

Dyfed Powys



Annual Report 2013-14



Intro

Introduction

Welcome to the 2013/14 annual report on Dyfed Powys Multi- Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA).

Now in its fourteenth year, MAPPA continues to provide a framework for managing the risks to the public presented by sexual and violent offenders.

The number of sexual and violent crimes committed represent a small proportion of the total recorded crime in Dyfed Powys, but for the public, victims and their families they inevitably cause a great deal of fear and concern.

It is with this in mind that protecting the public from offenders who carry out these crimes, and meeting the needs of victims, remain the highest priority in Dyfed Powys for the Police, Probation and Prison Services.

Public protection continues to receive high profile coverage nationally and remains a challenging issue for MAPPA.

We totally accept that the public expect us to do everything within our powers to reduce the risks presented by sexual and violent offenders, whilst at the same time recognising that we must make the most efficient use of our finite resources.

By embracing joint working within MAPPA we can communicate more effectively, reduce duplication and ensure a strong corporate response. No single agency can tackle these challenges alone and it is vitally important that agencies continue to support and inform the MAPPA process. This way, together, we believe we are able to offer the best protection for the public of Dyfed Powys.

The working arrangements with partners in Dyfed Powys make a vital difference to the success of MAPPA.

This Annual Report reflects the contributions made by all of the agencies involved in MAPPA, and sets out our commitment to you, to continue to develop strong partnerships and explore new ways of working to face the challenges of protecting the public from serious offenders.

We hope you will find the report informative and that it helps answer some key questions about community safety and public protection arrangements; we commend our report to you.



Sarah Payne – Director of NOMS in Wales



Simon Prince: Chief Constable Dyfed Powys Police

What is MAPPA?

MAPPA background

- (a) MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) are a set of arrangements to manage the risk posed by the most serious sexual and violent offenders (MAPPA-eligible offenders) under the provisions of sections 325 to 327B of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.
- (b) They bring together the Police, Probation and Prison Services in each of the 42 Areas in England and Wales into what is known as the MAPPA Responsible Authority.
- (c) A number of other agencies are under a Duty To Co-operate (DTC) with the Responsible Authority. These include Social Services, Health Trusts, Youth Offending Teams, Jobcentre Plus and Local Housing and Education Authorities.
- (d) The Responsible Authority is required to appoint two Lay Advisers to sit on each MAPPA area Strategic Management Board (SMB) alongside senior representatives from each of the Responsible Authority and duty to co-operate agencies.
- (e) Lay Advisers are members of the public with no links to the business of managing MAPPA offenders and act as independent, yet informed, observers; able to pose questions which the professionals closely involved in the work might not think of asking. They also bring to the SMB their understanding and perspective of the local community (where they must reside and have strong links).

How MAPPA works

- MAPPA-eligible offenders are identified and information about them is shared by the agencies in order to inform the risk assessments and risk management plans of those managing or supervising them.
- In the majority of cases that is as far as MAPPA extends but in some cases, it is determined that active multi-agency management is required. In such cases there will be regular MAPPA meetings attended by relevant agency practitioners.
- There are 3 categories of MAPPA-eligible offender: **Category 1** - registered sexual offenders; **Category 2** – (in the main) violent offenders sentenced to imprisonment for 12 months or more; and **Category 3** – offenders who do not qualify under categories 1 or 2 but who currently pose a risk of serious harm.
- There are three management levels intended to ensure that resources are focussed upon the cases where they are most needed; generally those involving the higher risks of serious harm. **Level 1** involves ordinary agency management (i.e. no MAPPA meetings or resources); **Level 2** is where the active involvement of more than one agency is required to manage the offender but the risk management plans do not require the attendance and commitment of resources at a senior level. Where senior oversight is required the case would be managed at **Level 3**.

MAPPA is supported by ViSOR. This is a national IT system for the management of people who pose a serious risk of harm to the public. The police have been using ViSOR since 2005 but, since June 2008, ViSOR has been fully operational allowing, for the first time, key staff from the Police, Probation and Prison Services to work on the same IT system, thus improving the quality and timeliness of risk assessments and of interventions to prevent offending. The combined use of ViSOR increases the ability to share intelligence across organisations and enable the safe transfer of key information when these high risk offenders move, enhancing public protection measures. All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at: www.justice.gov.uk

MAPPA Statistics

MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2014				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	409	116	-	525
Level 2	15	17	4	36
Level 3	1	0	0	1
Total	425	133	4	562

MAPPA-eligible offenders in Levels 2 and 3 by category (yearly total)				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 2	54	57	39	150
Level 3	7	2	0	9
Total	61	59	39	159

RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	24
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Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders	
SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts	
SOPOs	35
NOs	0
FTOs	0

Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Breach of licence				
Level 2	4	10	0	14
Level 3	4	1	0	5
Total	8	11	0	19
Breach of SOPO				
Level 2	15	-	-	15
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	15	-	-	15

Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population*	92
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This figure has been calculated using the Mid-2012 Population Estimates: Single year of age and sex for Police Areas in England and Wales; estimated resident population, published by the Office for National Statistics on 26 June 2013, excluding those aged less than ten years of age.

Explanation commentary on statistical tables

MAPPA background

The totals of MAPPA-eligible offenders, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2011 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

(a) 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 or they currently pose a risk of serious harm, although the majority (x% this year) are actually managed under ordinary agency (Level 1) arrangements rather than via MAPP meetings.

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

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

(d) Other Dangerous Offenders – offenders who do not qualify under the other two MAPPA-eligible categories, but who currently pose a risk of serious harm which requires management via MAPP meetings.

(e) 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.

(f) 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 five 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 five years’ imprisonment.

(g) Notification Order – this requires sexual offenders who have been convicted overseas to register with the police, in order to protect the public in the UK from the risks that they pose. The police may apply to the court for a notification order in relation to offenders who are already in the UK or are intending to come to the UK.

(h) Foreign Travel Orders – these prevent offenders with convictions for sexual offences against children from travelling abroad where this is necessary to protect children from the risk of sexual harm.

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National Offender Management Service (National Probation Service)

"NOMS in Wales is committed to working in partnership with MAPP A agencies to prevent people becoming victims of serious harm.

Although violent and sexual offending makes up only a small percentage of all crime in Wales the harm caused by such offending is considerable to victims, their families and communities.

Existing and potential victims have a right to feel protected and safe and whilst it is never possible to eradicate the risk entirely, MAPP A is designed to bring agencies together to help manage that risk and keep it to a minimum.

NOMS in Wales and all of the agencies involved in MAPP A place the protection of the public as their highest priority and this report reflects the determination of all involved to ensure that this important area of work remains at the forefront. I am proud of our staff, their successes of the past year and their commitment to excellence for MAPP A in Wales".



Sarah Payne - Director of NOMS in Wales

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Dyfed Powys Police

The Public Protection Unit, newly renamed the Protecting Vulnerable Persons Unit within Dyfed Powys Police has undergone an unprecedented period of inspections as part of the review of policing across England and Wales.

Inspections of the force's response to Domestic Abuse, the Quality of Investigations, Victims Focus and Child Protection have all highlighted the commitment and quality of officers within the department and within the organisation. Recommendations around improving staffing levels in accordance with demand have been acted upon and an increase in the PVP establishment secured. Recording standards and investigation thresholds have been held to be consistent across the whole of Dyfed Powys policing area.

Year on year since its introduction in 2012 the Central Referral Unit base at police headquarters has enhanced its position as a "one stop shop" for all Public Protection matters, and the force is migrating towards a Multi-Agency safeguarding hub with the support of a number of partners. This is likely to be introduced in 2015.

The Sex and Violent Offender office is reviewing the force response to the management of Potentially Dangerous, and developed policy around the issue of Lifetime Registration. DS Sharon Griffiths has undertaken the role of Sex and Violent Offender "gate-keeper" for such matters.

The management of Sex and Violent Offenders has been integrated to the force Intelligence Processes and the engagement of PCSO's has seen a significant rise in the flow of meaningful intelligence.

The force implemented the "Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme commonly known as Clare's Law, in March 2014 and the new Domestic Violence Protection Orders and Notices in May 2014, the first in Wales to do so.

The thirteen business areas within Public Protection have designated leads and significant work has been undertaken in respect of raising awareness about matters such Human Trafficking, Modern Day Slavery, Child Sexual Exploitation and Missing persons.

A newly created role of Missing Persons and Mental health Co-ordinator has been established and will be embedded into working practices.



Detective Superintendent Andy John

The Prison Service (HMP Swansea)

The last year has seen many changes implemented within the Prison Service. The introduction of 'New Ways of Working' has been challenging and we are continuing to refine our working practices, in order to meet the changes brought about, in such a way that we are still able to respond to the needs of individual offenders, and manage the most difficult cases effectively.

Our relationship with MAPPA is key to this aim and to our achieving public protection.

We are looking forward to welcoming the Community Rehabilitation Company who will lead the 'through the gate' strategy. This will strengthen our delivery in reducing reoffending and I anticipate further developments in our work with MAPPA in the future.



Lauren Watson - Governor- HMP Swansea

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A message from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

Our staff help PCC Christopher Salmon work towards the priorities which include preventing crime, protecting vulnerable people and bringing people to justice.

Mr Salmon's achievements since his election in 2012 include more police officers, improved access to the police, a closer focus on policing's quality of service, £160,000 to community initiatives, innovations in rape crisis, mental health matters and public engagement, CCTV research and new services to tackle youth offending and antisocial behaviour.

Mr Salmon sees MAPPAs as an example of how agencies can work together to keep communities safe. This multi-agency arrangement supports the delivery of many of his priorities.

A policy adviser from the OPCC sits on the MAPPAs Strategic Management Board and keeps Mr Salmon abreast of issues.

MAPPAs is good example of how partnership working can deliver shared outcomes – an approach Mr Salmon strives to implement in other areas of the criminal justice system.

For further information about Mr Salmon and his Office, log on to the website - www.dyfed-powys.pcc.police.uk



Mr Christopher Salmon - Dyfed Powys Police & Crime Commissioner

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The Dyfed Powys MAPPAs SMB

The work of the MAPPAs is overseen by the MAPPAs Strategic Management Board; this is currently chaired by Christine Harley who is an Assistant Chief Executive of the National Probation Service.

Other members of the Board are;

- Pam Kelly – T / Assistant Chief Constable, Dyfed Powys Police
- Simon Powell - T / Assistant Chief Constable, Dyfed Powys Police
- Lauren Watson – Governor, HMP Swansea
- Tim Burton - Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
- Andy John – Detective Superintendent, Dyfed Powys Police
- Shane Williams – Detective Chief Inspector, Dyfed Powys Police
- Andrew Edwards – MAPPAs Coordinator, Dyfed Powys
- Paul Jagger – Governor, Head of Offender Management, HMP Swansea
- Neil Jenkins – Detective Inspector, Dyfed Powys Police.
- Arwel Fowler – MAPPAs Lay Adviser
- Sue Thomas – Head of Housing Ceredigion (Sue represents all four Housing Authorities for Dyfed Powys)
- Bryan Relph - Head of Children Services Pembrokeshire (Bryan represents all four Children Services for Dyfed Powys)
- Neil Edwards – Adult Safeguarding and Improvements Manager
- Steve Davis – Youth Offending Service Senior Manager (Steve represents all four YOS areas and Pembrokeshire Community Safety Partnership)
- Stuart Moncur – Planning, Performance & Delivery Directorate – Hywel Dda Health Board
- Chris Storer – Powys Local Health Board
- Sara Kenny – Job Centre Plus, MAPPAs SPOC South West Wales Jobcentres
- Sara Evans – Electronic Monitoring Services
- Graham Holmes – Registered Social Landlords
- Janet Evans - Designated Safeguarding Children, Public Health Wales
- Lynnette Evans – Head of Operations, CAFCASS Cymru
- Sue O’Grady – Powys County Council, Shire Manager
- Ann Rowling - Area Manager, Powys Social Services
- Pauline Galluccio - Powys Safeguarding Children, Powys Teaching Health Board
- Karen Gillard - Assistant Director NSPCC
- Matthew Brown - Pembrokeshire Local Authority (Safeguarding Manager and Quality Assurance – Child Care Commissioning)
- Kathryn Treharne - Senior Social Work Practitioner. Pembrokeshire YOT

The SMB also has three working sub groups that take forward the work identified by the SMB, they are;

- **MAPPAs Communications Sub Group**
- **MAPPAs Performance & Monitoring Sub Group**
- **MAPPAs Training & Development Sub Group**

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A word from our MAPPA SMB Chair

As the Chair of the Dyfed Powys MAPPA Strategic Management Board I am delighted to endorse our annual report.

The Strategic Management Board's role is to oversee the arrangements made by the Police, Probation Service, Prison Service, Mental Health Service and local authorities to work together to manage those people in our communities who present a risk of sexual harm or violence to the public.

We are ably assisted in this by Lay Advisors who provide essential independent oversight of the agencies' work.

Our overarching priority is to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to protect the public, particularly the vulnerable, from these offenders and the Strategic Management Board has continued to develop its membership to promote the effectiveness of the multi-agency arrangements.

I am extremely proud of the work that has been achieved over the last twelve months. This has seen the Dyfed Powys MAPPA area and more specifically our MAPPA Coordinator work closely with both Professor Hazel Kemshall (De Montfort University, Leicester) and Leicestershire MAPPA in innovating and piloting a new frameworks to undertake both holistic risk assessment and risk management planning via MAPPA.

Given the success of the Pilot and evaluation, the Strategic Management board ratified the use of the frameworks to be used throughout the Dyfed Powys area in July 2014.

Our work has seen a further six pilot areas adopt the processes throughout the United Kingdom and has resulted in the National MAPPA Team in London within the National Offender Managements Service building this innovation into their strategic plan for the coming business year. All MAPPA areas within the UK will be offered the use of the new frameworks and our Dyfed Powys MAPPA Coordinator will play a pivotal role in assisting the National MAPPA team to achieve National roll out of the frameworks.

This demonstrates that Dyfed Powys MAPPA has been very much at the forefront of innovation and commitment to MAPPA and we are delighted that other MAPPA areas throughout the UK will now benefit from the excellent work that has been undertaken locally.

On a strategic level the MAPPA process has provided very real benefits in relation to the forging of closer working relationships with our partner agencies to the benefit of local communities.

Such benefits include a greatly enhanced degree of information sharing which has improved exponentially over the last fourteen years, to the stage where today such high-risk offenders appear on everybody's radar and are managed accordingly.



Christine Harley – Dyfed Powys MAPPA SMB Chair

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Updates from our Duty to Cooperate Agencies

Powys Teaching Health Board

Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) is committed to its responsibility within MAPPAs as a Duty to Co-operate Authority.

Protection of the public is a priority for the health board and the role of its representatives at MAPPAs is to work closely with the other agencies in order to ensure information is shared appropriately to protect the public, contribute to the risk management plan and reduce the risk of reoffending.

The Safeguarding Team represent PTHB at all the MAPPAs level 2 and 3 meetings and its members are:

Head of Safeguarding Adults and Children (Named Nurse for Child Protection and Looked After Children Pauline Galluccio

The Specialist Nurses for Safeguarding Children and Young People: Angela Wragg and Raquel Bennett

The Specialist Nurses liaise with all health professionals who may have information that will inform the risk assessment and management of offenders, for example, General Practitioners, Consultants, and Mental Health colleagues in both Adult and Children's Teams.

Following MAPPAs meetings the Safeguarding Nurses are responsible for ensuring that agreed disclosures to health staff are actioned. This will include consideration of the safety of staff and, as well as liaison, alerts are placed on the Health IT system to alert staff to contact the Safeguarding Team.

The Safeguarding Children Team are a 'single point of contact' to ensure effective communication with the MAPPAs unit, the Responsible Authorities and health colleagues.

This year the Safeguarding team has worked closely with the GP practices in Powys to ensure that we have all relevant health information on all MAPPAs Level 2 and 3 nominals.

Health is a very important aspect of risk management of offenders and it is important that any identified health needs are addressed as a priority. All GP practices are written to formally to request this information which is forwarded to the MAPPAs Unit.

The Head of Safeguarding Children represents Powys Teaching Health Board on the MAPPAs Senior Management Board and is also a standing member on the sub groups. This ensures Powys THBs contribution in relation to

- Monitoring and evaluating the outcome results in ensuring public safety at all times.
- Contributing to the monitoring and evaluation of the operation of MAPPAs in the Dyfed Powys area
- Participating in reviewing and questioning local MAPPAs statistics
- Participating in reviewing the SMB Business Plan and broader communication strategy.
- Identifying the training needs of Health staff and contributing to the training

All members of the Safeguarding Team attended the MAPPAs Four Pillars training in July 2014.

Pauline Galluccio

Head of Safeguarding - Powys Teaching Health Board

Jobcentre Plus

Jobcentre Plus is an executive agency of the Department for Work and Pensions. The role of Jobcentre Plus is to help place an offender into suitable employment or training, based on current and relevant restrictions placed on that offender.

Jobcentre Plus along with other bodies has a 'duty to co-operate' with the Responsible Authorities (RAs) in the establishment of arrangements to manage offenders under section 325(3) of the Criminal Justice Act (2003), and Jobcentre plus actively liaises with each of the Responsible Authorities - the Police, Prison Service and Probation Service.

The RAs have a 'duty to co-operate' with Jobcentre Plus to prevent MAPPA offenders from seeking or obtaining employment or training which may increase or trigger the risks they present. To this end the relevant RA notifies Jobcentre Plus of the type of restrictions which apply to employment or training; then the role of Jobcentre Plus is to place an offender into suitable employment or training, being mindful only of any current and relevant restrictions placed on that offender.

A prime consideration for jobcentres is whether the proposed location of employment or training, or the nature of the proposed employment or training, risks contravening any restrictions placed on that offender.

In relation to managing MAPPA offenders, this agency has two primary functions:

1. To assist offenders into employment, or to access suitable training, as this reduces their risk of re-offending and thus protects the public.
2. To take into account any restrictions on the types of employment and training suitable when this applies to certain offenders.

These functions will:

- Give offenders of working age the help and support to which they are entitled to enable them to work.
- Benefit offenders, as appropriate employment and training can reduce the risk of re-offending. Employment provides stability and purpose to what are often chaotic lives.
- Give offenders the opportunity to contribute positively to their local community, and to society in general, and to lead law-abiding lives.
- Prevent offenders from accessing unsuitable employment and training which could put the public at risk of serious harm.

The Role of Jobcentre Plus and MAPPA Meetings

Jobcentre Plus has representation on the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Strategic Management Board (SMB). Attendance at these meetings ensures engagement at the right level and access to information in relation to strategic issues.

During the year, Jobcentre plus has delivered a presentation to the Dyfed Powys MAPPA SMB, highlighting welfare Reform changes. There has been a general appetite for partnership working to assist our mutual clients with this process, and we hope to build on this over the next 12 months and through the introduction of Universal Credit.

Jobcentre plus has also delivered internal training to their staff in South West Wales District in terms of the MAPPA process and correct actions to take in respect of MAPPA. This has ensured robust procedures and practices are followed in each local office location to meet legislative requirements.

Sara Kenny - South West Wales Jobcentres MAPPA Single Point of Contact

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Youth Offending Services

There are four Youth Offending teams (YOT's) within the Dyfed-Powys MAPP A area; Carmarthenshire Youth Offending & Prevention Service, Ceredigion Youth Justice Service, Powys Youth Justice Service and the Youth Justice Team within Pembroke Youth.

These services hold statutory responsibility for the supervision of young people who have offended who are below the age of 18.

MAPP A assists and supports the work of YOT's in their management of young people who have committed a serious sexual and/or violent offence.

There are numerous benefits to partnership working within the MAPP A including the controlled disclosure of information relating to risk factors associated with specific individuals to, for example, schools and voluntary youth groups. Partnership working through MAPP A is also invaluable when dealing with complex cases where young people have committed serious offences outside of our area.

This can occur when an external Local Authority places a Looked after Child in an independent children's home or private foster placement within our area. On occasion these types of arrangements are by necessity arranged at short notice; from experience MAPP A can be effective in ensuring proper consideration is given to robust risk management arrangements for young people who are themselves very vulnerable.

Steve Davis – Youth Offending Service – Service Manager

Powys Children's Services

Powys Children's Services core purpose is ensuring that children are safeguarded from harm and this includes working with children and families wherever support is required. Managing risks within a family or a community is a huge challenge and cannot be undertaken by a single agency alone, needing agencies to work together.

As a duty to cooperate agency, Powys Children's Services is committed to its responsibilities within the MAPP A process and as such ensures that there is appropriate and consistent representation at each of the Level 2 and 3 meetings held within Dyfed-Powys - this is currently the safeguarding lead for Powys Children's Services. All social work teams are aware of who the representative is and this ensures that there is a consistent and clear communication flow throughout.

There is also senior management representation from Powys Children's Services at the SMB meetings. Powys Children's Services are able, along with other agencies, to contribute to a robust risk management plan in order to ensure that members of the public are protected from harm where there is an identified risk. Information is shared at the Level 2 and 3 meetings and all recommendations arising from the discussions that relate to Powys Children's Services are actioned within the appropriate social work team.

A number of members of staff from Powys Children's Services have attended the '4 Pillars Framework training'. The feedback from this has been very positive and, as a service, we look forward to continuing to work in partnership, under this new framework that has clear communication plans in place for safeguarding and monitoring those who are most at risk.

Sue Morgan – Safeguarding Manager, Powys Children's Services

Lay Advisers Report



Since my appointment as a Lay Adviser to the Dyfed Powys area, I have always been grateful in being given the opportunity to contribute to the Annual Report.

Those of your reading this report might ask the customary question, what is the role and function of a Lay Advisor in the MAPPAs process, well in truth I was unsure myself when I was initially appointed, but with the guidance, training, and support of the principal officers responsible for the day to day functions of MAPPAs within Dyfed Powys, and my attendance on periodic training courses at Local and National Level my duties and responsibilities as a Lay Adviser became apparent.

The criminal Justice act (2003) makes it quite clear that Lay Adviser are appointed to assist in the MAPPAs review function, but operate as full members of the Strategic Management Board (SMB) who have the ultimate responsibility for reviewing and monitoring the effectiveness of MAPPAs in the area.

But, I would like to clarify one important point, that the MAPPAs Lay Advisers is not part of the organisational decision making process, I do however periodically attend as an observer at such meetings, which certainly enhances my understanding of the process, and the reasoning behind the relevant decisions and actions which are undertaken from time to time, both in the monitoring and the evaluation process of MAPPAs in our area, but the final decisions are always made by the Responsible Authority.

As an independent member, who over the years has gained valuable experience, I most certainly do not consider myself to be an expert in any way, but there are occasions when, as the appointed Lay Adviser you can politely challenge the recommendations or suggestions of the professionals by simply acting as a "Critical Friend" and bringing your perspective and understanding of the area to the forum, which understandably may have been overlooked by others at the time and, in my opinion the attendance of a Lay Adviser on the SMB, is on occasions a reminder to all concerned of their accountability at all times to the Community they serve.

During the period of time I have been involved with the MAPPAs process in Dyfed Powys, I can say without fear of contradiction, I have certainly seen a number of fundamental changes at local level which has strengthened and enhanced the required cooperation between the Responsible Authority and the Duty to Cooperate Agencies. This is due to a better understanding and appreciation of what their individual responsibilities are, but equally appreciating that in most organisations these days, there are by now ongoing reorganisations.

I must compliment all concern for the manner in which they have ensured that where re-structure is occurring, such changes have been monitored and quickly acted upon to ensure that essential continuity is transferred from the previous organisation to the new structure where it directly affects MAPPAs.

In addition to the immense support I continually receive at Local level, I also appreciate and recognise the valuable contribution and support given by the members of staff at "National Level" who ensure that all Lay Advisers are provided with an opportunity to contribute their views and opinions, and equally offer comment and observations, particularly during the National Lay Advisers Annual Training Seminars.

I do however wish the Public at large, had more awareness of how the MAPPAs process works, and could witness at first hand the commitment and dedication that is given by all who are involved in working together to ensure the Public are protected from offenders who would otherwise be a continual threat to our Society.

I have no hesitation in reassuring the general public that the work undertaken by all concerned in the MAPPAs process within the Dyfed Powys area is delivered to the highest possible standard and I compliment their individual and collective professionalism.

Mr Arwel Fowler
(Lay Advisor Dyfed Powys Area)





National
Probation
Service



Ministry of
JUSTICE



**HM PRISON
SERVICE**