

CONTACTS

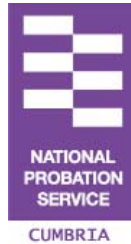
Her Majesty's Prison Service

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Cumbria Probation Area

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Cumbria Constabulary

Detective Superintendent of Protective Services
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MAPPA Coordinator

Cumbria Police Headquarters
Carleton Hall
Penrith, Cumbria
CA10 2AU
Tel: 01768 217648
Email: mappa@cumbria.pnn.police.uk

Cumbria Rape Crisis

Support for female and male victims of rape and their families in the North, West and East of Cumbria.
01900 829729

South Cumbria Rape and Abuse Service

Support for female, male and child victims of rape and their families in South Cumbria.
01229 820828

Let Go Project

Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service in the Eden and Carlisle areas.
01768 892179

Samaritans

Confidential emotional support 24/7 for those experiencing distress and despair.
08457 90 90 90

Respect

Membership association for domestic violence perpetrator programmes and associated support services.
0845 122 8609

Mens Advice Line

Advice and support for men in abusive relationships.
0808 801 0327



MAPPA 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Protecting people in Cumbria from sexual and violent offenders



Craig Mackey
Chief Constable
Cumbria Constabulary



Annette Hennessy
Chief Probation Officer
National Probation
Service - Cumbria



Ian Lockwood
Assistant Director
HM Prison Service

INTRODUCTION

Now in their eighth year, the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) for Cumbria aim to manage the risks presented to the public from sexual and violent offenders.

The arrangements see a number of agencies working together to identify people who may come to harm and creating plans to protect potential victims.

The number of sexual and violent crimes committed in Cumbria remains low, but cause a great deal of distress for victims and their families. For this reason, protecting the public from sexual and violent offenders is a priority for the Police, Probation and Prison Services, who work closely with other agencies to manage these offenders.

Public protection continues to receive high profile news coverage nationally and remains a challenging issue for Cumbria MAPPA, who aim to do everything in their power to reduce the risks presented by sexual and violent offenders within available resources.

By working together the agencies involved in MAPPA communicate more effectively, reduce duplication and provide better protection for the people of Cumbria.

This annual report tells you how MAPPA aims to protect people, who is involved, and what they are doing to make Cumbria safer. It also details the number of offenders we are dealing with, how we are managing them and provides case studies to help explain what we do.

We hope you will find the report informative and that it helps answer your questions about public protection in Cumbria. For further information, use the contact details on the back cover.

What is MAPPA?

MAPPA is a set of arrangements that manage the risks posed by certain sexual and violent offenders. They bring together the Police, Probation and Prison Services in Cumbria into what is known as the MAPPA Responsible Authorities.

A number of other agencies are under a duty to co-operate with the Responsible Authorities. These include: Children's Services, Adult Social Services, Health Trusts and Authorities, Youth Offending Teams, local housing authorities and certain registered social landlords, Jobcentre Plus, and electronic monitoring providers.

The purposes of MAPPA are:

- To ensure more comprehensive risk assessments are completed, taking advantage of co-ordinated information sharing across the agencies.

- To direct the available resources to best protect the public from serious harm.

How does MAPPA work?

Offenders eligible for MAPPA are identified and information is gathered and shared about them across relevant agencies. The nature and level of the risk of harm they pose is assessed and a risk management plan is implemented to protect the public.

In most cases, the offender will be managed under the ordinary arrangements applied by the agency or agencies with supervisory responsibility.

A number of offenders, though, require active multi-agency management and their risk management plans will be formulated and monitored via MAPPA meetings attended by partner agencies.

Which offenders are managed by MAPPA?

There are three categories of offender eligible for MAPPA:

Registered sexual offenders (Category 1) - sexual offenders who are required to notify the police of their name, address and other personal details and notify any changes subsequently;

Violent offenders (Category 2) – offenders sentenced to imprisonment/ detention for 12 months or more, or detained under hospital orders. This category also includes a small number of sexual offenders who do not qualify for registration and offenders disqualified from working with children; and

Other Dangerous Offenders (Category 3) – offenders who do not qualify under categories 1 or 2 but who currently pose a risk of serious harm and require active multi-agency management.

How are offenders managed?

There are three levels of management, which are based upon the level of multi-agency co-operation required to implement the risk management plan effectively. Offenders will be moved up and down levels as appropriate:

Level 1 - Ordinary Management.
These offenders are subject to the usual management arrangements applied by whichever agency is supervising them. But this does not rule out information sharing between agencies, via ViSOR and other routes.

Level 2 - Active Multi-agency Management.
The risk management plans for these offenders require the active involvement of several agencies via regular multi-agency public protection (MAPP) meetings.

Level 3 - Active Multi-agency Management.
As with level 2, but these cases additionally require the involvement of senior officers to authorise the use of special resources, such as police surveillance or specialised accommodation, and/or to provide ongoing senior management oversight.

What is the Strategic Management Board?

Senior representatives of each of the agencies involved in MAPPA form a Strategic Management Board (SMB) which meets at least quarterly to monitor the arrangements and direct any necessary improvements.

Which agencies are represented at Strategic Management Board meetings?

- Police
- Probation Service
- Prison Service
- Children's Services
- NSPCC
- Mental Health Services
- Lay Advisers
- NHS Cumbria
- Adult & Cultural Services
- Cumbria Youth Offending Service
- Local Safeguarding Children's Board
- Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Criminal Justice Board
- Electronic Monitoring
- CASS (Cumbria Action for Social Support)
- Jobcentre Plus

Key Objectives

MAPPA's key objectives in Cumbria are as follows:

- To ensure a consistent delivery of MAPPA across Cumbria.
- To introduce National MAPPA Guidance Version 3.0 (2009).
- To introduce a MAPPA Diversity plan.
- To increase the use of ViSOR – the Violent and Sexual Offenders Register – and monitor its performance.
- To strengthen and consolidate Duty-to-Cooperate agencies' engagement with the MAPPA Strategic Management Board.
- To monitor the performance of MAPPA.
- To comply with the National MAPPA serious case review requirements.
- To develop a communication strategy that will keep partner agencies and the public informed about the work of MAPPA.
- To ensure administrative staff receive training to deliver consistent documentation of MAPPA meeting minutes.
- To ensure MAPPA chairs have the skills to create effective action points with clear responsibility and timescales.
- To ensure that everyone directly involved with MAPPA receives sufficient support and training to carry out their role effectively; including administration staff, police and probation services, practitioners and offender managers.

CASE STUDY I

We have included a number of real life case studies in this report to demonstrate how MAPPA works to protect people from sexual and violent offenders. Some details have been altered slightly to protect the identities of the people involved.

Background

A 24-yr-old man with a history of violence was imprisoned after being convicted of harassment, assault, sending an indecent image of a female via his mobile phone and breaching his Sex Offender Registration requirements.

When he was released from prison a risk assessment showed that he posed a high risk of serious harm to his ex-partner and other young females in the community. He also had learning difficulties.

On release from prison he was referred to MAPPA as there was some concern that he would not engage with the Learning Disabilities Service and that his level of risk was increasing.

Risk Assessment and Management

The offender had started to express an intense interest in young females so MAPPA conducted a risk assessment to establish the offenders' current state of mind and whether part of the management plan could include proactive involvement of the Learning Disability Service.

MAPPA sought the advice of the specialist forensic nurse attached to the local service, who arranged to assess and monitor the offender. The offender was also referred for further mental health assessments and consideration for possible detention under the Mental Health Act.

MAPPA continued to meet regularly to review his behaviour and assess the findings of the specialists involved with the offender.

Outcome

Following a review of his treatment it proved possible to stabilise the offender in the community. There was no evidence found to suggest that he was planning to engage in further offending but the police continued to monitor any intelligence and his clinical/care team provided treatment, support and clinical monitoring of the known risk areas.

The final MAPPA meeting established that this man was engaging with the Learning Disability Service and the risks that he posed had reduced, but there was still potential for those risks to increase.

One of the actions of that final meeting was to hand over responsibility for assessing, monitoring, evaluating and managing the risks to the Multi Agency Risk Evaluation (MARE) system. MARE is a clinically led forum that deals with high risk patients within the Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Service, who consider the appropriateness of clinical care or whether individuals should be referred back to the criminal justice system.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND LOCAL INITIATIVES

These pages contain details of the positive work being undertaken in Cumbria to protect the public from sexual and violent offenders.

Violent and Sexual Offenders Register – using technology to protect people

The Violent and Sexual Offender Register, or ViSOR as it is known, is the restricted data base used to store all the information about offenders who commit relevant sexual and violent offences. It is also used to record all Risk Management Plans and decisions made around the management of these individuals.

In Cumbria it is used by all three Responsible Authorities - Police, Probation and Prison Service - allowing them to share information in a reliable manner. It is a very user friendly system and is a fantastic management tool; the more that separate agencies know about individual offenders, the more effective is the management.

In a major step forward the supervisory responsibility for ViSOR has now been centralised at Police Headquarters in Penrith, which provides greater continuity and efficiency in the management of offenders.

If a Police Officer on patrol wishes to know anything about an offender, all the information they require is at hand, including the details of the specific risks and the contact details of all the people involved in the management of the individual.

Managing dangerous offenders is all about identifying risks, making decisions and putting together plans to deal with them. ViSOR is at the heart of this and contributes to reduce further offending and protect the public.

ViSOR doesn't stand still, and is continually being developed to keep pace with the challenges all agencies face in managing offenders.

Victim Contact Scheme – ensuring the feelings of victims are considered

The National Probation Service in Cumbria continues to provide an important service to victims of crime through the Victim Contact Scheme. In many instances relevant cases fall within MAPPAs, so victim liaison officers are invited to attend meetings where they are able to provide a victim perspective, to ensure their views are properly considered.

The majority of victims contacted after an offender has been sentenced in court choose to join the scheme, which means they are kept informed about when the offender is being released from prison and how they will be managed in the community. It also, more critically, gives them a voice when these issues are being considered.

Victim liaison officers receive very positive feedback from victims who value the opportunity to have their say and be kept informed about an offender's progress through the system.

Cumbria Probation Service is committed to maintaining this vital service to victims of serious crime.

Haverigg Prison - preparing for an offender's release

Her Majesty's Prison in Haverigg, near Millom, is involved with MAPPAs. They house a number of offenders who will be managed by the process when they leave prison, so have a Risk Management Team with representatives from the National Probation Service, Cumbria Constabulary's Intelligence Unit and Her Majesty's Prison Service. They also employ a Public Protection Co-ordinator who manages monthly meetings and case reviews and oversees the monitoring of prisoner mail, visits and phone calls where appropriate.

All new prisoners are assessed to establish the level of risk of harm they pose to members of the public and are allocated to a qualified Offender Supervisor. Their details are also entered onto the ViSOR computer system where appropriate, so that the information can be shared with other agencies, and comprehensive reports are produced detailing prisoner behaviour, so that the level of risk can be monitored.

The aim of this process is to ensure that agencies stay informed about when offenders are to be released back into the community, so that the relevant protection can be put in place at an early stage.

Supporting offenders and holding them accountable for their actions

In the last year, MAPPAs in Cumbria has worked in partnership with Circles UK, a national charity set up to encourage the development of Circles of Support and Accountability.

The Circle is a group of specially trained volunteers, which is set up around a sex offender who is leaving prison or living in the community. It balances the needs of the community to be protected, with the needs of the offender to be supported. The Circle is both a support and a safety mechanism, supporting the offender and holding them accountable for their actions.

At the centre of the Circle is the ex-offender, the core member, who is involved from the beginning and included in all decision making and, like other Circle members, signs a formal contract committing themselves to the Circle and its aims.

Comprising people from the local area, the Circle creates a small community within the wider community in which the core members can grow in self-esteem and develop healthy adult relationships - all necessary if the ex-offender is to fully benefit from a treatment programme.

The Circle relates to others such as family members, treatment professionals, the Probation Service, Cumbria Police, self-help groups and educators. It is supported by professional staff. The Circle is fully informed of the core member's past pattern of offending and while supporting the ex-offender to settle into the community, it also holds them to account, helping them to recognise and so move away from patterns of thought or behaviour which could lead to re-offending.

We plan to continue working with offenders in this way, and anyone who requires more information about Circles or how they can support our local Circles project can visit the website at www.circles-uk.org.uk.

Securus – monitoring the way offenders use computers

The internet is increasingly used by offenders to target victims.

Cumbria MAPPAs is helping tackle this by using a new piece of software called SECURUS to monitor the use of offenders' home computers by searching for key words or phrases that might indicate a child protection issue or cause for concern.

The system takes screenshots of the offender's computer, which can then be monitored by MAPPAs and appropriate action taken if necessary.

SECURUS works with the Lucy Faithfull foundation, a registered charity that advises and consults with professional groups involved in preventing and responding to child sexual abuse. It is particularly concerned with improving risk assessment, treatment provision and public education.

It provides another tool to make Cumbria a safer place to live and visit.

For further information visit the following websites:
www.securus-software.com/police
www.lucyfaithfull.org

Managing risk by providing accommodation for homeless offenders

Cumbria Action for Social Support (CASS) is an independent charity providing a broad range of accommodation services to homeless offenders or those at risk of offending across North and West Cumbria. CASS in its present form was established in the early 1990s.

CASS delivers a whole range of services including:

- The Big Lottery Advice scheme, which provides advice and guidance on housing related matters in every probation office within the area – this can be either a quick intervention or a longer term period of support up to three months.
- Supported accommodation in either shared or self-contained units managed by CASS but provided by the local Housing Associations for up to two years.
- Floating support for people who have their own accommodation but have housing related support needs e.g. rent arrears, benefit issues, victims of anti-social behaviour, or experienced domestic violence and/or abusive relationships.

In North Cumbria, CASS has developed close links with the Probation service who manage a number of high risk offenders that are subject to the MAPPAs process.

Representatives from CASS attend MAPPAs meetings to access and provide safe and secure accommodation for offenders. They also ensure that their rights are fully explored in relation to homelessness legislation while making sure public protection is maintained.

CASE STUDY 2

Background

A comprehensive safety package had to be created to protect the public from a man being released from prison where he had served a sentence for physical and sexual assaults.

He would be released under strict conditions which meant that for a year he could be rapidly arrested and returned to prison if it was felt that he caused a serious risk.

Risk Assessment and Management

A MAPPAs meeting was held prior to his release to draw up the conditions that he would have to abide by to remain in the community. This was attended by representatives from the Police, Probation and relevant housing association.

The agreed conditions were:

1. Prevented from having any child under the age of 16 at his home address.
2. Not to stay at any address at which there was a child under 16.
3. Not to approach or communicate with any child under 16.
4. Not to have any unsupervised contact with a child under 16.
5. Not to work or seek to work in an environment that would bring him into contact with children, this included charity work.
6. Not to possess a computer.
7. Not to use a computer except for work.
8. Not to have a mobile phone that could take photographs or access the internet.
9. Not to access the Internet.
10. Not to enter or be in sight of swimming pools.
11. To inform Offender Manager of any developing personal relationships.
12. To report to his supervising officer as directed.
13. To live where directed.
14. To be of good behaviour.

The above conditions would last for the licence period of a year. Failure to comply with any of these would result in a warrant being issued for his immediate return to prison.

In addition to the above the MAPPAs meeting was informed of the following:

1. That the offender would have to register with the local police under the terms of a Sex Offender Notification Requirement for life. Failure to comply with this would lead to his arrest and prosecution.
2. He would also be subject to a Sex Offender Prevention Order for 10 years, which means the Court has prohibited him from certain activities, and any breach of those would be a Criminal Offence resulting in a further conviction and sentence.

Local schools, shopping centres, libraries etc were notified of his release and description so that relevant people could report his behaviour to the police if he breached his conditions.

Outcome

The man continues to be managed in the community. He has not reoffended.

How does MAPPA operate in Cumbria?

Cumbria MAPPA already has a strong track record of working closely with partner agencies, to make sure the relevant people know the risks posed by individuals and take steps to safeguard the community against them.

To further improve this, they have strengthened links over the past year with the local Safeguarding Children Board, Domestic Violence Board and Criminal Justice Board. They have also created a joint partnership intelligence unit, based at Police Headquarters in Penrith, where staff from Police, Probation, NHS and Social Services can work together, share information and more effectively identify and manage risks to the public.

These initiatives provide clear benefits for public protection in Cumbria, and provide a platform for high quality service, to meet the revised MAPPA guidance 2009. This reflects considerable investment by Cumbria Constabulary and Cumbria Probation Service.

The evolving links with the Domestic Abuse “Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences” and Mental Health “Multi Agency Risk Evaluation” processes give added strength to MAPPA and have resulted in MAPPA meetings receiving far more detailed, timely and relevant information on which to base decisions.

Who is involved in MAPPA in Cumbria?

Many agencies are involved in managing the risks posed by sexual and violent offenders across the county, with Cumbria Police, Cumbria Probation Service and Her Majesty’s Prison Service North West taking the lead. All staff in these agencies contribute towards the MAPPA processes, but some specialists are also involved.

In this section, some of the agencies involved have provided further details of their role in MAPPA:

Police

Superintendent Andy Slattery, who is in charge of Cumbria Constabulary’s Public Protection Unit, said: “The past year has seen considerable challenges faced by Cumbria Constabulary in the area of Offender Management. Early in 2008 an inspection by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary highlighted a number of areas for improvement where the organisation was failing to meet the required standards. An Action Plan was developed to address these areas and assistance was sought from the National Policing Improvement Agency who conducted a Peer Review of our MAPPA processes.

“Action was quickly taken to address the more urgent recommendations made by HMIC who were invited to revisit Cumbria later in the year. The result of this further assessment was that Inspectors found that the Constabulary had made considerable improvements and was moving in the right direction. This work has continued into 2009 with further developments planned for the coming year. The Peer Review completed by the NPIA in March 2009 identified areas of best

practice which have been held up as examples for Police Forces across the country.

“These developments include the creation of a multi-agency Public Protection Unit at Force Headquarters in Penrith where staff from Police, Probation, NHS and Social Services can work together, share information and more effectively identify and manage risks to the public.

“The MAPPA Coordinator and Administrator work from this building along with a Senior Probation Officer and dedicated Police offender management staff. All Police public protection staff in Cumbria now come under one central command which allows us to better ensure consistency of approach and deploy resources according to demand.

“The investment made by Cumbria Police Authority in Protective Services over the last two years has enabled us to professionalise our research and analytical capability, given us dedicated surveillance resources, and allowed us to bring Public Protection together as a single unified command.

“The coming year will see us building on this investment and using these additional assets together with our partners to deliver on a Safer Stronger Cumbria.”

Prison Service

Ian Lockwood, Regional Manager for Custodial Services, said: “2008/2009 has been a year of further improvements in the way the Prison Service contributes to the important work of protecting the public in Cumbria. Significant progress has been achieved in the way prison staff work with Police, Probation and other agencies to share information and create management plans that reduce the risks posed by offenders.

“This critical work, by its very nature, often goes unreported, but it is crucial that the people of Cumbria have confidence that we are working collaboratively to protect our communities.

“This integrated approach to managing risk is key to how we work within prisons and contributes to protecting the public when offenders are released back into the community in Cumbria.

“A number of initiatives introduced during the year have placed greater emphasis on the role of the Prison Service in protecting the public, which I welcome, notably:

- The implementation of ViSOR in all prisons and probation areas for risk information to be shared with police more efficiently.
- The publication of the new national Prison Service Public Protection Manual to further professionalise the work of prison staff in this area.
- The introduction of a Regional Public Protection Forum for all prisons in the North West.
- The appointment of Caroline Marsh as the regional Director of Offender Management.
- The restructure of the National Offender Management Service to focus on protecting the public and reducing reoffending

“Our continued attendance at MAPPA Meetings and Public Protection Panels are evidence of our commitment to protecting the public. We have also improved the way we manage high risk offenders in custody, by sharing relevant information with partners and ensuring they know when offenders are due to be released, especially when there are unexpected changes in release dates.

“The Prison Service now has resilient arrangements in place in Cumbria and will continue to target resources where they are most needed in order to fulfil their obligations to the community.”

Probation

Annette Hennessey, Chief Probation Officer for Cumbria, said: “The past year has seen Cumbria Probation consolidate its reputation for being highly skilled at public protection work and shown that we continue to fully contribute to reducing and managing the risk offenders pose to the public.

“Cumbria Probation continues to work effectively with partner agencies and I am pleased to report that no serious further offences were committed by any offender being managed under MAPPA in Cumbria.

“We will, however, review our practices following the highly publicised Sonnex case in London. This case served as a reminder that the people we deal with are capable of posing a real and immediate risk to the public, and how essential it is that we continue to manage these people using the MAPPA framework.

“Cumbria Probation has committed further management resource to the new multi-agency Public Protection Unit at Police Headquarters in Penrith to ensure effective management of offenders and information sharing between Responsible Authorities.

“We have also implemented and are managing a group called Circles of Support and Accountability, which offers a support network to sex offenders and makes them accountable for their actions. Further details are available in the ‘Achievements’ section of this report.

“Looking ahead, we will continue to strive to improve our management of offenders and look for innovative ways of making Cumbria safer.”

Local Safeguarding Children’s Board

Lynda Maudlin, Manager of Cumbria’s Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), said: “This board continues to be the statutory body with the lead responsibility for co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of local work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

“All agencies providing services for Cumbria’s children and young people are represented on the LSCB and are united in their commitment and duty to delivering the goals set out in their plan entitled ‘Every Child Matters’.

“Cumbria LSCB will continue to work closely with the MAPPA team to ensure that the safeguarding of children is addressed in all of their business planning activity.

Lay Advisers – providing a community perspective

Lay Advisers are members of the community who act as independent yet informed observers at MAPPA meetings; able to pose questions which the professionals closely involved in the work might not think of asking. They also bring to the table their understanding and perspective of the local community – where they must reside or have strong links.

Leo, a Lay Adviser from Cumbria, has this to say about his role in MAPPA:

“My role is not to represent any particular constituency but to look at the work of MAPPA from a lay perspective. There is no doubting the dedication and skill of the professionals involved, but many have other significant responsibilities.

“A lay adviser is able to focus entirely on the main task in hand and brings to deliberations a healthy degree of scepticism and challenges the wisdom of those who are much closer to the daily stress of the demanding work in this area of criminal justice.

“Most of the time there is little call for any direct action by me. It is quite clear that the Responsible Authorities are liaising more closely now than just a few years ago and attendance at meetings by other agencies has improved significantly. In particular, the appointment of a co-ordinator working out of Cumbria Police Headquarters has increased the effectiveness of the overall effort.

“For my own part I have continued to attend relevant conferences and training events, which helps me understand the nature of offences, offenders and victims. Additionally, by observing MAPPA meetings, I am able to see how the process aims to minimise the risk of harm to anyone in Cumbria.

“I am pleased to be able to say that the role of Lay Adviser is challenging and worthwhile. Those with the statutory responsibility for the work in our County are doing a good job, despite the usual problems of resource allocation.”

If you are interested in becoming a Lay Adviser, or would like more information, contact the MAPPA Coordinator on 01768 217648.



Youth Offending Service

The Cumbria Youth Offending Team is committed to their involvement with the MAPPA Strategic Management Board and has achieved a 100 per cent attendance record at relevant meetings.

We continue to manage the risk that some of our clients present by undertaking an effective assessment to identify those risks. As a multi agency team, most of these risks can be managed by utilising the expertise of our Health Community Practice Nurses, police officers, social workers, education workers, probation officers and core Youth Offending Service staff.

In addition, we chair the 'Prevent and Deter' meetings, where potential serious offenders of the future are identified and suitable support and enforcement packages agreed among partner agencies, to reduce their risks at an early age. We are also active partners in the very successful Scawfell Project, which tackles prolific and priority offenders.

The number of children and young people subject to the MAPPA process remains small, but we are determined to work closely with all our partner agencies to protect the public from the risk of harm that this small number do present.

Children's Services

Cumbria Children's Services has maintained its input to public protection arrangements this year. Representation on the MAPPA Strategic Management Board comes from the Safeguarding Board Manager who links to the Children's Services and communicates issues around public protection to the partners of the Cumbria Local Safeguarding Children's Board. MAPPA, Police and offender management leads in turn sit on the Cumbria Local Safeguarding Children Board, supporting much improved arrangements for sharing information.

CASE STUDY 3

Background

Mark (not his real name) is a 22 year old man serving a sentence for a violent offence and is subject to MAPPA. He is assessed as high risk of harm to children and to known adults and is also required to sign the Sex Offender Register.

He was convicted of two offences of sexual activity with a child in 2007 and the female victim was also the victim of his current violent offence. Mark had previously committed a violent offence against a 12-yr-old girl in 2004.

At the time of his imprisonment, his partner (and victim) was 17-yrs-old and in the early stages of pregnancy with their child.

Mark transferred to Haverigg in the autumn of 2008.

Risk Assessment and Management

Following a risk assessment, restrictions were placed on who Mark could have contact with through phone calls, letters and visits while in prison. From his arrival at Haverigg he constantly attempted to contact his partner, despite assuring his caseworkers in the prison that he was aware of the restrictions imposed on him.

Intelligence was received that he had received a visit from his partner at a previous establishment where she had gained entry to the prison apparently using false identification.

Mark's caseworker explained to him that given his partner was aged 17 she would not be allowed to visit him, because she was also the victim of his offending.

When the baby was born Mark applied to have contact with his child and in consultation with the Police and the Probation Service this request was declined by the prison.

All assessments for child contact are based on the best interests of the child – it was not thought to be in the child's best interests to have any contact with Mark.

Before Mark was released back into the community it became clear that he intended setting up home with his partner and their child.

Outcome

The case was managed through MAPPA and the agencies involved ensured that the child was protected despite Mark and his partner wanting to live together.

The information from the prison was essential in ensuring a robust risk management plan was put in place. Support was given to his partner as a victim of his offending but it was explained clearly to her that there were sufficiently serious concerns for the safety of her and the baby that should she choose to live with Mark then the baby would be taken for its own safety.

Domestic abuse cases sometimes result in victims wishing to maintain contact with the perpetrators during custody and on release. Sound public protection arrangements and all the agencies working together ensure that the risks to the public, and particularly to children, are effectively managed such as in

FACTS AND FIGURES

This section of the annual report provides facts and figures relating to MAPPA's work, and allows you to keep track on the work being undertaken to protect the public in Cumbria.

One of the most positive statistics this year relates to the number of Sex Offender Prevention Orders (SOPOs) imposed by the courts on sex offenders resident in Cumbria. This figure has increased steadily since 2007. Twenty one orders were imposed in 2006/2007 compared to 25 in 2008/09. This is a positive measure and reflects the increase in work done by Criminal justice agencies locally to increase restrictions on sex offenders.

SOPOs are an essential element in managing the risks posed by offenders as they restrict an offender's behaviour and movements. The increase in the number of SOPOs applied for highlights their importance and the Courts willingness to support the recommendations of those professionals working with violent and sexual offenders.

MAPPA Statistical Information 2008/9

Number of MAPPA eligible offenders at 31 March 2009	
Registered Sexual Offenders	290
Violent Offenders	49
Other Dangerous Offenders	2
Total	341

Offenders managed via MAPP meetings - Level 2	
Registered Sexual Offenders	34
Violent Offenders	24
Other Dangerous Offenders	10
Total	68

Offenders managed via MAPP meetings - Level 3	
Registered Sexual Offenders	3
Violent Offenders	0
Other Dangerous Offenders	0
Total	3

Enforcement for offenders managed via MAPP meetings Returned to custody for breach of licence	
Level 2	10
Level 3	0
Total	10

Sent to custody for breach of Sexual Offences Prevention Order (SOPO)	
Level 2	1
Level 3	1
Total	2

Serious Further Offences involving offenders managed via MAPP meetings Charged with a serious further offence	
Level 2	0
Level 3	0
Total	0

This year saw a small increase in the number of Level 2 MAPPA offenders recalled to Prison, from eight in 2007/08 to ten in 2008/09. This is thought to be due to the robust enforcement of licence conditions, which continues to be demonstrated by the number of recalls to custody being undertaken by the Probation Service.

It is not entirely possible to remove the potential for offenders to commit a serious further offence, although this year we have had none. While any serious further offence means personal tragedy for people in the community, this figure suggests that MAPPA is succeeding in managing those offenders who pose the greatest threat to society.

All cases of serious further offending are rigorously reviewed with learning points being addressed by the agencies involved.

Of those charged during the year (level 2 and 3 combined) plus those who remained charged with an SFO last year, i.e. at 31 March 2008:

Convicted of a serious further offence	0
Other outcome	0
Remain charged with serious further offence	0

Further data on Registered Sexual Offenders Registered Sexual Offenders in:	
North BCU	123
South BCU	83
West BCU	84

Total number of registered sexual offenders in [Area] per 100,000 head of population

59

Registered Sexual Offenders cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements

8

Sexual Offences Prevention Orders Applied for	35
Interim Order issued	1
Full Order issued	25

Notification Orders Applied for	0
Interim Order issued	0
Full Order issued	0

Foreign Travel Orders Applied for	0
Interim Order issued	0
Full Order issued	0

EXPLANATION / COMMENTARY

The totals of MAPPA eligible offenders, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2009, i.e. a snapshot. This year has seen a sharp drop in the total number of Category 2 and 3 offenders reported. This is mainly due to the difference in reporting method made to ensure a more accurate picture of the number of MAPPA eligible offenders living in the community at any one time.

Last year's figure reflected the number of such offenders over the whole year rather than the snapshot given this year. The Category 1 figure has been a 31 March snapshot for some years. The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009, in order to give an indication of activity and outcomes in relation to those offenders managed at MAPPA levels 2 and 3 over the whole year.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

MAPPA – Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements. The arrangements see a number of agencies working together to manage violent and sexual offenders in the community.

MAPPA eligible offenders – there are a number of offenders defined in law as eligible for MAPPA management because they have committed specified sexual and violent offences and/or currently pose a risk of serious harm, although the majority are actually managed under ordinary agency (level 1) arrangements rather than via MAPP meetings.

Registered Sexual Offenders (RSOs) – those who are required to notify the police of their name, address and other personal details and notify any changes subsequently. Failure to comply with the notification requirements is a criminal offence which carries a maximum penalty of 5 years' imprisonment.

Violent Offenders – this category includes violent offenders sentenced to imprisonment/detention for 12 months or more, or detained under hospital orders. It also includes a small number of sexual offenders who do not qualify for registration and offenders disqualified from working with children.

Other Offenders – offenders who do not qualify under the other 2 MAPPA eligible categories but who currently pose a risk of serious harm which requires management via MAPP meetings.

Breach of licence – offenders released into the community following a period of imprisonment of 12 months or more will be subject to a licence with conditions (under probation supervision). If these conditions are not complied with, breach action will be taken and the offender may be recalled to prison.

Serious further offence (SFO) – serious sexual or violence offences listed in Probation Circular 22/2008. Other

outcome means that the case has been dealt with by 31 March 2009 but that the offender was not convicted of an SFO; eg the offender was acquitted or the case was not proceeded with, or s/he was convicted of a lesser offence. The data may include offenders who remained charged with an SFO at 31 March 2008 and, where so, this is indicated.

Sexual Offences Prevention Order (SOPO) – a court may make a SOPO at the time of dealing with certain sexual offenders or when the police make a special application on account of the offender's behaviour in the community. The full order lasts for a minimum of 5 years and can last indefinitely. A SOPO will require the subject to register as a sexual offender and can include conditions, for example to prevent the offender loitering near schools or playgrounds. If the offender fails to comply with (i.e. breaches) the requirements of the order, he can be taken back to court and may be liable to up to 5 years' imprisonment.

Notification Order – requires sexual offenders who have been convicted overseas to register with police, in order to protect the public in the UK from the risks that they pose. Police may apply to the court for the order in relation to offenders in or intending to come to the UK.

Foreign Travel Orders – prevent offenders with convictions for sexual offences against children from traveling abroad (where it is necessary to do so) to protect children from the risk of sexual harm.

Responsible Authority – The Police, Probation Service and Prison Service are the authorities responsible for effectively managing the MAPPA process in Cumbria.

NOMS – The National Offender Management Service. To find out more go to www.noms.homeoffice.gov.uk.

CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

Information about offenders held by MAPPA agencies and shared between them is confidential and is used only as agreed for the purposes of public protection.

Inappropriate disclosure of information can have a detrimental impact on the successful management of offenders in the community. By being named and shamed in the community, we run the risk of offenders going underground, where we would no longer be able to influence their behaviour.

However, there are occasions where as part of a carefully considered risk management plan, we may need to disclose information about an offender in the interests of public protection. Disclosure may be to a named individual or representative of an organisation, such as a school or community group, with each case considered on its own merits, taking into account the legality and proportionality of doing so.

Information is considered for release to the media only in exceptional cases, for example, if an offender's whereabouts are unknown then we can call on the public for help.

The Strategic Management Board is working to provide information to the community about the process of managing offenders, and this Annual Report is one of the ways we achieve this.

A copy of this report can be found on the Cumbria Constabulary website: www.cumbria.police.uk

Or in the Public Protection section of the National Probation website: www.probation.homeoffice.gov.uk