

STAFFORDSHIRE



Annual Report 2013-14



Working together for safer communities

This year has seen some significant changes for the 'Responsible Authorities' that lead on MAPPA – Probation, Police and Prison. These changes retain the objective of ensuring that work in the field of Public Protection remains a priority for all agencies. The Staffordshire Strategic Management Board acknowledge the ongoing support from other key agencies who come together to ensure that the best possible risk management plans and services to reduce the risk of re offending are provided for this group of offenders.

Transforming Rehabilitation

Nigel Byford (Head of Public Protection and Stakeholder Engagement for National Probation Service - Midlands Division; and Staffordshire SMB member) provides an update on changes for Probation and Prison Services over the year.

"Last year we highlighted the forthcoming changes to the Probation Service. The former 35 Probation Trusts have been dissolved and replaced by a National Probation Service focussing on reports to Courts and work with MAPPA eligible offenders. Other low and medium risk offenders are now managed by The Staffordshire & West Midlands Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) who also provide nearly all forms of interventions designed to reduce the risk of re-offending. By the end of 2014 it is anticipated that all CRCs will be sold to allow greater involvement of the private and voluntary sector. The overall aim is to bring innovation to help reduce overall re-offending rates.

Changes are also underway in respect of the Prison Service. During 2014 the prison population will be reviewed with a view to prisoners returning to local prisons in their home area for the last three months of sentence. These 'Resettlement Prisons' will be well placed to actively involve local services in helping to deliver effective resettlement plans alongside the Community Rehabilitation Companies who will provide 'through the gate services'. It is also anticipated that the Government will be able to introduce supervision on licence for adult offenders who are sentenced to less than 12 months. This will provide oversight for this group of offenders, who re-offend at the highest rate, for the first time.

For more details on the Government proposals and other information on sentencing and the Criminal

Justice System follow this link.

<http://open.justice.gov.uk/>"

Staffordshire Police 'Total Offender Management' Review

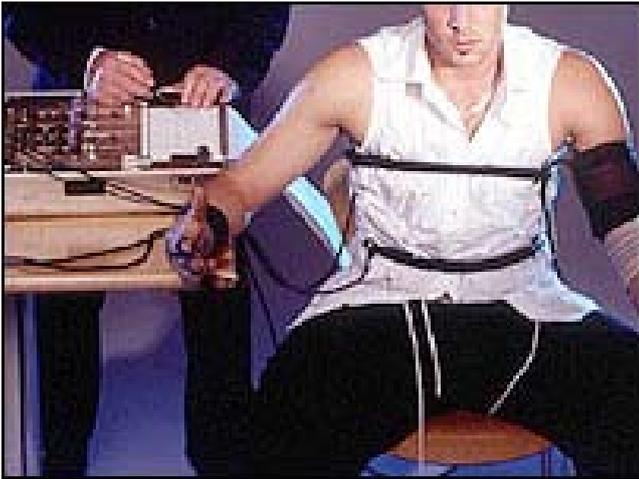
DCI Sarah Wainwright explains- "We are currently reviewing the IOM (Integrated Offender Management) and VSOM (Violent and Sexual Offender Management) units to establish what opportunities are available to restructure the force to a 'Total Offender Management' model. This model will focus on aligning resources based on the risk and harm an individual poses to their community.

Any new structure will ensure statutory obligations regarding the management of sexual and serious violence offenders are maintained, whilst providing a more flexible workforce able to respond to the demands of and developments in both IOM and VSOM functions. By looking to explore innovations in "the way we work", Staffordshire Police aim to continue to provide a thorough approach and commitment to the multi agency risk management of some of our most difficult offenders.

Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA)

Staffordshire Strategic Management Board have supported the development of 'Circles' as part of an approach to working with sex offenders in the community. A 'Circle' is a small group of trained and supervised volunteers who engage with an individual offender who has served their sentence and is now in the community. The aim is to help prevent re-offending by maintaining a focus on the relapse prevention/ new life plans of the offenders (known as "Core Members") and by supporting them in, and holding them accountable for, carrying out their plans. This approach is supervised locally by the MAPPA Unit in collaboration with the Lucy Faithfull Foundation. It is very early days for us in Staffordshire and Stoke, and over the next 12 months we are reviewing its effectiveness and contribution to encouraging safer rehabilitation of offenders who have served their sentence.

Polygraph



In previous Annual Reports we have made reference, firstly to Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust's involvement in the pilot project, and secondly (following the evaluation of those pilots) the decision for there to be a national roll out of polygraph testing (colloquially referred to as "lie detector" tests). As previously reported the National Probation Service is training selected staff to deliver this testing and during the latter half of the year (2014-15). Staffordshire MAPPA area will see appropriate sex offenders undertaking polygraph testing as part of their licence conditions. This is a welcomed additional tool for monitoring behaviours.

Lay Advisors – A Layman's Perspective

The engagement of Lay Advisors in the work of the MAPPA Strategic Management Board is important. We would wish to acknowledge the support and challenge provide by Niamh and Malcolm over the year. Lay advisors provide the 'view of the public' and help to ensure that all agencies take this perspective into account in considering the work of MAPPA.

"When I became a Lay Advisor, I had no real understanding of the complexities of releasing offenders on licence. By observing MAPPA panels I began to appreciate the real challenges of designing licence conditions that not only protected the community, but which gave the offender the best chance to rehabilitate and turn their lives around. I was particularly struck by how much time is given in MAPPA panels to considering the specific circumstances of each case, and the thought given to the needs of victims, vulnerable people in the community, offenders and their family members. No matter how much the MAPPA organisations battle with funding cuts and shortages in resources, in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, I have witnessed an absolute focus on working together to manage risk and get the best outcome."

Niamh Bryan, Lay Advisor



At a time when all services are facing difficult decisions about how to meet increasing financial restraints without compromising service provision, there can always be the temptation to look inwards, focussing on core objectives for that individual service. However, it can also be a time to look across the range of provisions and supports provided by all agencies in the community; to identify where 'common cause' can create efficiencies; and also (and crucially) increase the effectiveness of those services. In recent times Staffordshire and Stoke have seen the development of a Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to deliver more efficient and timely information sharing across a wide range of agencies in respect of domestic violence and both child and adult safeguarding. So it is with MAPPA at its best. A collaboration of agencies working together, sharing relevant information, developing joint plans to manage the risk some of our most difficult (and risky) offenders present, in order to protect victims, support offenders away from offending, and where necessary make them accountable for their behaviour.

Whatever reviews take place within Responsible Authorities (NPS –from June 2014- Police and Prison Services) we will continue to strive to ensure no compromise to the effective operation of MAPPA.

Jonathan Drake, Temporary Assistant Chief Constable and Chair of Staffs MAPPA SMB

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	887	289	0	1176
Level 2	6	7	0	13
Level 3	0	0	0	0
Total	893	296	0	1189

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	42	32	4	78
Level 3	6	2	1	9
Total	48	34	5	87

RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements	27
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Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders	
SOPOs, NOs & FTOs imposed by the courts	
SOPOs	46
NOs	1
FTOs	1

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	12	3	0	15
Level 3	2	0	0	2
Total	14	3	0	17
Breach of SOPO				
Level 2	3	-	-	3
Level 3	1	-	-	1
Total	4	-	-	4

Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population	91
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This figure has been calculated using the Mid-2013 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 2014, 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 2014 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

(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 (98% 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.

Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements in Staffordshire

MAPPA Co-ordination Unit

MASH
Lindum House
Stone
(Postal Address – Staffs Police HQ, PO Box 3167,
Stafford ST16 9JZ)

Violent and Sexual Offender Management Unit (formerly Public Protection Unit)

MASH
Lindum House
Stone
(Postal Address – Staffs Police HQ, POBox 3167,
Stafford ST16 9JZ)

Tel: 0300 123 4455
www.staffordshire.police.uk

Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation

Tel: 0121 634 1300
www.SWMprobation.gov.uk

Stafford office
South Walls
Stafford ST16 3BL

Stoke teams
Melbourne House, Etruria Office Village
Forge Lane, Festival Park
Hanley
Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5RQ

Leek office
Cross Street
Leek ST13 6BL

Burton-on-Trent office
Horninglow Street,
Burton-on-Trent DE14 1PH

Tamworth office
Moor Street
Tamworth B79 7QZ

Cannock office
200A Wolverhampton Road
Cannock SW11 1AT

South Staffordshire Criminal Justice Mental Health
Team
Marston House, St George's Hospital
Corporation Street
Stafford ST16 3AG

North Staffordshire Criminal Justice Mental Health
Team
Bucknall Hospital
Eaves Lane, Bucknall
Stoke-on-Trent ST2 8LD

Youth Offending Teams

Staffordshire Youth Offending Service
Staffordshire County Council
Tipping Street
Stafford
ST16 2DH
Tel: 01785 278729

Stoke-on-Trent Youth Offending Service
Liberty House
Marsden Street
Hanley
Stoke on Trent
Staffordshire
ST1 2BW
Tel: 01782 235858

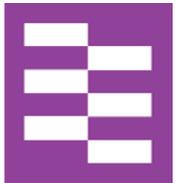
Her Majesty's Prison Service
www.hmprisonservice.gov.uk

Victim Support
www.victimsupport.org.uk

All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at:
www.justice.gov.uk



National
Probation
Service



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