



Suffolk  
Safeguarding  
Partnership

# **MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements)**

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## Policy Version History

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Version	Date Updated	Date of Next Review	Reason for Review	Document Author
V2	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2016	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2019	General Overview	Eamon Bridger
V3	13 August 2021	13 August 2024	Addition of new logo, new MAPPA leads and contact details	Eamon Bridger/David Giles

The Criminal Justice Act 2003 provides for the establishment of MAPPA in each of the 42 criminal justice areas in England and Wales. The purpose of MAPPA is 'to protect the public, including previous victims of crime, from serious harm by sexual and violent offenders'. To achieve that, there is a requirement on the local criminal justice agencies and other bodies dealing with offenders to work in partnership in dealing with these offenders.

MAPPA brings together the police, probation, and prison services into the MAPPA Responsible Authority for each MAPPA area. MAPPA areas are co-terminus with police force areas, as set out in the Police Act 1996. Agencies listed are under a Duty to Co-operate with the Responsible Authority:

- Local Authority social care services
- Health Trusts and Authorities
- Youth Offending Teams
- Home Office Immigration Enforcement
- Local housing authorities and certain registered social landlords
- Jobcentre Plus
- Electronic monitoring providers
- Local education authority

MAPPA is not a statutory body, but a mechanism through which agencies discharge their statutory responsibilities and protect the public in a coordinated manner.

The Responsible Authority has responsibility for establishing a Strategic Management Board (SMB) to include senior managers from the relevant organisations. The Responsible Authority also has a duty to ensure risks posed by specified sexual and violent offenders are assessed and managed appropriately.

MAPPA guidance requires that relevant agencies within MAPPA should: identify and record all eligible offenders immediately following sentence.

Eligibility for MAPPA requires an offender to be in one of the following categories:

- Category 1** Registered sexual offender.
- Category 2** Murderer or offender convicted of a violent or sexual offence under Schedule 15 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and has been sentenced to 12 months or more in custody. It includes those detained under hospital orders.
- Category 3** Other dangerous offender: a person who has been cautioned for or convicted of an offence which indicates that he or she is capable of causing serious harm requiring multi-agency management.

Once categorised, an eligible MAPPA offender is allocated to one of three levels of management:

- Level 1** Standard agency management - the risks posed can be managed by the agency responsible for the supervision or case management of the offender.
- Level 2** Active multi-agency management - adds value to the lead agency's management of the risk of serious harm.

- Level 3** Active enhanced multi-agency management - the management issues require senior representation from the Responsible Authority and Duty to Co-operate agencies.

## **MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference)**

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MARAC is a multi-agency approach to managing the highest risk domestic abuse cases. Cases are identified through an agreed risk assessment process, CAADA - DASH. The standing membership jointly constructs risk management plans for cases as assessed by partners in advance of conference.

Representatives are drawn from a range of professionals:

- Police
- Probation
- Health
- Housing
- Children and Young People Services
- Adult Safeguarding
- Lighthouse Women's Aid
- Anglia Care Trust

Representatives agree actions for their own agency based on the information that is shared and each agency is responsible for achieving their own actions.

## **Effective communication between MAPPA and MARAC**

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The work of MARAC and MAPPA is co-ordinated to provide the most effective response to the victim. The MAPPA meeting should take precedence over the MARAC as it is a statutory set of arrangements.

Where a MAPPA offender meets the criteria for Level 2 or 3 management **and** the victim has been referred to the local MARAC, the Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVA) must be invited to the MAPPA meeting, together with any other professional who hold relevant victim information. MAPPA will ensure that the risk assessment and Management Plan effectively identify actions to protect the victim.

Minutes of either conference are only routinely shared with agencies represented. Where further disclosure is required, application can be made by interested agencies to Chair for consideration.

Where new child safeguarding concerns are identified during either conference the information will be appropriately shared with all relevant agencies through referral to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

## Links between MARAC and the Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership (SSP)

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MARAC can assist with the duty of the SSP in recognising and responding to children assessed as living with domestic abuse by:

1. Identifying children at risk of harm.
2. Facilitating the sharing of information about the abuse and risk factors for all parties involved in the abusive relationship.

The MARAC provides co-ordination to safeguarding efforts in relation to the abused parent and associated children. It offers assistance to families to mitigate escalation in risk. Whilst the focus of MARAC is in respect of the abused adult processes are co-ordinated with child protection arrangements in Suffolk:

- Area Safeguarding Managers attend MAPPA.
- CYP Social care representatives attend MARAC as standing members to share information regarding the abused adult and associated children. Information gained is used to inform **Child in Need Plans** or **Child Protection Plans**.
- CYP Social care staff can refer cases to MARAC/ MAPPA via the Area Safeguarding Manager.

### For more Information

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