 December 2022, excluding those aged less than ten years of age. Consistent with previous publications, this figure should be based on mid-2023 estimated resident population; however, the ONS has changed its publication schedule such that the mid-2023 estimates will be published later this year. As such, the current figure may differ from the corresponding figure based on the mid-2023 estimates.

MAPPA background

The totals of MAPPA-eligible individuals, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2024 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

(a) MAPPA-eligible offenders – there are individuals defined in law as eligible for MAPPA management because they have committed specified sexual, violent or terrorist offences or they currently pose a risk of serious harm. The majority are managed at Level 1 without formal MAPPA meetings. These figures only include those MAPPA eligible individuals living in the community. They do not include those in prison or detained under the Mental Health Act.

(b) Subject to Sex Offender Notification Requirements

– 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 individuals 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** individuals convicted of violent offences who were sentenced to imprisonment or detention for 12 months or more, or detained under a hospital order and a small number of individuals convicted of sexual offences who are not subject to notification requirements. These individuals are assessed and managed by the Probation Service, Youth Offending Team or Mental Health Services.
- (d) Other Dangerous Offenders individuals who do not qualify under the other MAPPA-eligible categories, but have committed an offence that indicates that they pose a risk of serious harm which requires management via MAPPA meetings. These individuals are assessed and managed by whichever agency has the primary responsibility for them.
- **(e) Terrorism and Terrorism Risk Offenders** individuals subject to terrorism offender notification requirements; individuals convicted of terrorism or terrorism related offences who were sentenced to imprisonment or detention for 12 months or more, or detained under a hospital order; and those who have committed an

offence and may be at risk of involvement in terrorismrelated activity. These individuals are assessed and managed by Counter-Terrorism Police and the National Security Division of the Probation Service.

(f) Breach of licence – individuals released into the community following a period of imprisonment will be subject to a licence with conditions (under probation supervision). If the individual does not comply with these conditions, the Probation Service will take breach action and the individual may be recalled to prison.

(g) Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO) (including any additional foreign travel restriction) – Sexual Harm

Prevention Orders (SHPOs) and interim SHPOs replaced Sexual Offence Prevention Orders are intended to protect the public from individuals convicted of a sexual or violent offence who pose a risk of sexual harm to the public by placing restrictions and/or positive obligations on their behaviour. They require the individual 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 on the balance of probability 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 individual. In the case of an order made on a free standing application by a Chief Officer, the National Crime Agency (NCA), British Transport Police (BTP) or the Ministry of Defence Police (MODP), the chief officer/NCA/BTP/MODP must be able to show that the individual has acted in a way since their conviction that makes 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.

(h)Notification Order – this requires individuals convicted of qualifying sexual offences overseas to register with the police, in order to protect the public in the UK from the risks that they pose. The police in England and Wales may issue a notification order directly to an offender who is already in the UK or who is intending to come to the UK who has to notify within three days of receipt. Individuals have a right of appeal against notification.

(i) 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, NCA, BTP or MODP 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.

An SRO may prohibit the person from doing anything described in it, including travel overseas, or place positive obligations upon them. Any prohibition and/or obligation 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.

An 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 an 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 an SRO are recorded on VISOR as a Potentially Dangerous Person (PDP).

(j) Lifetime notification requirements revoked on application – Qualifying individuals 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 subject to notification requirements 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.

HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT MAPPA

Multi Agency Public Protection
Arrangements (MAPPA) in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are overseen by the Strategic Management Board (SMB).
Through the SMB, MAPPA Responsible Authorities, namely the Police and His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, engage with key partners from Children and Adults safeguarding, Youth Offending, Health, Department of Work and Pensions and Housing to ensure effective and efficient arrangements are in place to protect the public

The SMB is supported by two subgroups, a Delivery subgroup responsible for implementing changes and achieving business objectives, and a Quality subgroup that audits practice and makes recommendations that would improve outcomes. The Quality subgroup has continued to focus on reviewing learning opportunities when further offences are committed by persons subject to MAPPA. One Serious Case Review was commissioned late within the last reporting year for which the Action Plan will now be formulated. This will therefore be addressed within the current reporting year and reflected upon within the 202425 Annual Report.

This year there has been a focus on ensuring that MAPPA meetings are consistently supported by appropriate representation from Responsible Authorities and Duty to Cooperate agencies. The SMB, supported by the Delivery Subgroup, has worked with key agencies to identify representatives from their organisations to be Specific Points of Contact and for attendance at MAPPA level 2 and 3 meetings where a representative from the agency concerned is not otherwise available. This has supported with ensuring that MAPPA meetings are informed by appropriate knowledge and expertise at each meeting to support risk management.

The Quality Improvement Tool has also been provided by the National MAPPA team and we have trialled this. This tool is designed to provide the SMB with a mechanism to measure quality of practice of MAPPA management at Level 2 and 3 cases only. Going forwards we will be reviewing how best to use this as part of ongoing quality assurance and improvement work.

The SMB has completed a self-evaluation to ensure that the governance structure and activities undertaken are as effective as possible. From this, an action plan has been devised to address areas for development. Focuses include reviewing the schedule of training offered, taking account of the move to online events, linking in our Lay Advisors with Lay Advisors from other areas which will support them in role and in sharing their respective experiences. Additionally, learning from Serious Case Reviews will be reviewed to understand any themes through liaison with the National MAPPA team; going forwards this will support with targeting key themes.



The Probation Service Victims Unit supports victims of serious offences where significant sentences have been imposed and they also work with discretionary cases where required, to ensure the most vulnerable victims are still cared for. Their role includes contacting victims and helping them understand the criminal justice process as well as ensuring their views are taken account through the management of an offender's sentence. A 'day in the life' of a Victim Liaison Officer is provided below to provide a flavour of what a typical day may entail:

"Today is going to be a busy day. I need to be at a victim's home by 10 to help her link in with the Parole Board hearing taking place. She wants to read her Victim Personal Statement directly to the Board and to the offender himself so that he can clearly see the impact of his offence. She and I sat down together a month or so ago to put together her report so that she could find the language to adequately express her views and request necessary licence conditions should he be released.

Before I leave to get to the visit I log on to my computer and find an email sent over night with what looks like photographic evidence of an offender inside his exclusion zone! I have to leave soon, but quickly email them back to acknowledge receipt and ask permission to forward the photograph to his Probation Practitioner and to the Police so that they can check the image and discuss what action to take. Luckily, she emails me back quickly agreeing, so I send it on, saying I'll check in with them this afternoon regarding next steps.

I arrive at the victim's home and set up the laptop. The Parole Board greets us, but explains they've, at last minute, had to adjourn the hearing. They kindly offer her to read the statements at this time to save her the trouble of coming back, which she does, although I suspect we might be doing it again when they re-set the hearing date.

Back to a desk, so check in regarding the photograph. Not only are the Probation Practitioner and Police 99% sure it's not him, but the staffed accommodation where he is currently living confirm that he was in a meeting with them at the time the photo was taken. Victim is relieved!

So, this afternoon I have an offender being released, I need to call the victim to confirm his release and his arrival at the staffed accommodation out of area – I can't do that till I get the confirmation through. 2 letters to victims to remind them of the end of someone's licence and therefore licence conditions. Confirmation comes through from the Probation Practitioner that the release has arrived when and where expected so call made.

Tomorrow morning I have an initial call to make, the offender only sentenced 4 weeks ago, so a little more prep work to do before I make that call. Need to make sure I can adequately explain an Extended Determinate Sentence and check the release dates provided are accurate. I also begin the report before I make the call so that the information is fresh in my head. The Independent Domestic Violence Advocate has got back to me, the prison offender manager has updated me, and I've gathered what info I may need on counselling or support... ready to go tomorrow."



Police Spotlight

Use of Validated Automated Screening Technology (VAST) by the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police MOSOVO Team

The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police MOSOVO (Management of Sexual or Violent Offenders) team has recently integrated a new tool into its offender management strategy: the Validated Automated Screening Technology (VAST).

VAST is an integrity screening system that incorporates scientifically validated elements from polygraph technology to assist in the risk assessment of managed sex offenders.

This tool is now available to all MOSOVO trained officers across the two counties enabling regular use in our operations.



Application of VAST in Offender Management

Our team is using the VAST machine in several key scenarios:

- 1. Annual ARMS Assessments: Offenders are asked to participate in a VAST assessment during their annual Active Risk Management System (ARMS) evaluations to provide additional insights into their risk level.
- 2. Internal Notification Requests (INR): When offenders request an Internal Notification Review, we use VAST to support their application process, ensuring a more comprehensive understanding of their current risk.
- 3. Reducing Management Levels: In cases where a reduction in management level is being considered, VAST is utilised to assess whether the offender meets the criteria for such changes, contributing to informed decision-making.
- 4. Post-Custody Release: Upon release from custody, offenders undergo a VAST assessment to help determine their risk level and the appropriate management strategy moving forward.
- 5. Legal Integration and Conditional Requirements: We are in discussions with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and Judiciary to propose incorporating VAST assessments into Sexual Harm Prevention Orders (SHPO) and Sexual Risk Orders (SRO). Meetings have been scheduled to demonstrate the benefits of this approach. Additionally, we are exploring the possibility of including VAST as a condition in conditional cautions.

Progress and Future Plans

To date, the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police MOSOVO team has conducted a number of VAST assessments, and we are actively working to increase these screening tests. The early results have been promising, showing potential to enhance our risk assessment capabilities and support more informed management decisions.

As we continue to integrate VAST into our operations, we anticipate further benefits in effectively managing offenders, ensuring public safety, and supporting the rehabilitation of those under our supervision.

We are committed to maintaining a high standard of practice in our offender management strategy, and VAST

represents a significant step forward in achieving this goal. We look forward to sharing more detailed outcomes and insights in future reports.

By incorporating VAST into our daily operations, the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police MOSOVO team remains at the forefront of offender management practices, leveraging cutting-edge technology to enhance our effectiveness in protecting the community.

MAPPA Lay Advisers

The two Hampshire and IoW MAPPA Lay Advisor members are local volunteers, appointed by the Secretary of State to the Strategic Management Board (SMB). Their role is to help reflect public views, provide independent scrutiny, and review and monitor the effectiveness of MAPPA processes in protecting the public.

Our role is not to become experts, but to bring a strong and impartial community perspective, which is often described as being a 'critical friend' to the lead MAPPA agencies (Probation, Police and Prisons services) as well as to the wider Duty to Co-operate (DtC) agencies (including Local Authority Adult and Children services, Housing, NHS especially mental health and substance misuse services, DWP and wider voluntary support services).

From our previous backgrounds - as a retired Charity Chief Executive and retired GP - we bring our community knowledge and multi-agency partnership experience and we can pose questions which the professionals, who are operationally closely involved, might not have considered.

In doing so, we aim to both support or challenge where appropriate, to help ensure effective partnership working and that robust risk management plans are developed which protect the public and help minimise potential risk and harm from, or to, serious offenders released and managed in community settings.

As we are now into our third year of appointment, we are both well settled into our roles. We are more familiar with the extensive range of criminal justice system (CJS) acronyms and the diverse organisational structures of the partner agencies. We have learnt about the different MAPPA categories and levels of management, as well as the processes and procedures involved. We now feel confident to articulate our views on the MAPPA arrangements both at strategic and operational levels - including how MAPPA operates within the wider political and social policy framework, especially in view of the stretched resourcing across all public services. We have recently been briefed on the local implications of the national changes to determinate sentences, required because of prison capacity issues and overcrowding. Proactive operational measures have been adopted to cope with the additional numbers of early release MAPPA nominals who will need to be managed in community settings.

During the year we have regularly attended and contributed to the SMB meetings, and its Delivery and Quality subgroups.

We were included in the governance self-assessment processes and the in-year structural changes to meeting frequency and terms of reference - designed to strengthen participation and attendance by all key agencies. This is one of the areas regularly monitored as a performance indicator and it shows positive involvement by the three lead agencies with slightly less consistent input from DtC agencies. We welcome the

approach of having a nominated link person from clusters of DtC agencies who takes responsibility to coordinate and communicate across the range of different statutory or Local Authority bodies which cover the two tier and unitary authority areas of Hampshire and IoW geographically.

We have both participated in the recent SMB Quality Audit process which entailed a detailed review of a small number of dip-sampled cases. It was an opportunity to look in depth at practice, celebrate positive work standards and review any missed opportunities or options that might have been explored. We were impressed by the openness to scrutiny displayed both by the agencies and the practitioners presenting their cases. We contributed to the collective discussions and recommendations including suggesting that known Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) factors are articulated at the start of MAPPA panels, reminding all involved of the importance of these

considerations in the panel discussions.

We also contributed to Serious Case Reviews (SCR's) during the year and to the recommendations arising from these. We noted the considerable caseloads held by practitioners and the consequent pressures placed upon them – inevitably this will impact on the depth of information sharing and background case enquiries undertaken, and this will limit their proactive use of this information in risk reviews and management plans.

We have been briefed on issues arising from SCRs from other areas and shared the SMB's discussion on the learning from these cases, to help improve our local practice. This included amending the MAPPA meeting observation checklist we use as a proforma to include elements such as whether VISOR recording has been completed and used, and whether factors relating to violence against women and girls have been considered.

Since September 2023, as Lay Members, we have between us observed, and submitted reports upon, 53 individual case panels across all MAPPA categories at levels 2 & 3 including those led by Probation, Police and Youth Justice Service. We are trying to ensure that the panels we observe also reflect the entire geographical spread of Hampshire & IoW.

Since our appraisal last year, we have been pleased to be invited to the Police led panels on a regular basis and we are exploring improved administration of this process going forward.

This number of observations well exceeds the Lay Members expectation guidelines of 2 per month per member - but in observing the MAPPA case processes we gain a real understanding of the operational work and issues MAPPA teams face. It has

enabled us to see the depth and strength of cross agency links and co-working in common cause to try to ensure the best possible outcomes for both the offenders and the community.

It has also led us to recognise key issues and system constraints which challenge the MAPPA professionals and regularly hamper effective risk management options eg lack of suitable housing options, interface between mental health and substance misuse issues and (re)offending, lack of meaningful activity or work options.

In our reports to the SMB, we were pleased that our highlighting the challenges of housing has led to this issue being incorporated into the SMB business plan for the coming year. Mutual understanding of constraints such as resources and eligibility which impact upon housing would enhance MAPPA planning and decision making.

Panels have all been conducted by virtual TEAMS meetings. This has generally been an effective, efficient and productive way for professionals, who are often geographically distant, to engage in the detailed case reviews and risk management planning necessary. This is key to protecting the public, known and potential victims,



as well as the offenders themselves. Almost inevitably occasional IT 'glitches' have occurred which has caused someone to drop out of the panel, but participation levels have largely been good with strong evidence of effective joint working between panels and there have been only very few occasions where key information is missing or unavailable for the panel deliberations. The advantages of the TEAMS approach outweigh these occasional technical problems – for instant, we observed two very complex cases where counterpart CJS agencies from other countries worldwide have been able to participate in the panels for offenders who are likely to leave the jurisdiction of the UK.

The panels are mostly very well Chaired, with good administrative support and minutes/ action logs produced with responsible lead professionals and timescales to progress points identified. The use of a MAPPA template for meeting agendas including reminders about issues such as confidentiality, proportionality and Human Rights considerations provides a consistent structure and approach. We are pleased to note that our recent suggestion about known Equality Diversity and Inclusion factors being articulated at the start of each panel reminds all involved to take these considerations into the panel discussions.

As we write up an observation report for each panel, we are keen that these are used effectively to help sustain and improve good practice. This was raised with the outgoing MAPPA Co-ordinator and we are pleased that these will now be shared with the lead agency SMB member. We have discussed this initiative with the incoming MAPPA Coordinator – we have meetings planned to discuss how the observation reports can best be aggregated to identify any emerging themes or trends.

Our thanks go to Robbie Turkington for his support and guidance since our appointment and we wish him well in his new national MAPPA role. We look forward to working with Jo Bridgeman as the new Co-ordinator going forward.

We are keen to progress an opportunity to meet and share ideas for good practice with Lay Advisors from neighbouring MAPPA areas, to help improve our own practice and input to MAPPA.

From our involvement at both strategic and operational levels we are both reassured that despite stretched resources and recurring challenges, the MAPPA arrangements in Hampshire and IoW are overseen by experienced and committed professionals from the key agencies who collectively and individually use their skills and expertise to constantly review and evolve processes and procedures to make the oversight and effectiveness of MAPPA as good as it possibly can be.

We have seen and heard many examples where professionals have 'gone the extra mile' to support people involved in very complex cases - where MAPPA nominals, who often have multiple unmet needs and present a high risk of harm, are managed effectively through robust risk assessment and management plans and where victims' safety is at the forefront of this consideration.

Whilst nothing is foolproof in these complex situations, and inevitably the spotlight always focuses on when things that go wrong, we are reassured that the bulk of business as usual work of MAPPA is undertaken by dedicated, hard working colleagues across all areas of public service doing their best to take sometimes life changing decisions and who work together to manage the risks that mentally ill, violent or sexual offenders pose to society and to themselves and ensure plans and contingency measures are effectively in place to safeguard victims and communities. We thank all involved in MAPPA for their hard work and best endeavours.

Jo Ash CBE & Claire Cox MAPPA Lay Advisors

Training

Training and briefings are delivered to a variety of audiences on behalf of the MAPPA SMB. Regular Awareness training is available to agencies likely to be involved in MAPPA - the aim of this is to increase general awareness of MAPPA and multi-agency risk management plans. Individual agency briefings are offered when there is a significant need to update MAPPA knowledge within an organisation - these briefings can be tailored to a specific role of an agency if required.

To enquire about MAPPA training please email: mappa@hampshire.police.uk



The Hampshire and IOW MAPPA Strategic Management Board has identified priorities for 2024-2025. These include:

- To create a Hampshire & IoW MAPPA website detailing local processes and resources, bringing these together in one place, providing direct accessibility to all.
- To focus on MAPPA lead agency arrangements for the management of cases managed at level one to ensure effectiveness.
- To work on areas of development for the SMB identified through completion of the Self Evaluation Tool to maximise effectiveness of the governance structure and activity.

- To support development of Chairing skills through ongoing observations of MAPPA Chairs and provision of feedback.
- To implement recommendations from inspections and Serious Case Reviews.
- To ensure the use of ViSOR by the Responsible Authorities as an information sharing tool to support public protection.
- To ensure that MAPPA Chairs have sufficient knowledge of housing practice to support building risk management plans making full use of accommodation options to enhance public protection.



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





