



DORSET

Dorset Area 2007

MAPPA

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

Protecting the public through strong Partnerships

Annual Report 2006/07



Ministry of JUSTICE

Ministerial Foreword

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

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Dorset Responsible Authority Foreword

The Dorset Criminal Justice Board in Dorset is pleased to present this Annual Report to the residents of Dorset. It recognises that whilst Dorset is a low crime area, relative to other counties, it nonetheless needs to work hard to protect all members of society from those who pose the greatest risk. The Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements are a significant contribution to the work that does take place.

This report sets out the work that is undertaken by the agencies involved in the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements and it demonstrates the contributions made to building confidence in the Criminal Justice System as a whole.

The last 12 months has seen the continuing national interest in the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements. This Annual Report explains how agencies work together to ensure that wherever possible, the most risky offenders are managed effectively in the community. It is recognised that agencies cannot eliminate all risk, but the Dorset Criminal Justice Board is very keen to ensure that local agencies will perform their tasks as fully as possible in the drive to control that risk. The evidence overall is that those actions are very effective and nationally only 0.6% of the most dangerous offenders go on to commit a serious further offence; a figure that we would want to reduce even further.

These local initiatives need to be put alongside national developments which have seen:

1. The use of indeterminate custodial sentences for those who pose the highest risk of offending.
2. The strengthening of release arrangements for serious offenders.
3. The increased focus on reducing domestic violence offending and the introduction of Specialist Domestic Violence Courts.

The Criminal Justice Board recognises that local communities will welcome all initiatives to reduce the risk of serious harm but that together we need to remain vigilant in reducing risk even further.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to show appreciation for the work undertaken both by members of our own staff and by partner organisations in making Dorset safer and making Dorset feel safe. In particular we would like to express our gratitude to DCI Ivor Graham for all his hard work and commitment to the role of MAPPA Coordinator.

We hope that the report will both inform you about and give you confidence in the measures being taken to enhance the protection of the public.

Alan Scott
Area Manager
Dorset Prisons

Martin Copsey
Chief Probation Officer
Dorset Probation Area

Adrian Whiting
Assistant Chief Constable
Dorset Police

1. Introduction

Dorset MAPPA is primarily provided and funded by Dorset Police and Dorset Probation. These agencies are accountable for the identification and effective risk management of the most dangerous offenders in our community. However these multi-agency public protection arrangements only work with the cooperation of other agencies and are overseen by the Strategic Management Board.

Effective multi-agency public protection starts with the effective identification of relevant offenders. Prompt and accurate identification allows agencies to gather and share relevant information and enable them to choose the appropriate risk management strategies.

Risk management is dependent on agreed plans, commitment by agencies to deliver actions and a review of processes and outcomes. The MAPPA is only as effective as the agencies that provide and support it.

2. Dorset Strategic Management Board

The Strategic Management Board (SMB) has representation at a senior level from all relevant Dorset agencies and includes two Lay Advisors. The Lay Advisors are Sonia Sharpe and Trefor Morgan.

There are quarterly SMB meetings, where the agenda is driven by the Business Plan and the accountability agenda. Any agency is also able to raise items for discussion. The Police, Probation and Dorset Forensic Team provide managers directly involved in the delivery of MAPPA. Other members of the Board represent themselves and groups of organisations. For example, there is one Senior Officer from Purbeck Housing who represents all Housing providers. The Governor of HMP The Verne represents HMPS.

The flow of issues is ensured by there being a standing item on all Level 3 MAPPA meetings to raise issues for the SMB if, and as required.

The role of the SMB: -

- develop and agree local policies and procedures for inter-agency work to protect the public within national guidance;
- develop and work towards a 2006/09 business plan (see below);
- encourage and help to develop effective working relationships between different services and professional groups, based on trust and mutual understanding;
- ensure there is a level of agreement and understanding across agencies about operational definitions and thresholds for intervention;
- work in conjunction with the Bournemouth and Poole Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Dorset Local Safeguarding Children Board, the countywide Adult Protection Committee, the Mentally Disordered Offenders Strategy Group, and Housing strategy groups;
- improve local ways of working in the light of knowledge gained through national and local experience and research and ensures that any lessons learned are shared, understood, and acted upon;
- help to improve the quality of public protection work and of inter-agency working through specifying needs for inter-agency training and development, and ensuring that training is delivered;
- audit and evaluate how well local services work together to protect the public;
- receive and act upon Audit feedback, as necessary;
- determine community and media communication.

The most significant development has been the retirement of our MAPPA Coordinator, DCI Ivor Graham in March 2007. The SMB would like to express great appreciation for the work Ivor has done in being the driving force behind MAPPA in Dorset since the system was set-up and without his commitment and energy the progress in multi-agency cooperation would not be as advanced or successful.

At the end of the year one of our Lay Advisors, Trefor Morgan, also resigned. The SMB would like to express our thanks for Trefor's commitment over the two years he has been a Lay Advisor.

The updated Business Plan (see below) represents the significant progress made against priorities in the last year.

The priority of 2007-8 is to complete the Business Plan Objectives and continue to improve effectiveness of the MAPPA, especially to increase agency participation in Level 2 MAPPAs.

There is a new chair for the SMB in 2007-8. Detective Superintendent Mark Cooper, who is the Director of Prevention and Public Protection for Dorset Police.

Detective Superintendent Cooper is in the process of professionalising and standardising public protection arrangements within Dorset Police, which will focus on the management of risk and prevention of harm. He says 'Dorset has developed a good multi-agency MAPPA process and the work of the SMB will ensure that we continue to focus on the management of risk and development of processes to enable us to provide the most efficient and effective arrangements'.

'It is nationally recognised that Dorset is a safe place to live and through this partnership approach we can sustain our performance, making Dorset safe and the public feel safer'.

DORSET Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements Business Plan 2006/09

1. MAPPA Development Strategy

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	DELIVERY PLAN	MILESTONES	OWNER	OUTCOME	PROGRESS
1.1 To have achieved dedicated MAPPA Coordination & Administration according to specification set out in National Consultation paper 2005. (National Objective)	Build into the 06/07 Business plan an objective to support the national requirement	April 2006	SMB	To have funded and implemented the agreed models by 1 st April 2007	Achieved
	Review current arrangements for dedicated Administration capacity	June 2006 SMB	Police DCI		Achieved
	Review arrangements for MAPPA coordinator capacity and bring proposal to SMB	Sept 2006 SMB	Probation ACO/Det Sup		Achieved Coordinator appointed 1 April '07. SPO ½ time
1.2 On receipt of National update; revise and publish MAPPA Guidance to all relevant agencies (National Objective)	Update and revise local MAPPA guidance on receipt of a national update and in consideration of the HMIP thematic inspection of MAPPA expected in Spring 2006.	Within 2 months of receipt of national update and HMIP report	DCI/ACO	To have comprehensively overhauled the MAPPA guidance according to National requirements by 1 st Sept 2006.	Draft guidance received and considered
	To then republish guidance to all DTC agencies	ditto	MAPPA administrator		
1.3 To develop a strategy for reducing the proportion of level 3 conferences to the regional average as set against level 2 conferences (Local Objective)	Review the processes for referral to level 2 and 3 conferences.	June 2006.	Prob Coord.	To have reduced the proportion of MAPPA conferences that are held at level 3 to the regional average by 31 st March 2007.	In progress. Key task for newly appointed coordinator to review processes by end June '07
	Develop an action plan and target for reduction for consideration at SMB	June 2006.	DCI/Prob Coord.		
	Review proportion of level 2/3 as against target	March 2007.	SMB		

2. Monitoring & Evaluation Strategy

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	DELIVERY PLAN	MILESTONES	OWNER	OUTCOME	PROGRESS
2.1 Develop multi agency public protection performance indicators and develop robust multi-agency monitoring arrangements to support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> publication of Annual Report analysis of use of MAPPA risk management thresholds at Level 2 & 3 	Revise monitoring arrangements proposed to SMB in Dec 2004 to include the requirements set out nationally.	Sept 2006	Prob coord.	To have a planned programme of performance reports for SMB consideration by 1 st Sept 2006	Ongoing

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	DELIVERY PLAN	MILESTONES	OWNER	OUTCOME	PROGRESS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> analysis of attendance and level of implementation of actions by agencies contributing to Level 2 & 3 meetings analysis of diversity profile of offenders assessed at Level 2 and Level 3. (National and Local Objective) 					
2.2 To improve consistency of recording and collation of data for MAPPA according to national guidelines (National Objective)	Implement national templates locally to support information sharing, referral to MAPPA, Minute taking and review processes.	To be implemented on receipt of national templates	DCI /MAPPA admin	To have complied with national template requirements once received	Pending provision of national templates
2.3 To ensure that Dorset has a rolling MAPPA Business plan process for 2006-9. (National Objective)	Agree Business Plan for 2006 -9 Review Business Plan annually Discuss three year objectives	SMB March 2006. SMB March 2007/8 SMB June 2006	SMB DCI/ACO	To have established an annual Business Plan process by March 2006.	Achieved
2.4 To implement local processes to ensure that a Serious Case Review process has taken place for offenders who commit Serious Further Offences at Level 2 and 3 and for other serious incidents for all MAPPA offenders. (National and Local Objective)	Agree the current proposal for reviews of serious incidents Amend local agreements in the light of any national requirements and lessons learnt from national reviews	SMB March 2006. As necessary	ACO ACO	To have established clear local process for Serious Case Reviews for Level 2 and Level 3 MAPPA cases in place, which links and does not repeat internal or other multi agency review processes by June 2006.	Achieved

3. Communication & Strategic Partnerships Strategy

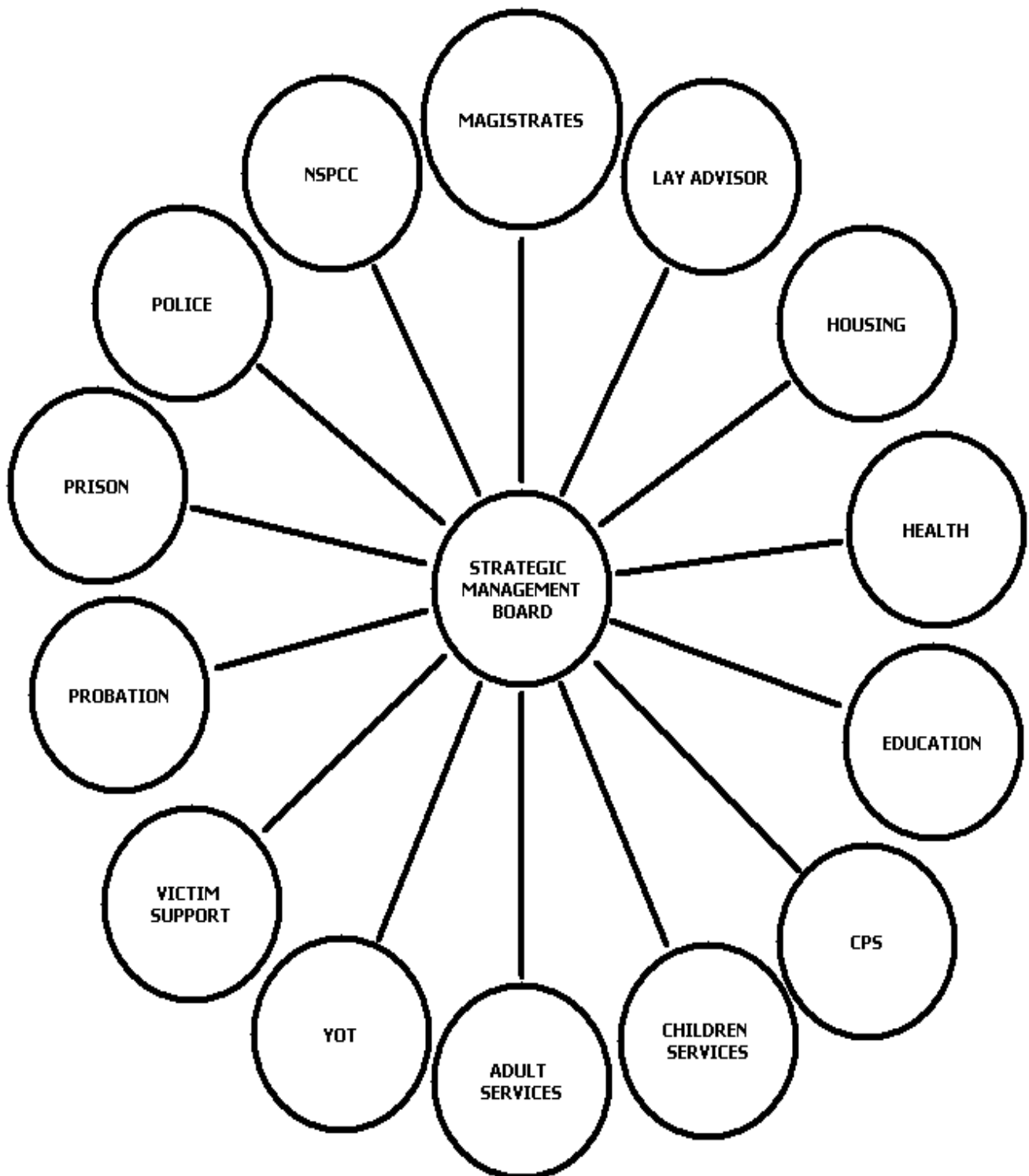
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	DELIVERY PLAN	MILESTONES	OWNER	OUTCOME	PROGRESS
3.1 To publish a Dorset MAPPA Annual Report according to national guidelines and in a format which improves public understanding of the process and engagement in it. (National and Local Objective)	Discuss format and process for the 05/06 annual report at SMB Provide data to PPLRU by 17.04.06 Contributions sent to DCI Send draft Annual Report to PPLRU by 01.05.06 Present final version to SMB Publish according to agreed distribution	March 06. 17.04.06. April 13th 2006. 01.05.06 June 2006. When required by PPLRU	SMB DCI SMB members, inc lay member DCI DCI ACO	To have produced a Dorset MAPPA Annual report according to national requirements in a version that is user friendly and widely distributed, by the date of the national launch.	Achieved

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	DELIVERY PLAN	MILESTONES	OWNER	OUTCOME	PROGRESS
3.2 To develop a Dorset MAPPA communication policy according to the national policy once released (National and Local Objective)	Respond to the national Communication Policy, currently being developed	Bring National policy to SMB, once released and agree development process	ACO/DCI	To have developed and implemented a Dorset MAPPA Communications Policy by 31 st March 2007.	Communications strategy written. To be presented to SMB June '07
3.3 To ensure that Dorset MAPPA SMB contributes to the development of regional MAPPA processes (Local Objective)	Ensure at attendance at regional SMB meetings and responses to regional SMB requests	Review in March 2007	ACO/DCI/Lay Member	To continually ensure that Dorset MAPPA processes are in line with regional processes.	Active engagement in regional MAPPA workshops & seminars. High level of engagement in S.W. Public Protection pathfinder.

4. Training Strategy

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	DELIVERY PLAN	MILESTONES	OWNER	OUTCOME	PROGRESS
4.1 To develop a Dorset MAPPA training strategy including the following national requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction to MAPPA for new practitioners • Training for MAPPA SMB members inc. lay members • Training for MAPPA coordinators and administrators • Training for Conference Chairs and attendees 	To undertake preparatory work on an audit of training need in Dorset To develop a training strategy for Dorset MAPPA which integrates with regional provision	July 2006. On receipt of National training resource pack (June 2006) and in time for Sept SMB	Probation coord. ACO	To have developed and be implementing a Dorset MAPPA training strategy which draws on regional training initiatives, by 1 st Jan 2007.	Agreement with police colleagues of need to deliver awareness training with MAPPA agencies. Plan to begin delivery in July '07.

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT BOARD MEMBERSHIP



All members receive email minutes

3. Lay Advisor Report

The two Lay Advisors have continued to attend the quarterly meetings of the Dorset MAPPA Strategic Management Board (SMB).

I have found the SMB meetings to be professional, focused and expertly chaired. Actions required are clearly defined and deadlines are enforced. There is a continuity of strategic development from meeting to meeting. My input includes queries that require clarification of procedures or terminology, the occasional challenge or simply suggestions based on my non-public protection experiences.

In addition, I have attended the first National Conference for Lay Advisors in Leeds in March which enabled us to be updated by the Home Office and to share experiences nationally. Also in March, I was asked to address the South West regional conference of MAPPA in Taunton on my experience of the role of the Lay Advisor. I have also assisted the Chief Officer of Probation in liaising with the media about one particular case which was being highlighted in the news. Princess Anne visited the Dorset Probation offices last autumn and I was invited to speak to her about MAPPA.

I am satisfied that the Multi Agency Arrangements are organized well in Dorset and that continuous improvement is being sought.

Sonia Sharpe

4. Dorset Statistical Information

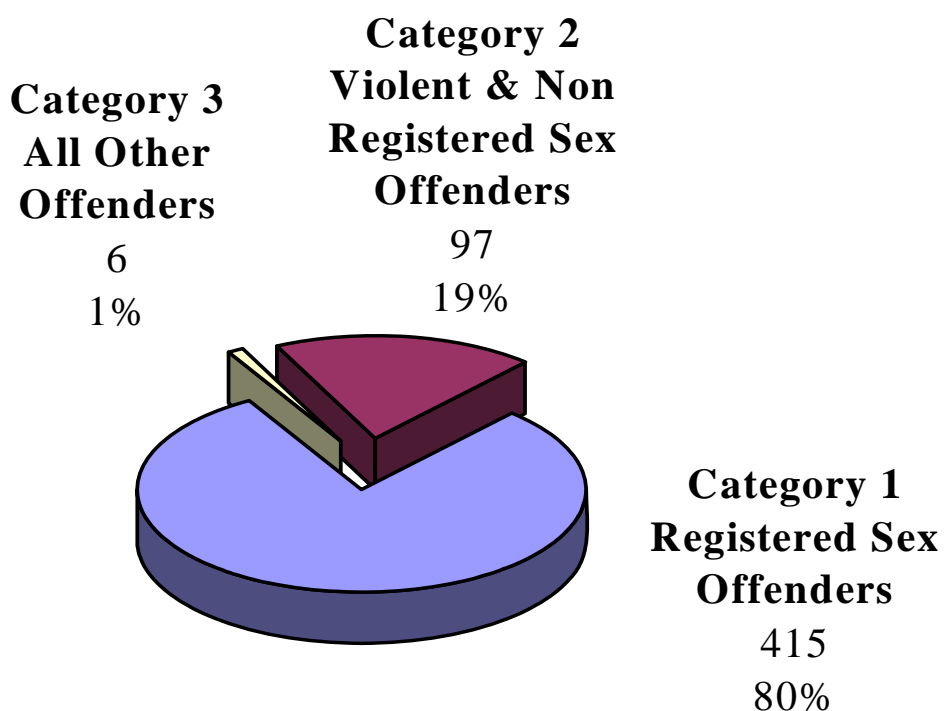
1st APRIL 2005 – 31st MARCH 2006

Total number of Dorset MAPPA Offenders in the Community by Category (% Change)

<u>Category</u>	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
1. Registered Sex Offenders (RSO)	333 (22.0%)	352 (5.7%)	397 (12.7%)	415 (4.5%)
2. Violent Offenders and other sex offenders	103 (-69.7%)	44 (-57.2%)	100 (127.2%)	97 (-3%)
3. Other offenders	32 (-17.9%)	5 (-84.3%)	9 (80%)	6 (-33.3%)
<u>Totals per year</u>	468	401	506	518

Note: Category 2 offenders exclude those held in custody.

Total number of Dorset MAPPA Offenders in the Community 2006/07



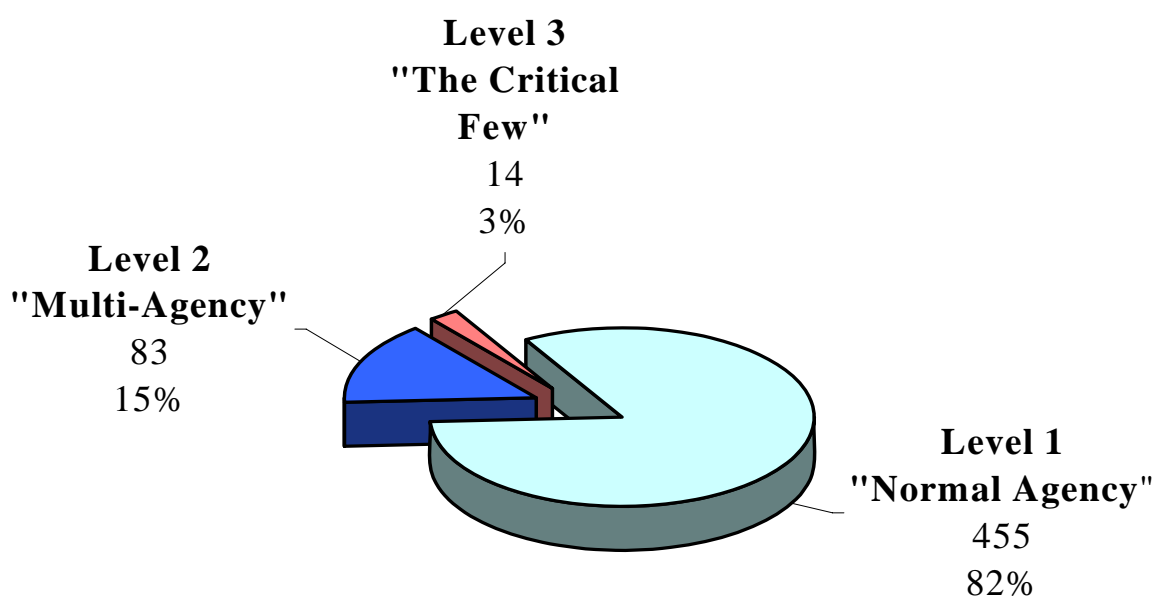
The majority of offenders who form part of the MAPPA arrangements are Registered Sex Offenders. This number has been increasing year on year and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. This is due to the fact that nearly every sexual offence conviction results in the convicted offenders' name being placed on the register. In the main, the period that offenders are required to register for is between 5 years and life; therefore, it is unlikely that there will be any reduction in these figures.

The number of Violent and other offenders in the community mainly depends on the release of offenders from prison sentences and the parole board guidelines at the time. There has been a slight decrease in the number of Category 2, but Dorset does not expect this number to vary dramatically over the coming couple of years.

Breakdown of Dorset Level 2 and Level 3 MAPPA Offenders for 2006/07

<u>Category of Offender</u>	Level 2 (% of MAPPA Total)		Level 3 (% of MAPPA total)		Total per Category (% of MAPPA Total)	
	05/06	06/07	05/06	06/07	05/06	06/07
1. Registered Sex Offenders (RSO)	54 13.6%	32	14 3.5%	6	68 17.1%	38
2. Violent offenders and other sex offenders	69 69.0%	48	9 9.0%	5	78 78.0%	53
3. Other offenders	4 44.4%	3	5 55.6%	3	9 100.0%	6
<u>Total per Level</u>	127 25.0%	83	28 5.0%	14	156 30.0%	97
<u>% Change</u>		-34.6%		-50%		-37.4%

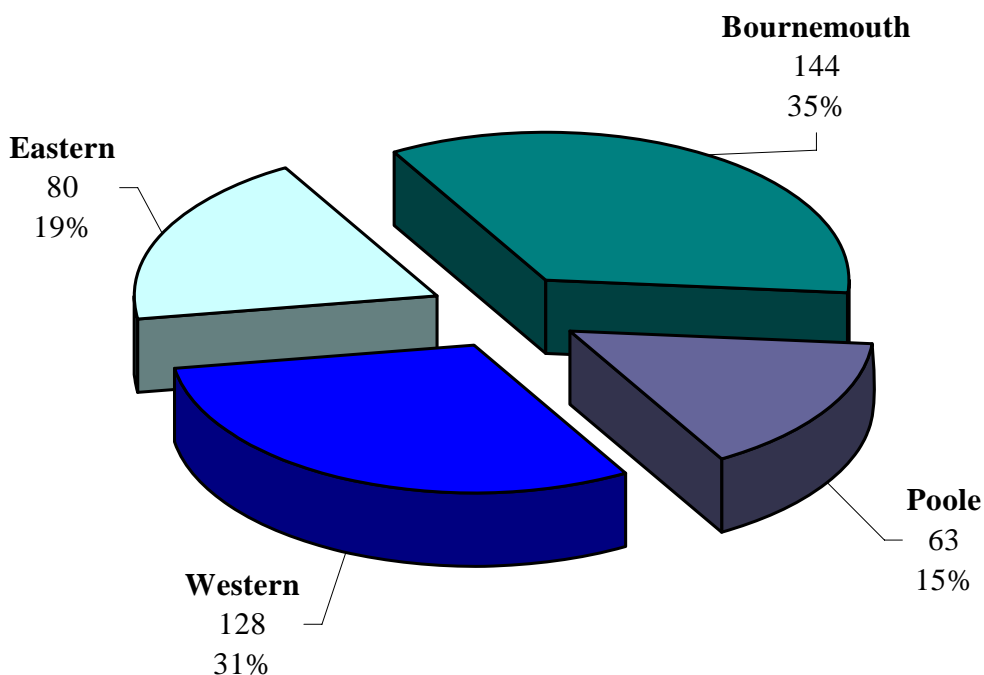
Dorset MAPPA Offenders by Management Level 2006/07



The management of offenders is predominately at Level 1, with the owning agency managing the risk and case at that level. This year has seen an increase in the use of Level 1, but a decrease in the number of offenders managed at Level 3 and Level 2.

Overall there has been a 5% increase in the number of offenders being managed through MAPPA (05/06 – 526 06/07 - 552); 3.5% of this increase being related to the number of R.S.O.

Dorset Registered Sex Offenders by Division 2006/07



Dorset's Registered Sex Offender population is spread over the four Divisions, with Poole and Eastern Division having approximately the same number as do Bournemouth and Western Division. Bournemouth and Western Division have approximately two thirds of all RSOs in Dorset, but this is predominantly due to the availability of single accommodation. Both Bournemouth and Weymouth have a large supply of such housing, which lends itself to higher numbers of RSOs being resident. Generally, RSOs cannot live in family situations or where there is easy access to children. The risk management plans reflect this situation with the placement of RSOs in single occupancy accommodation.

The number of RSOs are rising each year, as commented on previously, and it is unlikely that the proportionality of the locational figures will alter much due to the accommodation provision across the County.

It is important to remember that in a majority of cases of sex offending the victim is known to the offender prior to an offence being committed.

Outcome measures: Level 2 and Level 3 activity for 2006/07

Category of MAPPA Offender	Level 2		Level 3		Total of Level 2 & 3	
	2005/06	2006/07	2005/06	2006/07	2005/06	2006/07
1. Breach of License	19	18	1	6	20	24
2. Breach of Orders	1	0	1	0	2	0
3. Charged with SFO	2	0	1	1	3	1

Dorset Probation Area manages cases according to National Standards and has instigated breach proceedings where necessary and returned offenders to custody before serious reoffending has occurred. During this reporting year, 18 Level 2 cases were returned, and 6 Level 3.

There remains a good compliance rate for sex offenders with no breaches. One Level 3 managed offender committed a further serious offence.

RSO arrests and Sex Offences Act Civil Orders 2005/06 and 2006/07

<u>RSO Enforcement</u>	Number of Offenders (05/06)	Number of Offenders (06/07)
Registered sex offenders (RSO's) charged/cautioned	21	15 -28.6%

<u>Sex Offences Act Orders</u>	(05/06)	(06/07)
Number of SOPOs applied for	2	2
Number of interim SOPOs	1	1
Number of SOPOs granted	2	21
Number of Notification Orders applied for	0	2
Number of Interim Notification Orders	0	0
Number of Full Notification Orders granted	0	2
Number of Foreign Travel Orders applied for	0	0
Number granted	0	0

In general terms the number of RSO charged and cautioned has not changed dramatically in relation to breaches.

SOPOs aim to prevent, with a sanction of imprisonment, the continued inappropriate behaviour of the offender. SOPOs are extremely powerful in the management of Sex Offenders whether registered or not (the act became law in 1999 and some offenders convicted before that time are not registered).

In 05/06 a total of 19 SOPO applications were obtained mostly as a result of a conviction; however, 2 were gained on application. This is comparative with 06/07 figures where 21 SOPOs were successfully obtained and 2 of these were on application, the others being issued on conviction. The apparent disparity in the figures is because this year's figures show all SOPOs granted, whereas the previous figures were only those successfully obtained on application.

5. Local Cases

Example One

A young man, sentenced to between 2-4 years imprisonment for assault and threats to kill. Victim was a former partner. History of domestic violence against previous partners. On release wanted to live with his ex-wife, who had also been subject to domestic abuse during the marriage. Their relationship had been reconciled; however at the point of release she was beginning to have doubts and subsequently wanted to terminate their relationship but was too scared to tell him.

Risk Management Plan

MAPPAs level 2 convened prior to release. Initial risk management plan formulated which included:

- Residence at local probation hostel as condition of licence
- Non-contact condition with victim and her family
- Exclusion from victim's home area
- To address offending behaviour via IDAP (Integrated domestic abuse programme)
- To address alcohol offending behaviour with key worker at the hostel and to be regularly tested in addition to random drug tests
- Referral to ETE (Employment training and education)
- Joint meeting to be arranged with him and ex-wife to discuss relationship and ongoing monitoring of their relationship.
- DV "flag" to be put on police system that alerts all officers that any incidents must be reported to the Domestic Violence Unit.
- Women's safety worker assigned to ex-wife, and new partner

Outcomes as of June 2007

Satisfactory residence at probation hostel. Move-on subsequently planned and agreed. Now living with a family member and has maintained abstinence. He has also gained employment 3-4 days a week and is motivated to work- wishes to save for driving test and independent accommodation. Currently motivated to making a success of life.

No reported further incidents of violence. Complying with conditions of licence and to date has been managed without incident.

Example Two

A very violent offender who was convicted of a violent sexual assault. He was registered with the NOMS Public Protection as a "Critical Public Protection Case", at the point of release. He has been managed in the community on licence at MAPPAs Level 3, after a significant period in prison. The Level 3 meetings have reviewed this case on a 3 monthly basis and considered the ongoing complex balance of protecting the public and engaging the offender in a resettlement plan.

Risk Management Plan included:

- Collection from the prison gates and taken direct to the Hostel
- Visit in prison prior to release
- Hostel accommodation being provided;
- Victim notified of release, dates, and MAPPAs plan;
- Victim informed about what action to take if he were to turn up

- Strict Prison release Licence conditions, inc. exclusion zone where the victim resides, conform to any treatment deemed appropriate;
- Strict Hostel conditions, including regular “signing-on” requirements during the day, drug-testing, curfews;
- Housing issues for the future;
- Obtaining a recall warrant prior to his release to enable a swift recall in the case of failure.

Outcomes

This offender has to date been managed in the community without significant incident by the close co-operation of all agencies, in particular the police, Forensic Service and Probation. This reflects the high level of commitment to make the people of Dorset safer, through inter-agency working.

6. IDENTIFICATION OF MAPPA OFFENDERS

Relevant offenders falling within the remit of MAPPA are:

- Category 1: Registered sex offenders
- Category 2: Violent and other sex offenders
- Category 3: Other offenders

Category 1 - Registered Sex Offenders (RSO)

This category refers to those offenders who are required to register under Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. This includes everyone who has been convicted or cautioned for sexual offences as prescribed in the Sex Offenders Act 1997. The offences range from unlawful sexual intercourse to rape and offences against children.

The number of Sex Offenders is expected to rise annually for a number of years to come because once convicted the majority of sex offenders are required to register for many years or even life, the Sexual Offences Act 2003 ensures that in almost all convictions of sexual offences the offender will become a RSO.

Not all of these individuals pose a high risk of causing harm to others but their behaviour is monitored regularly.

Prior to the registration, required by the Sex Offender Act 1997, there was a limit to what agencies could do to manage these offenders within the community. The registration process ensures that the Police and other agencies know where these offenders live. This enables the multi-agency arrangements to manage and support them with the aim of reducing their risk of re-offending.

All initial Home visits of Registered Sex Offenders are conducted by Police Sex Offences Investigation Unit officers, who attend with a Probation Officer if it also a Probation held case.

In all MAPPA Level 3 cases a dedicated MAPPA researcher, again in conjunction with a Probation Officer if a probation case conducts the Home visits.

Category 2 - Violent and Other Sexual Offenders

This group of offenders includes those individuals who have been convicted of a violent or sexual offence and have received a term of imprisonment of 12 months or more. The definition includes those who commit offences of domestic abuse, all types of violent assault, criminal damage or other violent crimes. A very small proportion of these offenders will be individuals convicted of murder or manslaughter. It also includes some sexual offenders who have no requirement to register under the act.

Category 3 - Other Dangerous Offenders

This category encompasses individuals who have the potential to pose a risk of causing serious harm to others but do not come into the two previous categories. A person is classified as 'dangerous' or very high risk if they are assessed as presenting an abnormally high or potentially unacceptable level of risk to other people. This risk can include the potential to cause serious physical, sexual or psychological harm.

The identifying agency arranges and minutes the local strategy meeting.

7. Local Organisation

Level 3 Multi-Agency Public Protection Panels (MAPPPs) take place monthly in Poole Probation Centre. Meetings are chaired by DCI Child Protection Investigation Unit or the Probation Assistant Chief Officer (Public Protection). There is a regular attendance from senior Bournemouth Borough Social Services on behalf of Borough of Poole. HMP Dorchester and other prisons regularly send representatives. We have been fortunate that Dorset Forensic Team has made a significant commitment of time and resources. One or two consultants attend Level 3 meetings and provide 6 high level psychiatric or psychological assessments of offenders in a financial year.

Level 2 MAPPPAs take place on a monthly basis usually taking place at the relevant local Police Station in Bournemouth, Poole or Weymouth. These meetings are mainly chaired by the Senior Probation Officer for Public Protection, with representation local police Detective Inspectors.

The Probation Service and the Police jointly fund a MAPPPA secretary who attends all of the panels, and performs a vital role in the organisation of the process. It is with regret that at the time of printing the secretary has resigned to move on to a new post.

The nominated keyworker provides a report to the panel and shares their information with the other panel members. The same standing agenda is used for all meetings and concludes with each risk management action allocated to an individual and a key worker nominated to manage the overall plan. The Action plan includes a contingency plan and is owned by all agencies present and the minutes agreed and circulated. The last action is to agree the date of the Review meeting and the process for amending the plan should circumstance change.

When the offender is owned by another area (the owning area is defined as the location in which the last conviction took place), representatives from that area, who will already have attended a MAPPPA panel in their area, attend the local Level 2 or 3 MAPPPAs.

The nominated keyworker informs the offender that they have been the subject of a local MAPPPA panel and explains the outcome of the meeting, and informs the offender their responsibilities towards their own risk management and the requirement to comply with the risk management plan.

Emergency MAPPPA Meetings

The DCI and ACO (See Appendix 1 Police/Probation/Prison contacts) are the points of contact for emergency MAPPPs; they will discuss the case and decide using the national guidelines and local concerns if a MAPPP is appropriate, determine the attendees, location, and minute taker. The panels take place at any suitable premises provided by any agency and are organised by the MAPPPA Secretary.

8. Regional and National Collaboration

With the support of the Police and Her Majesty's Prison Service, the SW Probation Region was successful in setting up a Pathfinder Project focussed on Public Protection. The Project Manager, Mal Munday, Assistant Chief Officer, was appointed in Oct 2006. The project will run until March 2008. The vision for the project is to:

ensure that public protection informs all decision making and lies at the heart of all organisational activity

The overall objective is to:

deliver a step change in improving the quality of public protection practice across the region, aiming to get our practice and processes right on every occasion, ensuring fewer victims and safer communities

All agencies working within Criminal Justice face the challenge of improving public confidence in the system. Government figures indicate that violent crime is decreasing overall, but it is accepted that the public may not perceive this to be the case.

The Pathfinder project intends to deliver on a number of key actions during its lifetime. These include:

- improving transfer protocols for high risk offenders,
- providing better training for the Chairs of Level 3 MAPPAs meetings,
- investing in improving the risk management and assessment skills of practitioners involved in MAPPAs,
- promoting regional consistency,
- improving public relations profiles.

The Project has been active in promoting consistency between the five MAPPAs Areas which make up the SW Region, through Case File Benchmark exercises, practice audits, and making better links across the region at a strategic level. A good example of this was the MAPPAs Regional Conference held in March 2007 where staff and managers were able to come together to learn more about how to continuously improve practice, systems, and procedures.

A key outcome is also to be the delivery of a Regional Commission of an Area based "Circle of Support and Accountability". This is a community-based volunteer scheme that provides support and monitoring capacity for sex offenders. It will form part of the risk management of these type of offenders and contribute to public safety by increasing social inclusion.

Mal Munday,
Assistant Chief Officer, Public Protection Pathfinder,
June 2007

Local Engagement

The Dorset MAPPAs has engaged actively with the South West pathfinder. The most useful exercise was the auditing event where case files were audited against agreed criteria. The key issues that were identified in the Regional Audit were:

- lack of consistent understanding and application of the philosophy and principles of the MAPPAs system, especially who is responsible for a case
- the lack of consistency of forms, file systems and use of language
- OASys is not seen as the primary assessment tool that "drives" the arrangements
- Serious lack of consistency of transfer arrangements across the region

Dorset MAPPA has developed practice and processes that have similarities to other Areas. It also has existing practice that is entirely defensible and recognised as good practice. For example we have many years routinely arranged for Level 3 MAPPA offenders to be escorted by police to Hostels to ensure arrival on day of release.

However it has some progress to make in terms of agreeing the principles that underpin the arrangements especially across the different agencies that make up MAPPA. Progress has been made in this regard and training is planned for 2007, which will be multi-agency. It is also planned that a review of processes will begin in 2007 and to adopt national templates when they become available.

9. Focus on Victims

MAPPA manages offenders' risk by reference to victims' needs. Dorset Probation Area employs a Victim Liaison Officer who provides a county wide service, contacting victims of violent and sexual offenders sentenced to 12 months custody or more.

Victims, if they wish, are offered face to face contact with the VLO, information about the sentence, the prison system and general public protection strategies. Victims are afforded the opportunity to contribute to eventual release plans, to have their views taken into account and to receive information about licence conditions relevant to them and their families.

The new system where Victim Personal Statements are provided to the Parole Board on consideration of Parole is provided by the VLO and offers a direct influence for victims in decisions about release of offenders..

Steps to prevent re-victimisation are taken which can include licence conditions preventing the offender from contacting his/her victim(s) and exclusion zones.

The VLO is a permanent invitee to MAPPA meetings.

Domestic Abuse

Perpetrators of domestic abuse are managed through the MAPPA process if they are classified as high risk of serious harm (OASys). Those perpetrators who are appropriately assessed participate in the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme, a intensive community programme designed to address cognitive distortions and challenge attitudes that underpin domestic abuse. All partners and ex-partners are provided with support during the course of the programme by Women Safety workers, provided by Probation's partner Family Matters.

All risk management planning takes into account the needs of the victims and involves close liaison between police, probation, programme providers, women safety workers and other partners agencies like social services. All agencies have also engaged positively in the development of the Specialist Domestic Violence Courts set-up in Dorset in April 2007.

APPENDIX 1

POLICE/PROBATION/PRISON CONTACTS

NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE, DORSET: CONTACT DETAILS FOR ENQUIRIES

Assistant Chief Officer (Public Protection)	Wadham House 50 High West Street DORCHESTER DT1 1UT	01305 224675
MAPPA Coordinator	Wadham House 50 High West Street DORCHESTER DT1 1UT	01305 224673

DORSET POLICE: CONTACT DETAILS FOR ENQUIRIES

Detective Superintendent (Director of Public Protection)	Dorset Police Force Headquarters Winfrith DORSET DT2 8DZ	01305 223872
Detective Chief Inspector (MAPPA and Child Protection)	Dorset Police Force Headquarters Winfrith DORSET DT2 8DZ	01202 223878
Probation/Police MAPPA Secretary	Dorset Police Sex Offenders Investigation Unit Bournemouth Divisional Headquarters Madeira Road Bournemouth	01202 228055
Police MAPPA researcher	Dorset Police Sex Offenders Investigation Unit Weymouth Police HQ Radipole Lane Chickerell Weymouth DT4 9WN	01305 226471

DORSET PRISONS: CONTACT DETAILS FOR ENQUIRIES

Dorset Prisons: Governor, HMP The Verne	HM Prison The Verne Portland Dorset DT5 1EQ	01305 825000
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VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES IN DORSET

Victim Supportline

Tel: 0845 30 30 900

Victim Support Dorset

Barnack Chambers, 9-9A West Street, Blandford, Dorset DT11 7AW

Tel/Fax: 01258-453100.

Supports victims, witnesses and family members who have experienced crime.

SAMM South

Christine and Ron

Tel/Fax: 01305-787869. Offers support after murder, manslaughter, or unlawful killing.

Rape Crisis Line

Tel: 01202-547445. 24 hour answer phone line offering confidential support to woman and girls who have been raped or sexually abused.

Dorset Women's Outreach Project

Tel: 01305-768999. Confidential service for women and families with experience of domestic violence in West Dorset.

Poole Domestic Violence Project

Tel: 01202-710777. Confidential service for women and families.

Bournemouth Women's Helpline

Tel: 01202-547755. Confidential 24hour Helpline with refuge and outreach facilities for women and families.

Family Matters

Tel: 01202 311231. Delivery of Change Project for male DV perpetrators and assertive outreach to partners and children on one-to-one and in groups.

Police Domestic Violence Co-ordinator

Tel: 01202-222451

Police Domestic Violence Units:

Bournemouth Division 01202-222374

Eastern Division 01202-226253

Poole Division 01202-227835

Western Division 01305-226547

Dorset County Council: Policy Officer for Child Protection

County Hall, Dorchester DT1 1XJ Tel: 01305-224643

Borough of Poole: Children and Families

14A Commercial Road, Poole, BH14 0JW Tel:01202-735046

Borough of Bournemouth: Children's Services

New Century House, 24 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, BH1 3NL Tel: 01202 458000

StoP – Supports mothers of children who have been sexually abused

PO Box 4493, Boscombe, Bournemouth, BH1 4YZ Tel: 01202 773667

(24 hour answer phone, answered Monday and Tuesday 10.30-12.30)