

Practice Guidance 4

**PRACTICE
GUIDANCE ON
INTEGRATING
MAPPA
PROCEDURES AND
MULTI-AGENCY
CHILD PROTECTION
PROCEDURES AND
GUIDANCE**

PRACTICE GUIDANCE ON INTEGRATING MAPPA PROCEDURES AND MULTI-AGENCY CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES AND GUIDANCE

1. Principles of MAPPA

These are Multi-Agency arrangements which enable shared locally based assessment, conferencing and management of offenders who have, or are assessed as at a substantial risk of committing dangerous, violent or sexual offences. The full Wiltshire and Swindon MAPPA Policy and Procedures are lodged with lead officers in all agencies.

Each of the 42 Police and Probation areas now has Multi –Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). Within Wiltshire these have been running since the 1997 Sex Offences Act indicated closer working was required and the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 set out how this should happen.

The arrangements operating now since April 2004 are based on the developments required by the Criminal justice Act 2003 and the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

These arrangements run alongside, and are complimentary to, the established arrangements for child protection and protection of vulnerable adults.

2. Functions

- Identification of MAPPA offenders;
- Sharing of relevant information among those agencies involved in the assessment of that risk;
- Assessment of the risk of serious harm; and, Management of that risk.

The emphasis in MAPPA is to assess and manage the offender to reduce the risk they might present to the community at large as well as in some occasions to known individuals or staff working with them.

3. Difference between MAPPA and the Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult systems

- **MAPPA meetings are not a substitute for Child Protection conferences.**
- The focus for MAPPA is the offender and managing the risks s/he presents, not specific victims, adult or child although measures may be scheduled at meetings for MAPPA agencies to protect specific victims
- Certain categories of offender can be registered into the MAPPA system (Almost all Sex and Violent Offenders given 12m + custody) and without multi-agency meetings being needed.
- Local Risk Management Meetings are only called when multi-agency work is needed to manage the offenders risk
- Risks to specific categories of potential victims as well as risks of general re-offending are assessed.

4. Referral into the MAPPA System

- Any agency can refer an offender into the MAPPA system, or ask for a Local Risk Management Meeting on an offender already in the system using the referral forms attached as an appendix.

5. Criteria for referral

- If an agency worker considers an offender to be of high risk of harm, physical or psychological, to children, public, individuals or staff they should be considered for inclusion into the MAPPA system.
- The primary reason for an agency to refer in should be to prompt an interagency response to risks identified as being presented by an offender, through sharing quantifying and planning for risk management.
- **Specific children at risk from another person should be referred into the Child Protection system under ACPC guidelines**
- **Specific Vulnerable Adults at risk from another person should be referred into the Vulnerable Adults procedures**

6. Confidentiality and Sharing of Information

The Bichard Enquiry into the Soham tragedy has highlighted the need for “soft” information collected by agencies including Police Intelligence and confidential reports to other agencies to be shared to protect the public. MAPPA offers a confidential forum for this.

- The minutes of MAPPA meetings are not to be shared with others outside the participants of the meeting without the permission of the chair of the meeting or MAPPA Co-ordinator
- The conclusions and action points of meetings can be shared in Child Protection Conferences as long as to do so will not reveal third party sources and put them at risk.
- Anyone intending to share information in a Child Protection Conference from a MAPPA meeting should preferably agree in the MAPPA meetings what they wish to later share in the Child Protection meeting or this is not possible discuss the content of what they wish to share with the MAPPA co-ordinator.
- At present Offenders, the subjects of MAPPA, are not included in the Local Risk Management Meetings or higher level Multi Agency Public Protection Panels
- The subjects of MAPPA meetings are normally informed of their MAPPA status except when to do so will de-stabilise them psychologically or when to do so could endanger others.

WILTSHIRE AND SWINDON REFERRAL FOR MULTI-AGENCY INFORMATION SHARING MEETINGS SUBJECTS WHO PRESENT A SIGNIFICANT RISK OF HARM TO OTHERS MAPPA AND NON-MAPPA

Use this form to refer a case for consideration for initial involvement in **either** the Wiltshire and Swindon Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) **or** for a non-offender for an Interagency Information Sharing Meeting. A referral by an agency into either process does not remove or alter any agency statutory responsibility for the management of a case, the protection of the public or a duty of care to an individual.

SUBJECT DETAILS:						
Subject:				Date of Birth:		
Current Address:						
Reasons for referral Brief details of actions and situations which cause concern.						
Who is at risk from this person – indicate category and provisional assessment of level of that risk						
	Children (Named if known)	Public	Known Adult (Named if known)	Staff	Self	Prisoners
Very High						
High						
Medium						
Low						
Which agencies do you know of which have an interest in or work with this person? If a worker is known please identify.						
Police						
Probation/YOT						
Prison Service						
Social Services/Children and Families						
Adult Care/Learning Disabilities						
Mental Health						
Local Authority Housing Dept						
Voluntary Organisations, please specify.						
<p>If the person is a registered Sex Offender or subject to supervision by the Probation Service on release from prison for a crime of violence this person will be subject to the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. Other offenders who are a risk to others can also be included in the MAPPA system as considered appropriate. If the subject of this referral is not an offender while they cannot be included in the MAPPA they may be discussed in a High Risk Information Sharing Meeting. This form will be processed by the MAPPA Co-ordinator, Public Protection Unit, Wiltshire Constabulary, London Road, Devizes, Wilts. SN10 2DN. If secure e-mail is confirmed it can be sent to alan.hemming@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk</p>						

From: Name..... Role.....

Contact phone.....Fax.....

Address.....

E-Mail.....