



## **7 Minute Learning**

### **Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements**

### **MAPPA**

#### **Introduction**

The Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are a statutory framework through which Police, Probation and Prison Services (Responsible Authorities) work together with other agencies (Duty to Co-operate agencies) such as Children's Services, Adult Social Care Services, the NHS, Youth Offending Teams, Local Housing Authorities and registered housing providers, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Job Centres to assess and manage the risks posed by individuals convicted of serious violent, sexual and terrorism offences living in the community in order to protect the public.

It was established by the Criminal Justice Act 2003 to ensure that there is appropriate information sharing, including disclosure to third parties when necessary, and drawing up of effective multi-agency risk assessments and risk management plans.

The Responsible Authorities (RA) are the primary agency for MAPPA, this is the Police, Prison and Probation Service, working together.

The Duty to Co-operate agencies (DTC) have a responsibility to co-operate with the Responsible Authorities and work together on aspects of an offender's life such as education, employment, housing and social care.

#### **MAPPA Objectives**

Usually, the lead agency managing the offender at that time (commonly Probation or Police) will call a MAPPA meeting.

The objectives of MAPPA are to:

- Share information at a critical stage of any agency's contact with an offender e.g. following release from prison, moving into the area, disclosure of abuse/ offending.
- Assess the level of risk to individual children, vulnerable adults and the community.
- Devise action plans, as appropriate, to minimise risk.
- Make decisions regarding registration, involving reviewing an offender's risk level and determining if they require continued multi-agency management.
- Agree implementation of plans and decisions and by whom.
- Monitor and review progress.

#### **4 Categories of MAPPA**

The MAPPA Responsible Authority, composed of the Police, Probation, and Prison Services, make the decisions on the 4 MAPPA categories.

##### ***Category 1 Offenders: Registered Sexual Offenders (RSO)***

This Category includes offenders required to comply with the notification requirements set out in Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. These offenders are often referred to as being on the "Sex Offenders' Register."

##### ***Category 2 Offenders: Violent Offenders and Other Sexual Offenders***

Those convicted of mainly violent offences who have been sentenced to 12 months or more in custody or to detention in hospital and are now living in the community.

### *Category 3 Offenders: Other Dangerous Offenders*

This Category contains offenders who do not meet the criteria for Categories 1, 2 or 4 but who have committed an offence indicating that they are capable of causing serious harm and require multi-agency management at Level 2 or 3.

### *Category 4 Offenders: Terrorist Offenders*

Those subject to notification requirements under the [Counter-Terrorism Act 2008](#); those convicted of terrorism offences who have been sentenced to 12 months or more in custody or to detention in hospital and are now living in the community; this can also include individuals who have been identified as radicalised and/or a potential terrorist risk.

## **MAPPA Levels**

There are 3 levels at which offenders can be managed:

### *Level 1 – Multi-Agency Support*

The risks posed by the offender can be managed by a lead agency in co-operation with other agencies but without the need for formal multi-agency meetings. Offenders will only be managed at Level 1 where the lead agency is confident that their Risk Management Plan (RMP) is sufficiently robust to manage the identified risks.

### *Level 2 – Multi-Agency Management*

Active multi-agency management is where the ongoing involvement of several agencies is needed to manage the individual. Once at Level 2, there will be regular multi-agency public protection meetings about the individual.

### *Level 3 – Enhanced Multi-Agency Management*

Level 3 management is for cases where offenders present a high or very high risk. Enhanced multi-agency management is more demanding on resources and requires the involvement of senior people from the agencies, who can authorise the use of extra resources, for example, surveillance or emergency accommodation. This may also include cases where there is high levels of national media scrutiny or public interest in the management of the case because of the nature of the offence or the identity of the offender or victim or involve high risk offenders involved in serious organised crime.

## **Information Sharing**

The purpose of sharing information under MAPPA is to enable the relevant agencies to work together more effectively in assessing risks and considering how to manage individuals in order to protect the public. Agencies should share all relevant information, so that public protection is not compromised, while respecting the rights of data subjects, which may limit what can be shared. In summary, it must be established that information sharing is lawful, necessary, and proportionate.

## **Documents that might provide additional information**

For further information and up to date guidance go to [MAPPA](#)

The Secretary of State for Justice statutory MAPPA Guidance under the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) 2003 [MAPPA Guidance](#)

**For advice or to raise an adult safeguarding concern:**  
**Dorset Council area call 01305 221016**  
**BCP Council area call 01202 123654**