



South Yorkshire Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

Annual Report 2006-07



SOUTH YORKSHIRE

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Ministerial Foreword

Maria Eagle

These are the sixth MAPPAs annual reports, and the first with a foreword by the Ministry of Justice. I want, first of all, to underline the Government’s continued commitment to these arrangements. Protecting the public from dangerous offenders is a core aim for the new Department. Just as the effectiveness of MAPPAs locally depends on the quality of working relationships, we will work with the Home Office, the Police, and others, to develop the best possible framework within which the MAPPAs can operate.

On 13 June, the Government published a Review of the Protection of Children from Sex Offenders. This sets out a programme of actions which include developing the use of drug treatment for sex offenders and piloting the use of compulsory polygraph testing as a risk management tool, enhancements to the regime operating at Approved Premises, and also a range of actions impacting directly upon the way the MAPPAs work. I want to highlight two of them here.

Firstly, research tells us that the arrangements are already used successfully to disclose information about dangerous offenders but we think this can be improved upon. MAPPAs agencies will be required to consider disclosure in every case. We will pilot a scheme where parents will be able to register a child-protection interest in a named individual with whom they have a personal relationship and who has regular unsupervised access to their child. If that person has convictions for child sex offences and the child is at risk, there will be a presumption that the offences will be disclosed to the parent.

Secondly, as MAPPAs have developed over the past 6 years, best practice models have been identified which show that specific roles and approaches are required to ensure it is managed effectively. We are committed to strengthening MAPPAs arrangements and ensuring that robust performance management is in place. To achieve this, we intend to introduce new national standards, which will ensure a consistent approach across areas and we will be making available £1.2million to support areas in implementing the standards.

We aim to do everything that can reasonably be done to protect people from known, dangerous offenders. We know that there is always room for improvement. I commend this annual report to you as an indication of the commitment, skills and achievements of the professionals, and lay advisers, in managing and monitoring this essential, often difficult area of business.

Maria Eagle MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

South Yorkshire

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South Yorkshire MAPPA Annual Report 2006-07

2 Introduction

Protecting the public is one of the highest priorities of law enforcement agencies. This publication outlines the specific work that is being carried out in South Yorkshire in relation to certain potentially dangerous sexual and violent offenders in our local communities.

This work is a multi-agency approach led by the probation service, police and prisons (who make up the 'Responsible Authority'), but also heavily dependent on close partnerships with other agencies such as social services, housing, mental health services and youth offending teams.

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) have been in place since 2001 and are constantly developing and strengthening, both nationally and locally. This publication gives an overview of developments during 2006-07, a time when MAPPA arrangements have come under closer scrutiny than ever before in a number of high-profile national cases.

Making sure that proper referral systems are in place to ensure that all offenders subject to MAPPA are known and managed appropriately by the right staff in the right agencies is a crucial part of our work.

The MAPPA Unit, a police and probation team who oversee all MAPPA cases in South Yorkshire, has conducted an extensive review of all current cases and procedures and are implementing a wide-ranging training programme for relevant staff.

The strategic direction of the work of the MAPPA Unit and other aspects of MAPPA in South Yorkshire are overseen by a Strategic Management Board (SMB) – a body with a membership drawn from the Responsible Authority as well as other agencies that are part of MAPPA. They are joined by two Lay Advisers, who provide an invaluable perspective as representatives of the wider public of South Yorkshire.

During 2006-07, the SMB has continued to focus on specific pieces of work needed to improve and further hone MAPPA arrangements. A Communications and Training Sub-Group is reviewing current training arrangements within each agency and exploring the potential for joint multi-agency training programmes and work to improve general awareness of MAPPA work.

A Quality Assurance Sub-Group reviews the work done in specific cases, particularly those we class as the 'critical few' (those offenders who pose the highest risk). The group also reviews the management of all cases where offenders under probation supervision have gone onto commit serious further offences.

We appreciate the public's concerns about the idea of potentially dangerous people living in local communities, and we recognise the need to demonstrate more effectively how we are working together to manage the risk these individuals pose.

MAPPA represents a genuine success story for the criminal justice agencies in South Yorkshire. We can never guarantee that none of the offenders subject to MAPPA will go on to re-offend, and we would never seek to minimise the harm these offences cause.

But we have a demonstrable track record in identifying and preventing future offending, in protecting the interests of victims and ensuring the safe and successful rehabilitation and reintegration of many offenders who have previously posed much higher risks to local communities.

In this report, you will find examples of how daily co-operation between police, probation, prisons and other key agencies have successfully prevented re-offending and led to arrest and conviction or return to prison of high risk offenders.

You will also find statistics which give you the facts about the types of offenders we deal with, the offences they have committed and the measures we are taking to manage them in the community.

We cannot entirely eliminate the risk that every individual may pose, but as the figures will demonstrate, we can manage these risks through joint working, careful assessment, supervision and monitoring. In doing this we are contributing towards making South Yorkshire a safer place.

Roz Brown
Chief Officer
South Yorkshire
Probation area

Meredydd Hughes
Chief Constable
South Yorkshire Police

Tony Hassall
Area Manager
Prison Service
Yorkshire & Humberside

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Key Achievements in 2006-07

Significant progress was made in the development of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements in South Yorkshire during 2006-07.

The MAPPA Unit

The MAPPA Unit is based at South Yorkshire Police headquarters in Sheffield. It is jointly staffed by police and probation staff, including a detective sergeant, detective constable, senior probation officer, probation officer and administrative staff.

The MAPPA Unit has built upon a restructuring of the risk management levels used to classify offenders subject to MAPPA. The unit has made levels two and three (which include more serious offenders requiring management by more than one agency) more rigorous – both in the seriousness of the individual's offending history and the level of management required. This restructuring has ensured that the resources available (particularly staff time) more closely follow the level of risk they pose.

Work has also been completed on improving the process for level two MAPPA referrals (where more than one agency is involved), to ensure that the right cases are reaching the unit and all agencies are working together properly.

A new structure for level three cases ('the critical few') is now established and ensures more senior management involvement in the cases of the most serious offenders. A protocol ensures each agency is represented by virtue of what is required for the case. A detective superintendent, probation divisional manager, and a prison governor are present at all level three meetings.

In addition, the probation service's senior forensic psychologist is a core member of all level three meetings to advise on risk assessment and provide a psychological perspective on their offending behaviour. This clinical and forensic analysis of the behaviour reported by staff from all the agencies present brings great expertise and oversight to these 'critical few' cases.

The work of staff in the MAPPA Unit and probation service in relation to level three MAPPA meetings earned wider recognition during 2006-07. The MAPPA Manager and detective sergeant based in the unit received chief constable's commendations for their work on Operation Adam – a level 3 case in Doncaster. In March 2007, the probation service's senior forensic psychologist was awarded the Butler Trust Award for Excellence 2007 for her outstanding contribution to the work of MAPPA and managing risk in the prison and probation service.

A major restructure within probation has impacted positively on the management of MAPPA cases. The introduction of the Offender Management Model, which classifies offenders in one of four tiers, has seen a reorganisation of all probation teams into Offender Management Units (OMUs).

OMUs are led by senior probation officers and have a mix of staff at other levels, including probation officers and admin support, to enable them to manage any offender (at any tier) from their first court appearance to the completion of their sentence.

The MAPPA Unit has also started a program of training for police and probation staff, using a package for working with sex offenders that has been jointly developed in conjunction with the Lucy Faithfull Foundation.

The aim of the training package is to ensure that police and probation are working to the same standards and understanding of how sex offenders operate in the community.

The unit is also preparing a foundation package for all probation officers, who will then only work with sex offenders after completing it, ensuring only appropriately qualified staff are working with offenders at all times. Another advanced program is also being developed for probation staff looking at the skills, techniques, and knowledge required to manage internet offending and female offending.

Youth Offending Teams

The MAPPa Unit is working with Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) in South Yorkshire, and has developed a package for engaging with them in 2007-08. This will include training, development and work on their referral process to ensure that YOTs are fully engaged as a criminal justice agency within MAPPa, and signed up to the duty to co-operate arrangements.

Each YOT team have had to look at their structure for risk management and are introducing risk management and practitioner panels for review of cases under their supervision. This will be the route by which they refer cases to MAPPa and the source of all referrals.

YOT staff (most of who are seconded from other agencies such as police, probation and social services) will have to take a case to their YOT's own panel in the first instance. The risk management and practitioner panels will act as a quality assurance board to review the work that has already been done at level one (where an offender is managed by a single agency) and decide whether to refer the case to levels two or three.

Circles of Support

Another promising MAPPa development in South Yorkshire has been the introduction of 'Circles of Support' – a collaborative project with the Lucy Faithfull Foundation.

Volunteers from within a local community are recruited and trained to work with a specific offender being resettled in that area. They provide an additional support network for this individual, working in close conjunction with the statutory MAPPa agencies. This system allows police and probation to have more of an insight into an offender's lifestyle and to improve the response to changes in behaviour.

This has now become a regional approach within Yorkshire and Humberside. South Yorkshire is committed to broadening this area of work and will be working with local higher education providers to establish research and evaluation projects.'

Plans for 2007-08

The major initiative in 2007-08 will be the early adoption of the multi-agency version of the ViSOR (Violent & Sex Offenders Register) database system, with South Yorkshire being a pilot area. Probation staff are scheduled to begin using this national package in July 2007, and it will be a significant contribution to the risk management of offenders.

ViSOR has been several years in creation and will eventually include the records of more than 100,000 offenders. Starting with data held on the Police National Computer (PNC) and intelligence systems it is currently

3 Key Achievements in 2006-07

used by police only but a major connectivity report is bringing the probation and prison service on board.

ViSOR will merge probation service, prison and police data with police data and intelligence to create a single record with a full picture of the information held on every registered sex offender.

Next year, the MAPPa Unit will complete their review by looking at level one structures (where offenders are managed by a single agency) to ensure all cases are being managed at the right levels. By then, we will have a full picture of all MAPPa cases in South Yorkshire.

This has been made possible by extensive improvements to CRAMS, the probation service's computerised case management system which has enabled more accurate recording of all level one MAPPa cases. CRAMS will be replaced in 2009 by another system called C-NOMIS, which promises further improvements in the handling of information.

In reviewing the structures (including referral) by which an offender is assigned to level one, two or three, the MAPPa Unit has developed a filter system for high risk cases. This will be rolled out across South Yorkshire over the next year. This involves the probation and police making a joint decision about the level the offender will be managed at, ensuring the resources of both agencies are being properly targeted.

In addition, the review of all police level one MAPPa cases will ensure consistency in the management and monitoring of registered sex offenders by the sex offender liaison officers in divisional Public Protection Units (PPUs).

The review will incorporate standards for police for working with sex offenders and other public protection cases. Level one panel meetings will be led by police with senior probation officers and social services where they are jointly involved in working with particular offenders on the register.

During 2006-07 work continued to integrate the management of domestic abuse offenders into MAPPa, with the MAPPa Unit providing a structure for co-ordinating Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meetings in line with national guidelines. MARACs were established and are running in every division. It has been agreed for the future that South Yorkshire Police should assume the main responsibility for running and managing these meetings. While these offenders do not automatically come under MAPPa arrangements ordinarily, the multi-agency response required to manage them and reduce the risk of harm to their victims is benefiting from the close co-operation and working relationships that have been developed under MAPPa.

Communications and training plans include the roll out of the MAPPa Unit's full training pack for core members at levels two and three.

4 How the MAPPA operate locally

The MAPPA Unit

- Based at police headquarters, the unit has a multi-agency public protection manager who is the MAPPA co-ordinator, a detective sergeant, a detective constable, a probation officer and administrative support staff;
- All public protection arrangements are led centrally by the MAPPA Unit;
- The key roles of the unit are to convene multi-agency meetings to discuss known offenders who could pose a risk to the public; oversee the arrangements agreed to monitor and manage these offenders; maintain the sex offender register; provide information and intelligence when requested.
- The Unit will also be responsible for the operational demands of ViSOR, with the MAPPA co-ordinator acting as 'central point of contact'.

Responsible Authority

- The work is led by a 'Responsible Authority' consisting of the police, probation service and prisons. Various staff from all three of these agencies are heavily involved in this work.

Strategic Management Board

- Chaired by the chief officer of the probation service and consisting of representatives from the police, prisons, social services, housing, mental health services, youth offending teams, victim support, community safety partnership and an independent risk expert from Sheffield University and two Lay Advisers;
- The board meets quarterly to support the work of the unit by advising and reviewing the work undertaken.

An insight - how does MAPPA work?

When an offender, who has committed a serious violent or sexually offence, is nearing the end of their prison sentence the probation service carry out a thorough assessment to establish the risk they may pose to the public upon release and what sort of supervision and interventions they will require. If it is felt that a multi-agency approach is needed the case is referred to the MAPPA.

Individual agencies can all refer a case to the MAPPA if they assess an offender to be a potential danger to the public, but the vast amount are referred by the probation service. Other key agencies involved in MAPPA are:

- Health;
- Social services;
- Accommodation;

MAPPA has three levels of offender management, with level three being for the 'critical few' who are considered the most serious cases:

- **Level One** – Offender is managed by one of police, probation or social services;
- **Level Two** – Police, probation, prisons, social service, mental health, housing and education (also Youth Offending Teams if a young offender is involved);
- **Level Three** – Same core members but only invited if directly involved in case (also Youth Offending Teams if a young offender is involved).

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How the MAPPA operate locally

Barnsley, Doncaster, Sheffield and Rotherham each hold multi-agency public protection meetings once a month to discuss individual cases. These meetings are chaired by the South Yorkshire MAPPA Manager and usually include the supervising probation officer, a police representative, a representative from the prison where the offender is currently imprisoned and any other persons relevant to that particular case such as a victim liaison officer, psychologist or someone who has previous knowledge of the offender such as social services.

The overall aim of the meeting is to put in place arrangements to manage the offender in the community, so that they pose a minimal risk to the public. These arrangements may include:

- A requirement to live at a particular address, such as a probation Approved Premises, and abide by a curfew;
- Prohibited contact with certain individuals, groups of people or geographical areas;
- Specific restrictions relating to the wishes or concerns of any known victims;
- Restrictions on the type of employment they may pursue;
- Restrictions on certain public areas such as schools or playgrounds;
- Requirement to take part in a particular programme designed to reduce re-offending.

All these conditions can be added as part of the offender's licence – if they break these conditions they are returned to prison. The case studies which follow help build a clearer picture of what this work entails and how it works in practice.

Case Studies

The following case studies illustrate examples of where offenders have been successfully managed under MAPPA arrangements in South Yorkshire during 2006-07. They include examples where further offending has been prevented through the swift exchange of information between agencies, where individuals are being successfully re-integrated into communities after a history of offending, and where victims are being actively protected from further harm by multi-agency co-operation.

Case Study 1

A young man in his early 20s came to MAPPA's attention after threatening a range of professionals with violence and a referral was accepted at level two. By this time, he had also been detained under the powers of the Mental Health Act.

Serious concerns were shared about his risky behaviour which included threats to the public, his uncle and hospital staff. He was also homeless with no fixed address. While under arrest, he was interviewed in the cells and a police doctor recommended a psychiatric assessment amid concerns for his emotional well being.

While under detention in a secure unit, he assaulted the staff and at the initial MAPPA meeting, safety plans were drawn up for future contact. Links were established with the local police force, in whose area he was detained, to establish what charges would be brought against him and to agree a course of prompt action that would be taken if he absconded.

A risk management plan was drawn up that incorporated social services, due to the involvement of a child, local mental health authorities and the secure unit. A pre-sentence report (PSR) was prepared for the courts by the probation service, in conjunction with the MAPPA Unit, and the two police forces are still working closely together. The man has since been detained under a hospital order and transferred to a new facility.

The prevention of unnecessary risk and harm to the public in this case has been a great example of good communication and clear planning between agencies in South Yorkshire and beyond. The risks to staff have also been properly addressed.

Case Study 2

A particular sex offender was the subject of a number of level two meetings, but multi-agency agreement was reached to reduce his risk management status to level one during 2006. He would continue to be monitored by police and probation.

Information was then received from a Safer Neighbourhoods team that he was causing problems on a local estate where there many young people. Further intelligence received suggested that the offender had been threatening a local resident and that he had made contact with a family, encouraging the eldest child to go with him to work.

A level two meeting was requested, the new information and risk level was reviewed, and an action plan drawn up. This included a third party disclosure to the family and the offender's employer. The intelligence received by police would also be discussed with the offender during one of his regular supervision sessions with his probation officer, as well as voluntary permission from him to approach his employer.

Permission was not given, so police made the disclosure to the family and the employer regardless as the law allowed them to do. Text messages from the offender were then discovered on the

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How the MAPPA operate locally

mobile phone of the child at risk and he was interviewed by police, making no disclosures.

His behaviour was then monitored by police, which proved that the child spent an afternoon with him unsupervised. The decision was made to recall him to prison by the probation service, based on this risky behaviour which was also a breach of his sex offender prevention order (SOPO).

Back in prison and re-sentenced for breach of his order, the offender remains the subject of regular meetings at which his behaviour inside is monitored and a risk management plan developed for when he returns to the community again. Monitoring by the prison service will highlight any further risks that need to be addressed by the MAPPA process.

This case shows good liaison between police and the probation service, and the ability to quickly reassess a case and raise the risk level where new information comes to light. Good planning was used in drawing up the risk management plan, and there was early intervention by the relevant agencies. Police and probation were able to use information supplied by social services to initiate a successful prosecution and swift recall to prison, while follow up work is ensuring the same attention to detail when this man next becomes entitled to release.

Case Study 3

An offender with a history of serious sexual assaults became due for release on licence. The original crimes had been committed over a prolonged period and involved victims from a number of different local authority areas.

After two level two meetings the offender was promoted to level three because of the complexity of the case, the level of risk and the resources needed to manage the risk.

At the level three meetings, a number of issues were identified. Psychological assessment and treatment would be useful, including long-term intervention, and a place in a Dangerous and Severe Personality Disorder (DSPD) Unit was sought prior to release. Lack of current contact with victims, as these were historic crimes, was a concern and rectifying this was considered essential. Time was also needed to draw up a risk management plan and to register this individual as a critical public protection case.

At subsequent meetings, finding a mental health unit place was a priority but a contingency position with the offender being directed to live in an Approved Premises run by the probation service was developed. This would allow for continued psychological intervention if a bed in a DSPD Unit was not available.

The probation service's Victim Contact Unit was given the job of establishing the whereabouts of past victims, and their wishes were to be reflected when drawing up licence conditions which would include a range of expectations. These would include no victim contact, an exclusion zone, collection from prison by the police if release was authorised, monitoring of mail and phones in prison and a requirement to attend a sex offender group work programme.

A place in a DSPD Unit proved unsuitable as insufficient time was available to undertake necessary work with the offender in prison before he was released. The risk management plan was in place by

the time of release, and this ensured he was released to outside South Yorkshire.

The MAPPP process continued in both areas and South Yorkshire Probation area had a move on plan in place and maintained regular contact with the victims. Safety measures were drawn up locally by police and the offender was placed under surveillance.

During surveillance, no concerning behaviour was observed but the offender was very disruptive within the Approved Premises and refused to comply with the probation regime. A written warning was issued and he was subsequently recalled. After more time in prison, he was re-released to another Approved Premises but was moved to another area after concerns were expressed by a former victim.

Meanwhile, there has been progress with the offender's behaviour. He now wishes to undertake work to address his behaviour and constructive measures have been put in place.

This case study illustrates the central role played by victim contact in cases where offenders are released back into the community. Housing, social services, probation and the police all worked together to track down his victims and reflect their views in the decision-making process. There was also a balancing of risk and needs with the necessary appropriate restrictive controls balanced with persuading the offender to engage with constructive measures to prevent him re-offending.

While positive progress has been made since the second release from prison, victim concerns remain paramount and good cross-border work between agencies ensures they are acted on appropriately.



Statistical Information

South Yorkshire MAPPA Statistics 2006-07

1. Category 1 MAPPA offenders: Registered Sex Offenders (RSO)

i) The number of RSOs living in your area on 31 March 2007.

830

a) The number of RSOs per 100,000 head of population.

64

ii) The number of sex offenders having a registration requirement who were either cautioned or convicted for breaches of the requirement, between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

30

iii) The number of (a) Sexual Offences Prevention Orders (SOPOs) applied for (b) interim SOPOs granted and (c) full SOPOs imposed by the courts in your area between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

a) 13 b) 2 c) 45

iv) The number of (a) Notification Orders applied for (b) interim Notification Orders granted and (c) full Notification Orders imposed by the courts in your area between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

a) 0 b) 0 c) 0

v) The number of Foreign Travel Orders (a) applied for and (b) imposed by the courts in your area between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

a) 0 b) 0

2. Category 2 MAPPA offenders: Violent Offenders and Other Sexual Offenders (V&OS)

vi) The number of violent and other sexual offenders (as defined by Section 327 (3), (4) and (5) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003) living in your area between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

444

3. Category 3 MAPPA offenders: Other Offenders (OthO)

vii) The number of 'other offenders' (as defined by Section 325 (2)(b) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003) between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

82

4. Offenders Managed Through Level Three (MAPPP) & Level Two (local inter-agency management)

(viii) Identify how many MAPPA offenders in each of the three Categories (i.e. (1) RSOs, (2) V&O and (3) OthO above) have been managed through the MAPPP (Level Three) and through local inter-agency risk management (Level Two) between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

1) RSOs:	Level Three 11;	Level Two 84;
2) V&O:	Level Three 3;	Level Two; 105;
3) Others	Level Three 1;	Level Two 81.

(ix) Of the cases managed at Levels Three or Two (i.e. (viii)) between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007 how many, whilst managed at that level:

(a) Were returned to custody for a breach of licence?
Level Three 6; Level Two 19.

(b) Were returned to custody for a breach of a restraining order or sexual offences prevention order?
Level Three 2; Level Two 1.

(c) Were charged with a serious sexual or violent offence?
Level Three 1; Level Two 2.

Further information on the statistics for 2006-07

1. Category 1 MAPPA offenders: Registered Sex Offenders (RSO)

i) The number of RSOs living in your area on 31 March 2007.

Another small increase in registered sex offenders. This was anticipated and South Yorkshire is no different to other areas who continue to see an increase in overall registered sex offenders due to impact of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. These measures require more offenders to remain on the register either for life or for longer periods.

This doesn't mean that there are more sex offenders as such, just that greater numbers are now subject to rigorous risk assessment and risk management planning by a range of agencies.

Although the numbers have grown, only 84 sex offenders were managed at level two, with 11 managed at level three – the highest risk management level. The vast majority are managed at level one.

ii) The number of sex offenders having a registration requirement who were either cautioned or convicted for breaches of the requirement, between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

We have seen a small increase in the number of registered sex offenders breaching their requirements.

iii) The number of (a) Sexual Offences Prevention Orders (SOPOs) applied for (b) interim SOPOs granted and (c) full SOPOs imposed by the courts in your area between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

An objective last year was to increase the number of applications for SOPOs and we have seen an increase that we hope will continue. The MAPPA Unit now plays a central role in applying for these orders, a factor that has contributed to the increase. This will remain a key area of our work next year and is seen as a significant development for managing risk.

3. Category 3 MAPPA offenders: Other Offenders (OthO)

vii) The number of 'other offenders' (as defined by Section 325 (2)(b) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003) between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

There has been an increase in category three offenders reflecting the engagement of these agencies with these arrangements and an increase in offenders not subject to the other two categories who have been referred by the probation service.

Increased engagement with domestic abuse cases and mental health services will continue this trend.



Statistical Information

South Yorkshire MAPPA Statistics 2006-07

4. Offenders Managed Through Level 3 (MAPPP) & Level 2 (local inter-agency management)

(viii) Identify how many MAPPA offenders in each of the three Categories (i.e. (1) - RSOs, (2) - V&O and (3) - OthO above) have been managed through the MAPPP (Level Three) and through local inter-agency risk management (Level Two) between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

Since our restructuring, reported figures show that the highest level of risk management – level three – is targeting the most dangerous offenders who require the greatest level of resources. Level three is reserved for the highest risk offenders known as the ‘critical few’. This is reflected in the figures – 15 offenders managed at level three in the entire year.

Overall, however, we have seen a slight increase in the total number of offenders managed at both these levels from the figures available from last year. The total for this year is 285 compared to 245 from last year.

(ix) Of the cases managed at Levels Three or Two (i.e. (viii)) between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007 how many, whilst managed at that level:

(a) Were returned to custody for a breach of licence?

There has been an increase in people returned to custody this year through breaching one or more of the conditions of their prison licence. This is the result of swift action being taken by the responsible authority when an offender breaches the licence requirements. This is indicative of robust expectations being placed on the offender and acting swiftly to avoid any risks to the public.

(c) Were charged with a serious sexual or violent offence?

Although rigorous risk management plans are maintained with all MAPPA offenders risk cannot be entirely removed. This year we had three serious further offences. These have been investigated by the quality assurance sub-group and reports submitted to the SMB. Learning points have been addressed by all agencies involved.



MAPPAs Strategic Management Board (SMB)

The SMB has a new chair from one of the Responsible Authorities – Assistant Chief Constable Andy Holt. It has published a strategic plan for 2006-09, reviewed membership and formed new sub-groups to look at particular issues requiring greater attention:

The SMB's Annual Business Plan for 2006-07 included the objective to expand links to Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) and the South Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board (CJB).

To support this objective there was ongoing activity including presentations to LSCBs by SMB members and presentations to the CJB by members of the MAPPAs Unit.

A member of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board also sits on the MAPPAs SMB as a county-wide representative of all four LSCBs in South Yorkshire.

1. Quality Assurance Sub-Group

This is made up of police, probation, social services, Sheffield University, and the YOT. The purpose is to review and monitor the work of MAPPAs on behalf of the SMB. The group looks at particular cases that have gone well, in order to draw upon any learning points. The other objective is to review cases where a serious further offence (SFO) has been committed where that offender is under probation supervision, once again to learn and improve practice and on those rare occasions where a SFO occurs. That group reports directly to the chair of the SMB.

2. Communications & Training Sub-Group

This group is made up of relevant police and probation staff with a brief to look at training and communications issues.

It supports and guides the development of this Annual Report, identifies key messages and audiences for communications plans linked to the SMB Development Plan, and looks at other effective means of communications to internal and external audiences.

On the training side, the group will identify minimum training requirements for those carrying out roles in relation to MAPPAs, identify opportunities for multi-agency training, promote and provide continuous professional development for practitioners and capture and evaluate the outcomes of any training event.

Lay Advisors' Comments

Said one of our lay advisers: "This year I have attended nearly all of the MAPPAs Level three meetings, through which those who present the highest risk are managed. I remain impressed by the contribution of police, probation and all the other agencies closely involved in this process. In particular, the staff in the MAPPAs Unit do a fantastic job and are keeping the people of South Yorkshire well protected."

7 Contacts

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8 Useful websites



www.south-yorks.police.uk



www.hmps.gov.uk



SOUTH YORKSHIRE

www.syops.org.uk

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