

# Dorset Annual Report 2024 to 2025



# Introduction

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The Dorset Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Strategic Management Board (SMB) is pleased to present this annual report to the residents of Dorset and our local community.

The purpose of MAPPA is to reduce the risk of eligible offenders causing serious harm to victims and members of the public. Acting to reduce risk means assessing both the likelihood that something foreseeable and harmful may happen and then putting in place the measures to contain and change those risks, wherever possible. Risk involves uncertainty and MAPPA aims to monitor changes in risks and react appropriately to such changes.

Through MAPPA, and the work of all the services which comprise the arrangements, the aim is to ensure victims are protected, risk is kept to a minimum and fewer people are harmed or fear being harmed. This is done by overseeing arrangements for the effective management of serious offenders and should result in all communities feeling safer.

It is recognised that although sexual and violent crimes represent a small proportion of the total recorded crime in this county, they inevitably cause a great deal of fear, distress and harm for the victims and their families. It is for this reason that protecting the public from offenders who commit these crimes and meeting the needs of victims remains our highest priority within Dorset Police, the HM Probation Service and HM Prison Service (collectively known as HM Prison and Probation Service).

Working together through MAPPA to manage offenders convicted of such crimes is vitally important. MAPPA is a partnership, and this report explains how this operates in Dorset with different agencies working together. Under these arrangements the statutory services work in partnership to identify, risk assess and manage violent and sexual offenders, and we continue to be supported by organisations which have a 'duty to

cooperate' under the framework of MAPPA. These include local Mental Health teams, Youth Justice Services, Forensic Health Services, Children's and Adult Services and Housing Authorities.

This report also contains statistical information about the number of offenders managed under the arrangements and illustrates how the arrangements work in practice.

This annual report is our chance to evidence the work that we do and to demonstrate that we are accountable to you, the people of Dorset. Transparency is crucial to maintain the confidence of our local communities. For this reason, we include Lay Advisors on our local SMB. These individuals are volunteers who bring a wealth of experience to MAPPA in terms of critical thinking and strategic planning. They remain significant, independent observers to the MAPPA process.

Every year we strive to better safeguard the public through MAPPA, but we are never complacent. We continually review and update these arrangements in order to provide the highest level of protection to the communities of Dorset.

## **Dorset MAPPA SMB Chair**

Lindsay Dudfield  
Detective Superintendent, Public Protection Unit, Dorset Police

Katie Sorrell  
Head of Service, Dorset Probation, HMPPS

Steve Mead Governor, HMP The Verne, HMPPS

# What are MAPPA?

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## 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 Co-operate (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 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).

## MAPPA '25

MAPPA '25 is a campaign to mark the 25th anniversary of the legislation that introduced mandatory multi-agency co-operation in the management of those convicted of violent and sexual offences.

The aims of the MAPPA '25 campaign are;

- To increase awareness of, and confidence in MAPPA across a wide range of agencies, at all levels from frontline practitioners to senior leaders.
- To engage with those directly affected by MAPPA including victims and those subject to MAPPA management.
- To improve MAPPA practice across all agencies.
- To explore emerging themes in relation to public protection and encourage future investment in MAPPA by all relevant stakeholders

In February the National MAPPA Team held the first online event. The event was titled "Where did MAPPA come from and why do we need them" and featured a panel discussion with Emeritus Professor Hazel Kemshall and retired Detective Chief Inspector Tim Bryan, both of whom had been involved in the development of the arrangements in the early 2000s. The event was attended by over 800 people and has since been watched by over 1,700 proving popular with professionals from responsible authority, duty to cooperate and associate agencies, as well as the private sector who work with MAPPA individuals, who were keen to learn more about the history of MAPPA and the reasons that MAPPA remain vital to this day.

Most of the events have been/will be held in the year 2025-26 and will therefore be covered in next year's annual report.

## How MAPPA work

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 those convicted of violent offences and 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

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.

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.

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

# MAPPA Statistics

## MAPPA-eligible individuals on 31 March 2025

|         | Category 1:<br>Subject to sex<br>offender<br>notification<br>requirements | Category 2:<br>Violent<br>offenders | Category 3:<br>Other dangerous<br>offenders | Total |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|
| Level 1 | 854                                                                       | 147                                 | -                                           | 1001  |
| Level 2 | 2                                                                         | 1                                   | 2                                           | 5     |
| Level 3 | 1                                                                         | 2                                   | 0                                           | 3     |
| Total   | 857                                                                       | 150                                 | 2                                           | 1009  |

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

|         | Category 1:<br>Subject to sex<br>offender<br>notification<br>requirements | Category 2:<br>Violent<br>offenders | Category 3:<br>Other dangerous<br>offenders | Total |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|
| Level 2 | 14                                                                        | 4                                   | 2                                           | 20    |
| Level 3 | 3                                                                         | 2                                   | 2                                           | 7     |
| Total   | 17                                                                        | 6                                   | 4                                           | 27    |

|                                                              |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Category 1 cautioned for breach of notification requirements | 14 |
| Category 1 convicted for breach of notification requirements | 19 |

|                                                                             |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Category 1 who have had their life time notification revoked on application | 14 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

## Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO)  | 79 |
| SHPO with foreign travel restriction | 0  |
| Notification Order                   | 1  |

|                                                                                                                                               |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Number of individuals who became subject to sex offender notification requirements following a breach(es) of a Sexual Risk Order (SRO)</b> | <b>1</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|

#### **Level 2 and 3 individuals returned to custody**

| Returned to custody for breach of licence | Category 1:<br>Subject to notification requirements | Category 2:<br>Violent offenders | Category 3:<br>Other dangerous offenders | Total |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------|
| Level 2                                   | 0                                                   | 0                                | 0                                        | 0     |
| Level 3                                   | 0                                                   | 0                                | 0                                        | 0     |
| Total                                     | 0                                                   | 0                                | 0                                        | 0     |

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Breach of SHPO</b> |   |
| Level 2               | 2 |
| Level 3               | 0 |
| Total                 | 2 |

|                                                                                                             |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Total number of individuals subject to sex offender notification requirements per 100,000 population</b> | <b>118</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

This figure has been calculated using the mid-2024 estimated resident population, published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 30 July 2025, excluding those aged less than ten years of age.

# Explanation commentary on statistical tables

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## MAPPA background

The totals of MAPPA-eligible individuals, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2025 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

**(a) MAPPA-eligible individuals** – 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, youth justice 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 Justice Service 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 terrorism-related 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 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 Police 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 children.

# Local page

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## 1. SMB Updates

In 2024–2025, Dorset MAPPA underwent a change in the Strategic Management Board (SMB) Chair. The role is currently held by Detective Chief Superintendent Lindsay Dudfield and will rotate with Head of Service Katie Sorrell and with the Governor of HMP The Verne, who continues to serve as the Prison representative on the SMB.

During the last year we have run recruitment campaigns to fulfil the MAPPA Lay Advisor role. Unfortunately a further recruitment campaign will be required going forward. Additionally, we have had a change of Administrative Staff following a round of recruitment and training.

The SMB are continuing to meet quarterly to review the work of Dorset MAPPA and in 2024-2025 these meetings have taken an active review of Level 3 cases to ensure strategic oversight expedites progress of cases. It is this oversight that has resulted in Level 3s receiving the resourcing required to manage their risks and needs to offer the safest resettlement plan possible. In 2024-2025 we increased oversight for Level 1s managed by Dorset Probation Service and Health. In 2025-2026 we will be increasing this oversight periodically for Level 1 cases held by Adult Social Care.

## 2. Local Operation of MAPPA

Individuals in Dorset eligible for management under MAPPA are identified by Probation Service (PS), Police, Youth Justice and Mental Health Services. Relevant information can then be shared to assess the risks that the person may pose, in what circumstances, and who may be harmed should there be further offending.

Every case managed at Level 3 while in the community is reviewed monthly (the national target being every 8 weeks). These are chaired by the Dorset Head of Service for the Probation Service or a Detective Superintendent from Dorset Police. Senior management attendance ensures decisions about allocating resources to manage risk can be made swiftly, and that senior managers across agencies are fully sighted and involved in the management of the “critical few”.

In addition, there are MAPPA Level 2 meetings held frequently throughout every month across Dorset. These are chaired by either the MAPPA Coordinator, local Senior Probation Practitioners, or a Police Detective Inspector from Dorset Police’s MOSOVO (Management of Sexual Offenders and Violent Offenders) Team. Dorset aims to review cases managed at Level 2 every 12 weeks (the national target being every 16 weeks). Prison staff attendance at MAPPA meetings continues to be excellent, assisted by the use of Microsoft Teams.

The Probation Services Victim Liaison Officers (VLOs) also play a very important role within MAPPA meetings and in the risk management of MAPPA designated individuals. The VLO provides the voice of the victim and a balance to reflect the needs of victims within our local community. Other Duty to Co-operate agencies have good levels of engagement with both Level 2 and 3 meetings.

Disclosure is considered at every MAPPA meeting in Dorset in line with national guidance. Disclosure is the sharing of information about MAPPA offenders with a third party, in order to better protect the public and safeguard vulnerable adults and children. The third party, for example, could be a member of the public such as a victim, an employer, a person forming a relationship with an offender, or a person acting in a professional capacity but not party to the MAPPA. For disclosure to be made the MAPPA group must consider if the disclosure is necessary, proportionate, justifiable, and if agreed, how it will be implemented. On this

basis there are times when disclosure is not agreed.

### 3. Performance

Dorset continues to demonstrate high performance against the MAPPA Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Unfortunately, we have missed one of our 100% KPIs around attendance. However, have met all other KPIs. For targets of 90%, these have been largely exceeded in all areas except for the provision of MAPPA Fs (rather than attendance) and for attendance of Electronic Monitoring Service representatives. The MAPPA SMB ensures that all agencies take a consistently active role in delivering effective risk management. Engaging in the MAPPA process by monitoring and directing appropriate attendance and actively reviewing cases ensures effective case management. During 2024-2025, overall attendance by the Duty to Cooperate agencies was 92.5% against a target of 100%. We continue to strive for an attendance rate of 100%. Additionally, this year we have reviewed our data recording in order to develop a greater understanding of the MAPPA cohort within Dorset.

In the Level 2 and 3 meetings, risk management plans are tailored to individual circumstances. An effective plan will combine four main elements of risk management which are supervision, monitoring/control, interventions/treatment and victim safety. If appropriate the voice of the child is also considered.

### 4. Serious Case Reviews

MAPPA Serious Case Reviews (SCRs), and other reviews, are undertaken when an individual managed under MAPPA arrangements commits a serious sexual or violent offence. SCRs allow agencies involved in the MAPPA process to share the learning, both in terms of missed opportunities in relation to risk management but also in terms of the often-excellent practice demonstrated. This learning is shared across the partners within MAPPA. The Dorset MAPPA team also monitor

learning from other areas and share appropriately within Dorset.

In early 2025, HM Coroner held an inquest into the death of Marta Vento, a Spanish National working in the UK as a hotel receptionist. Her homicide, in December 2020, was carried out by a managed offender. The Serious Case Review process allowed agencies to work together in order to identify necessary improvements regarding areas such as information sharing in order to inform more comprehensive risk assessments, referral pathways for those leaving prison with mental health issues and ensuring practitioners understanding of MAPPA.

By delivering change through the SCR meetings, agencies were able to provide evidence to HM Coroner, that lessons had been learnt and processes improved.

### 5. MAPPA Awareness Training

MAPPA Awareness training has been a focus for Dorset MAPPA this year, with the team delivering the training to stakeholders throughout 2024-2025. The SMB recognised the value of an ongoing training programme to ensure that professionals across the Dorset area have a clear understanding of the role MAPPA plays and their responsibility to contribute to it.

### 5. A Final Word from Lindsay Dudfield

It is pleasing to introduce the MAPPA Annual Report for Dorset which evidences another positive year in respect of performance. The high-profile inquest hosted in Dorset during 2025 provided an opportunity for the partnership to review it's working practices, policies and collectively come together to enhance the MAPPA partnership and learn. I am confident the joint response has strengthened MAPPA in Dorset and there remains a strong commitment to continual improvement. Testament to this commitment is the newly formed 'Performance and

Monitoring Subgroup' which will provide greater scrutiny and oversight of MAPPA managed cases. It will also allow the partnership to focus on checking and testing against priority areas and recommendations from Serious Case Reviews. Providing this insight to the MAPPA Operational Subgroup will ensure the feedback is being provided to our practitioners.

MAPPA learning event held in November 2024 was a highlight and provided an opportunity for all agencies involved in MAPPA to come together and share learning. The positive feedback from this event evidenced the dedication and commitment of all MAPPA partners towards protecting the public from serious harm. The relationships we have with both statutory and non-statutory agencies for managing cases that are MAPPA registered continues to strengthen.

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Probation  
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