



HM Prison &
Probation Service

National
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What is MAPPA?

MAPPA stands for Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. It is a process where the Police, Probation and Prison Services work together with other agencies to manage risks posed by offenders living in the community in order to protect the public.

Who is managed through MAPPA?

There are three categories of offenders who are managed through MAPPA:

Category 1: Registered sexual offenders

They are required to notify the police of their name, address, bank details and other personal information, under the terms of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. The length of time an offender is required to register with Police can be any period from 12 months to life, depending on the age of the offender, nature of the offence, and sentence they received.

Category 2: Violent offenders

They have been sentenced to 12 months or more in custody or to detention in hospital for a violent or sexual offence. When released into the community they may be subject to Probation or Youth Offending Service or psychiatric supervision until their sentence end date. This Category also includes a small number of people who have been disqualified from working with children.

Category 3: Other dangerous offenders

They have committed an offence in the past and who are considered to pose a risk of serious harm to the public.

How does MAPPA work?

There are three levels of MAPPA management which are determined by the level of multi-agency cooperation required to manage risk. More complex cases are therefore generally managed at higher levels. Offenders can move up or down levels, as appropriate.

Level 1 – This is relevant for offenders who can be managed by a lead agency who will work with other agencies, to share information and develop and implement a multi-agency risk management plan.

Level 2 – Here management is for offenders where the ongoing involvement of several agencies is needed and the management of an offender requires the more formal oversight of a multi-agency panel meeting. .

Level 3 – This holds the same arrangements as Level 2 but these cases require the involvement of senior people from the agencies, who can authorise the use of extra resources where necessary.

All MAPPA offenders are assessed to establish the level of risk of harm they could pose and plans are then put in place to manage those risks.

MAPPA allows a number of different agencies to work alongside the Police, Prisons and Probation, sharing information and meeting, as necessary, to ensure these plans are effective. These are not just limited to criminal justice agencies but also include health, social services, and housing.

*Protecting the public from
violent and sexual offenders*

**Keeping Our
Communities
Safe**

Managing Risk Through



Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements



What happens if the offender doesn't comply?

Sexual Offenders who are subject to notification requirements must comply with those requirements must comply and failure to do so is a criminal offence punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment.

All offenders supervised by the National Probation Service must comply with the conditions of their order or licence. Any failure to do so will be taken seriously and may result in a return to custody, or their case being taken back to Court.

What about confidentiality?

Information shared at a MAPPA meeting is treated confidentially and will only be used for the protection of the public.

Will you ever disclose information to the public?

Every MAPPA meeting will consider whether a disclosure should take place to protect the public (e.g., a child could be in danger but would be protected through disclosure of information regarding an offender, allowing the child's guardian to make more informed choices around contact with that person). When the MAPPA meeting decides to disclose information, it will agree the following:

- Who will be given the information
- Who will give the information
- How it should be disclosed
- When it should be disclosed
- The legal basis for disclosure

What about victims?

Protecting the public is the key focus of MAPPA. MAPPA meetings can identify who could be at risk from an offender and how they could best be protected. There are a number of measures that may be put in place to protect victims and other vulnerable people, including:

- Prohibiting offenders from contacting named individuals
- Creating exclusion zones that prevent offenders visiting certain locations
- Intensive supervision by police and/or probation officers

In all cases where an offender has been sentenced to 12 months in prison or more for a sexual or violent offence, the victim(s) will be offered contact by the Victim Contact Scheme.

Victim Contact Scheme

The Victim Contact Scheme (VCS) keeps victims informed of any significant events in an offender's sentence.

Where a victim has opted into the VCS, they will be allocated a Victim Liaison Officer (VLO), who will help to ensure that victims' views are taken into account when planning for the offender's release. This may include additional conditions in the release licence to stop the offender contacting the victim, or to exclude the offender from the area where the victim lives or travels to frequently.

Victims do not attend MAPPA meetings, but the VLO should attend and ensure that the victim's views and needs are properly represented. Should the VLO be unable to attend for any reason, a detailed report will be submitted to the meeting.

How do I find out more about MAPPA?

Every Police/Probation area in England and Wales has a Strategic Management Board which is responsible for making sure that MAPPA are working well in the area. The board is attended by senior managers from Police, Probation and Prison Services and those agencies who have a duty to cooperate. Two members of the public, known as Lay Advisers, also sit on the board.

Duty to cooperate agencies include:

- Youth Offending Teams
- Health Trusts and Authorities
- Social Care Services
- Local Authority Housing
- Registered Social Landlords
- Jobcentre Plus
- Electronic Monitoring Providers

Every year, your local area publishes a MAPPA Annual Report which provides an insight into how the arrangements are working. The latest national report and local area reports are available to access on www.gov.uk.

You can also find out more about how MAPPA works in the national MAPPA guidance, available on the MAPPA website: www.mappa.justice.gov.uk

