

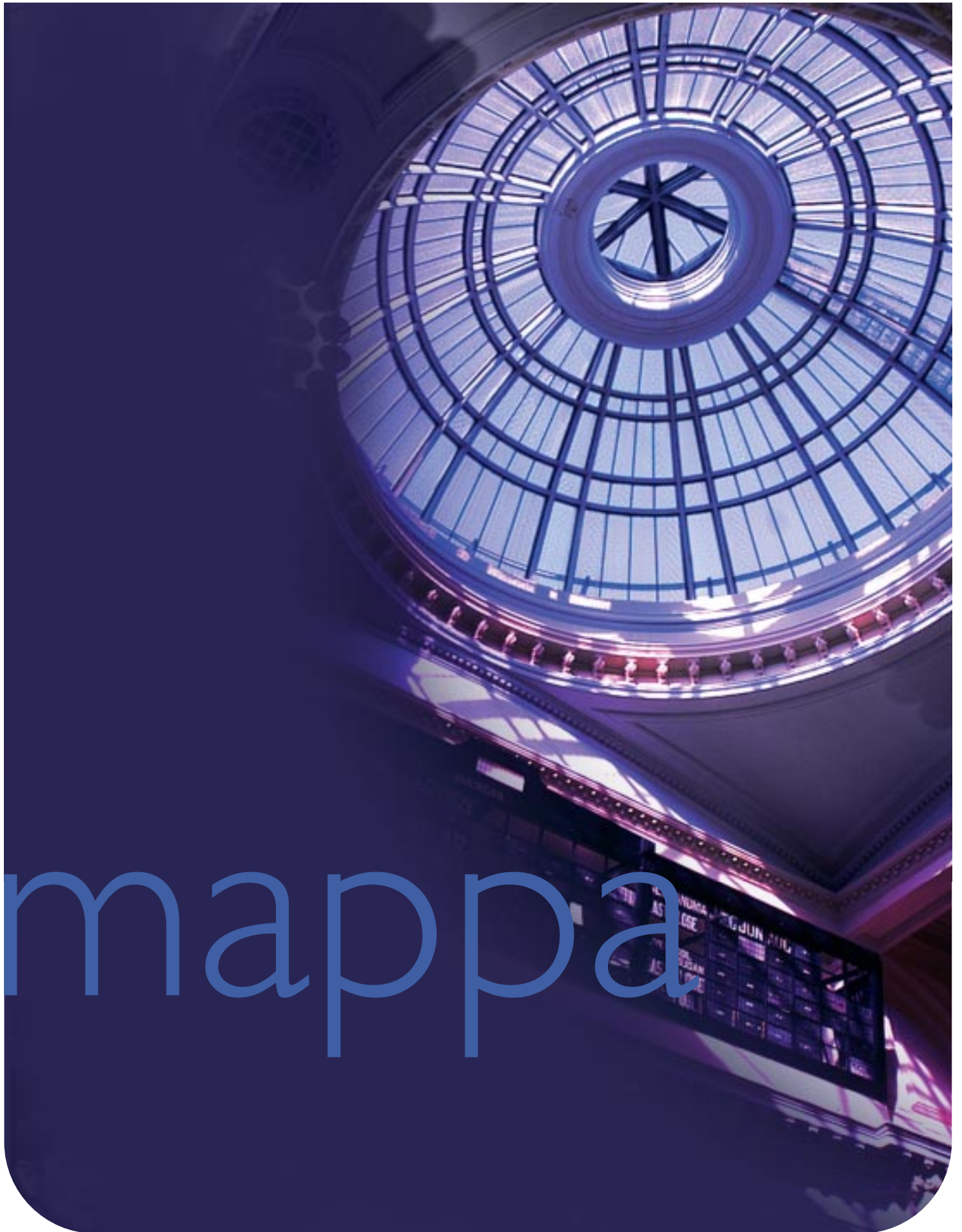


# annual report

GREATER MANCHESTER MULTI-AGENCY PUBLIC PROTECTION ARRANGEMENTS



2004/05



mappa

MINISTERIAL INTRODUCTION	02
FOREWORD	03
WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO	04
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2004/05	05 - 07
HOW MAPPA WORKS	08
ASSESSING THE RISKS	09
MANAGING MAPPA	10
HELPING VICTIMS OF CRIME	11
SHARING INFORMATION	12
DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION	13

# contents

HELPING TO MANAGE OFFENDERS	14
GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE	14
GREATER MANCHESTER PROBATION AREA	15
PRISON SERVICE	16
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT 2003	16
HOUSING	17
YOUTH OFFENDING TEAMS	18
EDUCATION	18
SOCIAL SERVICES	18
HEALTH	19
CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE	19
OTHER AGENCIES	19
LAY ADVISERS	19 - 20
CASE STUDIES	21 - 23
FACTS AND FIGURES	24 -25
FURTHER INFORMATION	BACK COVER



The work being undertaken to improve the safety of communities through the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) is vitally important and a priority for government. The annual reports for 2004/5 provide evidence of that active engagement. Violence and sexual abuse are unacceptable wherever they occur and it is evident that through MAPPA such offenders

Although it is never possible completely to eliminate the risk posed by dangerous offenders, MAPPA is helping to ensure that fewer people are re-victimised.

The active implementation of the Criminal Justice Act (2003) during the last year has clearly enhanced the ability of a number of agencies including health, social services and

appointment of lay advisers to assist the Responsible Authority in the oversight of the arrangements. As ordinary members of the public these lay advisers represent a diverse, able and committed group of people who are now helping the statutory agencies to oversee the work being undertaken through MAPPA and communicate with the public more effectively. Without a

## ministerial introduction

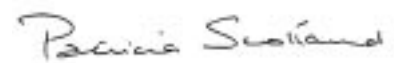
are identified and better managed than ever before. As the number of offenders within MAPPA continues to grow as expected there is clear evidence that the Responsible Authority, that is the local police, probation and the Prison Service, is addressing these additional demands by strengthening local partnerships, using new statutory powers to restrict the behaviour of offenders, returning offenders to custody where they breach their licence or order, and using the findings of research and inspection to strengthen national guidance and local practice.

housing to work collaboratively with the Responsible Authority in assessing and managing those sexual and violent offenders in our communities who pose the highest risk of serious harm. For the continued success of MAPPA this collaboration together with the scrutiny of policy and practice must become the hallmark of these arrangements. Similarly MAPPA must integrate with other public protection mechanisms dealing with child abuse, domestic abuse and racial abuse.

For me one of the most exciting developments in this arena in the last 12 months has been the

growing sense of public knowledge and confidence about this work much of the benefits of the public protection arrangements will be lost.

I hope this annual report will be useful, informative and reassuring to local communities. The agencies and individuals who have contributed to the achievement of MAPPA locally are to be commended.



Baroness Scotland  
Minister of State for Criminal  
Justice and Offender  
Management



**Welcome to the fourth annual report on the multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) in Greater Manchester.**

This is a joint report by the probation, prison and police services. It sets out how the risks posed by sex offenders and other dangerous offenders are managed within the area. Such offenders may be few in number but we recognise the concern that exists amongst local people. That is why agencies across Greater Manchester work together to investigate, detect, reduce and prevent these crimes.

This is the first year that the prison service has joined the police and probation services as a responsibility authority for MAPPA. This has undoubtedly strengthened our multi-agency arrangements. We have also recently appointed a second lay adviser to the MAPPA Strategic Management Board. Their role is to help us understand better the needs of, and engage more fully, with our local communities. We recognise the valuable contribution these dedicated individuals make in scrutinising the work that is done on behalf of us all.

Protecting the public and meeting the needs of victims continues to be a high priority. A lot has been achieved over the last year. In this report you can read about some of those achievements and how we work with other agencies to help make Greater Manchester a safer place to live, work and visit. Case studies, examples of good practice carried out locally, the contribution made by our lay advisors and statistical information is also highlighted. We are determined to build on these successes.

Sharing information about offenders and crime helps us to safeguard our communities. A collaborative approach is at the heart of offender management and public protection and is proven to achieve positive results. We thank all the individuals and agencies involved for their hard work and contribution to the achievements of the MAPPA.

We hope you find this report informative and interesting. Above all, the information contained within this report should reassure you that MAPPA is making a real difference to the quality of life in our communities.

# foreword



**John Crawford**  
Chief Officer  
Greater Manchester  
Probation Area



**Michael Todd**  
Chief Constable  
Greater Manchester  
Police



**Ian Lockwood**  
Assistant Director  
Her Majesty's  
Prison Service

## HISTORY

The police and probation services in Greater Manchester have had a close working relationship for many years. Multi-Agency Risk Panels were set up in 1997 following a successful pilot in Rochdale in 1995.

## LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

Greater Manchester is one of the largest counties in England with a population of around 2.5 million covering the 10 local authority areas of:

Panel meetings are chaired by either the probation service district manager or a local senior police officer. A countywide protocol sets out how and when panels meet. MAPPPs involve representatives from other key agencies who may be invited to attend and

# who we are and what we do

The panels were later renamed to Multi-Agency Public Protection Panels (MAPPP) as a result of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000. The Act required police and probation to make joint arrangements for the assessment and management of the risks posed by sexual, violent and other offenders who may cause serious harm to the public.

A wide range of agencies are involved in the panels including housing, social services, health, victim support, prisons, education, electronic monitoring providers and youth offending teams.

- Bolton
- Bury
- Manchester
- Oldham
- Rochdale
- Salford
- Stockport
- Tameside
- Trafford
- Wigan

The agencies within each area work together to help protect the public from those who perpetrate sexual or violent crimes or who are considered to pose a high risk of causing serious personal harm to others. These high risk cases are managed through Multi Agency Public Protection Panels (MAPPPs). The MAPPPs are used to manage the high-risk offenders that are referred to as 'the critical few' giving the community greater protection from dangerous offenders.

contribute to the risk management plan for an offender. Any agency can request that a MAPPP takes place. The agencies bring specialist knowledge and information to the meetings and have a key role in managing the dangerous offenders. You can read more about each of these agencies on pages 14-20 of this report.

On these pages you can read about some of our key achievements over the last year.

### POLICE AND PROBATION FORM NEW UNIT TO BOOST PUBLIC PROTECTION

A partnership unit to monitor violent and sex offenders in the community opened in Greater Manchester in January 05.

The unit consists of a team of specialist police and probation officers along with a forensic psychologist and is the largest partnership of its kind in the UK.

John Crawforth, Chief Officer for Greater Manchester Probation Area, said: "The opening of this new unit is a great step forward in ensuring that we work even closer with the police and

## key achievements 2004/05

other agencies to minimise risks and safeguard our local communities."

The unit was set up following a pilot scheme where two probation officers worked with the Greater Manchester Police Violent and Sex Offenders Registration (ViSOR) unit.

Chief Constable Michael Todd, said: "Protecting the public and supporting victims is at the heart of everything we do. The unit is already making a difference with improved information sharing and closer working with the probation service.

"I want to reassure people that there are only a small number of violent sex offenders in Greater Manchester but as a Force we are always looking for new ways of protecting the public and staying one step ahead of the criminal, which is why we have established this new unit."

## MAPPA AND MENTAL HEALTH

Around 100 people attended a MAPPA and mental health regional conference at Bolton Reebok Stadium in January 2005.

The event provided the ideal opportunity to find out more about how MAPPA works to protect the public from the risks posed by sexual and violent offenders. It also helped to raise the importance of and build upon inter-agency co-operation across the whole spectrum of mental health and criminal justice services. Feedback proved extremely positive.

Partners from other probation areas, the police and prison service attended the event together with representatives from the health service, voluntary and private sector from across the North West.

## A FIRST FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

In May 2004 an offender was sentenced to the first Sexual Offences Prevention Order (SOPO) in Greater Manchester. The order followed the introduction of new legislation at the beginning of May as part of the Sexual Offences Act 2003. It gives the police and the probation service wider scope to protect the public - especially children and vulnerable adults, from serious sexual harm.

As a result of the SOPO the offender must not have any contact with his victims for at least ten years. If he breaches this order he will face imprisonment for up to five years.



## NEW LAY ADVISOR APPOINTMENT

The appointment of a new lay advisor in early 2005 - following the resignation of the previous postholder - is helping to strengthen the work of the MAPPA Strategic Management Board. Here are her first thoughts:

“My knowledge of Public Protection issues prior to my appointment as lay adviser was very limited. However, since my appointment I have been in the privileged position to witness the responsible authorities openly working together to ensure that the public are protected from offenders that would otherwise be a threat.

‘We’ the public generally only hear about their work when things ‘go wrong’. Seldom do we have the opportunity to sit with the various agencies during the decision making process. Having been in this position I would like to congratulate them for their total commitment to protecting ‘us’ the public.”

You can read all about the views of another lay advisor on page 20.

## IN BRIEF

2004 / 05 also saw:

\* The prison service joining the police and probation services as a responsibility authority for MAPPA

- \* Greater involvement of agencies in the Strategic Management Board (SMB) including health, education and electronic monitoring device providers
- \* Three events arranged by the Strategic Management Board to improve training and awareness among local agencies of their role in managing risks
- \* Multi-agency work in preparation for the introduction of the Criminal Justice Act (2003) on 4 April 2005
- \* Greater Manchester Probation Area contacting 96% of victims or their families within 8 weeks of sentencing in cases involving serious sexual or other violent offences sentenced to 12 months or more. This exceeds the national target of 85%



Representatives from the police, probation and prison services, local authorities, housing associations, voluntary organisations and other interested groups attended a special event to officially launch the new MAPPA unit.

Multi-agency assessment and management of the risks of harm posed by dangerous, violent and sexual offenders takes place at three levels:

Level 1: Ordinary risk management

Level 2: Local risk management meetings (LRMMs)

Level 3: Multi-agency public protection panels (MAPPP)

The aim of this risk management structure is to make it easier to deploy and manage resources in

one agency without actively or significantly involving other agencies. Level 1 management primarily involves probation, police, youth offending teams or the prison service as the lead agency. Generally, offenders managed at level 1 will be assessed as presenting a low or medium risk of committing a further harmful offence.

**LEVEL 2: LOCAL RISK MANAGEMENT MEETINGS**

Level 2 risk management is used

**LEVEL 3: MULTI AGENCY PUBLIC PROTECTION PANEL**

The MAPPA is responsible for the management of the 'critical few'. The criteria for referring an offender to the MAPPA is when:

(i) the risk of an offender causing serious harm is assessed as being high or very high;

AND

(ii) the risks can only be managed by a plan which requires close co-operation, at a senior level, due to the complexity of the case and/or because of the unusual resource commitments it requires;

OR

(iii) risk may not be assessed as high or very high but the case is exceptional. This might be because of the likelihood of media scrutiny and/or public interest in the management of the case and the need to ensure that public confidence in the criminal justice system is sustained.

Therefore the 'critical few' are not exclusively those assessed as high or very high risks. In most cases, however, they will be.

# how mappa works

the most efficient and effective way. The level at which a case is managed is dependent upon the nature of the risk and how it can be managed. For example, not all high risk cases will need to be managed by the MAPPA and other less risky cases might justify MAPPA referral because of their complexity.

**LEVEL 1: ORDINARY RISK MANAGEMENT**

Level 1 risk management is used in cases where the risks posed by the offender can be managed by

where the active involvement of more than one agency is required but where either the level of risk, or the complexity of managing the risk, is not so great as to require referral to level 3 - the MAPPP.

Risk can and will change. This means the way in which risk is managed is regularly reviewed and adjusted as necessary. The MAPPA provides the framework within which those changes can be effectively and consistently managed.



Initial risk assessments on serious violent and sexual offenders are normally carried out at the point of sentence in a court report. These reports are prepared by the probation service, or by youth offending teams for offenders under 18. Probation staff have extensive experience in working

Other offenders are required to register under the Sex Offenders Act 1997. These require joint assessments. Many of the orders are for 10 years or for life. The numbers of registered sex offenders will continue to rise every year for the next few years because the legislation, which

**FOOTNOTE**

\* As a result of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 some sentences will disappear, for example, 'Community rehabilitation order', 'community punishment order' and 'drug treatment and testing order. On 4 April 2005 they were replaced by one generic community order with a range of requirements. This is one of the major changes to the sentencing options available to magistrates' and crown courts. Courts can choose one or more requirements depending on the seriousness of the offence and the potential risk of harm and re-offending that the offender poses. Low seriousness and low risk offenders may be given a community order with just one requirement, high seriousness and high risk offenders three or more requirements.

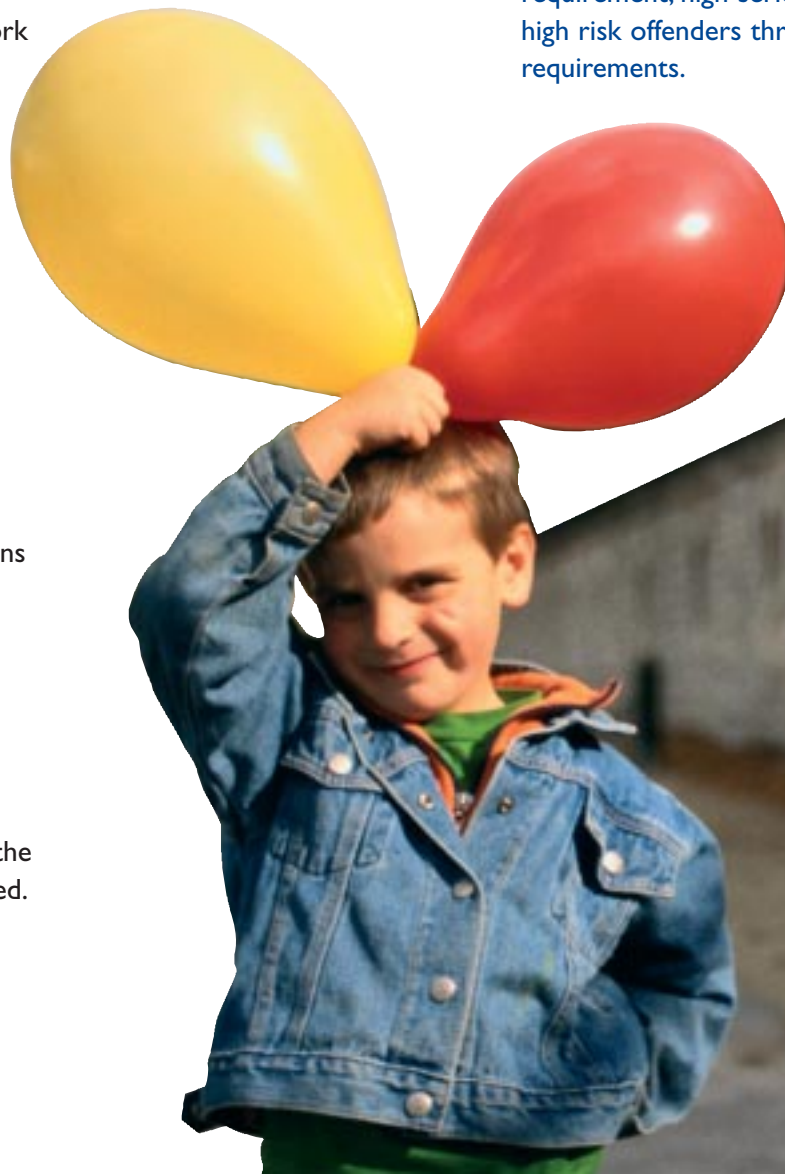
# assessing the risks

with offenders. The reports help the court determine a suitable sentence. They are used by the probation service if the offender is subsequently given a community sentence e.g. community rehabilitation order.\*

brought about the sex offender register in 1997, did not apply to offenders convicted before that time, unless they were still under supervision or in custody.

Offenders serving community penalties continue to live and work in communities. They may live in their own homes or in private rented accommodation. Research shows that having permanent accommodation and employment is very important in reducing the risk of re-offending. If an offender is sent to prison, a further assessment will be carried out. After release, depending on the length of the supervision period, the offender will be reassessed for risks and appropriate public protection plans put in place.

In some cases, offenders considered by a MAPPA are not the subject of any statutory supervision in the community. These are mainly offenders convicted of serious offences in the past but who have not re-offended. However, recent behaviour may be of sufficient concern to warrant referral to a MAPPA.



In Greater Manchester, a strategic management board (SMB) oversees MAPPA.

Representatives of all the MAPPPs agencies involved in sit on the board, together with lay advisers who were first appointed in 2002.

The board is jointly led by:

- a superintendent from Greater Manchester Police

Other members include representatives from:

- local authority housing
- victim support
- youth offending teams
- social services and education departments
- crown prosecution service
- mental health services

Membership of the board continues to be reviewed.

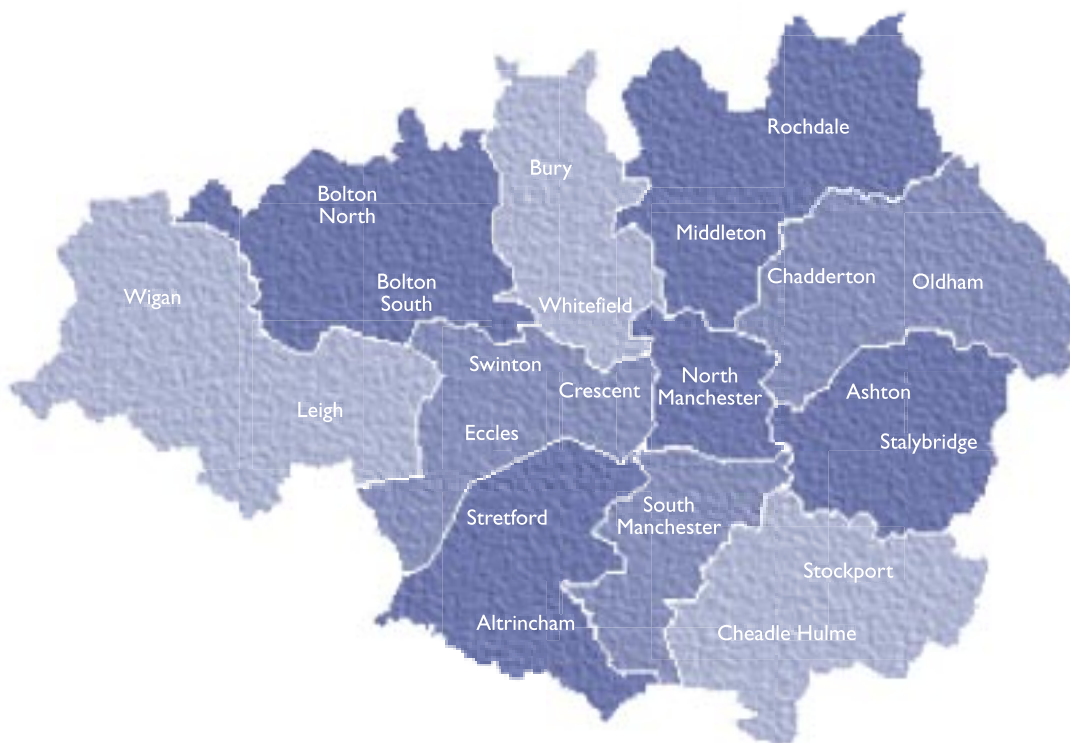
Two lay advisers sit on the board. They help ensure greater openness and transparency in the work of MAPPA, make decision makers more accountable, express views on behalf of the community and scrutinise the process, priorities and working methods of MAPPPs.

Greater Manchester is a large county, which covers 10 local authority districts. It is therefore not practicable to seek representatives from all 10 areas. The aim is to have individuals representing services across Greater Manchester to achieve countywide coverage from amongst the membership. Those appointed to the board bring a perspective from their particular area of work.

# managing mapppa

- an assistant chief officer from the National Probation Service (Greater Manchester)
- a senior manager from the prison service

The SMB monitors and reviews the effectiveness of the local MAPPPs to ensure consistency of practice and procedure. The board also promotes communication and information sharing between all the agencies involved. This helps ensure consistent implementation of national policy and guidance across the region.



Greater Manchester Victim Support and Witness Service is an integral part of the MAPPA process. The charity provides local support and assistance to victims of crime and to vulnerable witnesses. Where victim support involvement is requested at a MAPPP, a staff member will attend the meeting and then liaise with the appropriate victim worker in the case.

Trained staff and volunteers at local branches offer information and support to victims, witnesses, their families and friends. The needs of the victim are greatly increased where an offence is violent or sexual. The impact on a victim can be substantial, particularly where the offender may be released back into the community. Victim Support can pass on the concerns of victims

and ensure they are kept fully informed, as well as assisting other agencies through the MAPPA. Witnesses of violent crime have been contacted and visited over the year, so that their concerns can be passed on. Some witnesses have been accompanied to court by volunteers from Greater Manchester's Victim Support and Witness Service to help increase confidence in the

# helping victims of crime



criminal justice system. Over the last year this service has extended to provide even greater support to victims and witnesses.

The National Probation Service (Greater Manchester) employs victim liaison officers to liaise with victims of serious violent or sexual offences. They provide victims with information about the offender's sentence, parole eligibility and any plans for release. They will ask the victim if they have any views, which might affect the offender's licence conditions on release.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- A network of family support units exists throughout the county supporting child victims and their families through the process of reporting, investigation and prosecution of offenders. They also provide assistance to victims of domestic violence and children who have been subjected to violent or sexual assaults.
- The St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre is a national leader in supporting victims of sexual crimes. Counsellors are available to talk in confidence.
- In Greater Manchester, the Victim Support and

Witness Service provides support for young victims of crime required to give evidence at court. In Bolton this service is provided by the Young Witness Support Scheme through social services. A support worker works with the young person arranging familiarisation visits, going to court and providing support after the case.

- Greater Manchester Police has considerable expertise in investigating crimes where the victims are unknown or difficult to reach, for example child victims of Internet pornography

**For details of local services and relevant organisations contact the victim support line on 0845 30 30 900**



Sharing information between organisations is critical to public protection. Agencies must accept accountability for information that they share. Any information shared must have lawful authority, be necessary, be proportionate and done in ways, which ensure the safety and security of the information shared.

The MAPPA process helps to make sure that relevant information is available in good time to help those making risk assessments and drawing up management plans. Public protection depends upon the effectiveness of those plans. These plans are in turn dependent upon the quality of the risk identification and

assessment processes. They and the quality of both the risk assessment and the risk management plan are heavily determined by the effectiveness of information sharing arrangements.

# sharing information



There may be some cases where the management of an offender's risk in the community cannot be carried out without the disclosure of some information to a third party outside the MAPPA agencies. For example, it might be necessary to disclose certain information about an offender to an employer, voluntary group organiser or religious leader who has a position of responsibility/control over an offender and other persons who may be at serious risk from the offender. The disclosure to them of certain information about the offender may be the only way to manage that risk.

Where such action is required, it must be part of a risk management plan.

Disclosure rarely means providing information to the media. It is usually on a one-to-one basis handled sensitively by professionals involved. The media may be involved to assist public protection by wide coverage of an individual case. They can play a major role in helping to alert the public. For example, if an offender fails to comply with supervision and his whereabouts become unknown, appeals for information may be made through the media. This means the public can help track

down the offender and protect other people. This has not been required in Greater Manchester since the introduction of MAPPA.

In 2002, a media protocol between the police, probation and the local and regional media was put in place. This has helped to ensure that the media are more informed about how agencies co-operate to manage offenders in the community and how media coverage can both help and hinder their supervision. The protocol also sets out what assistance police and probation will give to the media. Almost 40 newspapers

## disclosure of information

and broadcasters are signed up to the protocol. So far it has proved very successful in improving relationships between the media and the police, probation and prison services.

Protecting the public from high risk offenders is best achieved by joint working between statutory and voluntary bodies. This is being clearly evidenced by the new partnership unit that you can read about under our key achievements on pg 5.

### GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

As a lead agency in the delivery of MAPPA, Greater Manchester Police has made a significant commitment towards future work by the creation of the Violent and Sex Offender Registration (ViSOR) unit. The

ViSOR is:

- \* Responsible for maintaining the sex offender register for Greater Manchester and for ensuring the compliance of those on the register
- \* Staffed by more than 20 police personnel and is a base for the

# helping to manage offenders

Although the police, prison and probation services are the lead agencies, the contributions made by other agencies are essential.

unit provides a central resource and support framework with expertise in this area. It covers all issues involving the management of sexual violent and dangerous offenders.

new MAPPA Support Unit involving staff from prison, probation and forensic psychology

- \* A central point of contact for liaison with all agencies involved in this work across the area

## GREATER MANCHESTER PROBATION AREA

The National Probation Service takes a lead in the delivery of MAPPA. The main aims of the service are to:

- \* Protect the public
- \* Reduce re-offending
- \* Ensure the proper punishment of offenders in the community
- \* Ensure offenders' awareness of the effects of crime on the victims of crime and the public
- \* Rehabilitate offenders

Probation staff make a wide-ranging contribution to the work of MAPPA and are highly skilled in assessing the risks offenders present. Risk assessments are a key area of work and are conducted on all offenders who come before the courts for violent or sexual offences. The assessments dictate the nature and level of intervention by the service and/or partner agencies that contribute to the multi-agency planning that is a requirement of the MAPPA arrangements.

Other key areas of work include preparation of reports for the courts; provision of accommodation in approved premises; supervision and management of offenders on community orders; supervision and management of offenders following their release from custody on licence. This includes swiftly recalling to custody those offenders who do not comply with the terms and conditions of their licence and return to court those who breach community orders.



### PRISON SERVICE

Her Majesty's Prison Service joined the police and probation services this year as a responsible authority for MAPPA. It contributes to the protection of the public by keeping in custody those offenders committed by the courts and working to reduce the risk they pose. It does this by:

- \* Identifying and risk assessing those individuals who present a risk to the public
- \* Designing and implementing sentence plans, based around the Offender Assessment System (OASys), which is designed to reduce the risk

individuals pose before they are released

- \* Sharing information with other agencies during custody and immediately prior to release

While in custody, offenders are able to access a range of interventions aimed at addressing offending behaviour. This includes, for example, sex offender treatment programmes, cognitive skills programmes and substance misuse work as well as a wide range of resettlement activities related to accommodation, employment and education.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT 2003

The Criminal Justice Act 2003 imposes a 'duty to co-operate' upon a range of agencies to work with the police, prison and probation services to help protect the public and reduce reoffending. These agencies include:

- \* Local authority housing, education and social services
- \* Health service bodies
- \* Jobcentres plus
- \* Youth offending teams
- \* Registered social landlords which accommodate MAPPA offenders
- \* Electronic monitoring providers



## HOUSING

Housing professionals contribute significant expertise to MAPPP meetings. Housing providers including local authorities, housing associations and staff from both statutory and voluntary hostels have attended meetings.

Permanent accommodation is extremely important to the management of the risks posed by sexual and violent offenders. Greater Manchester has seven approved premises (hostels) that offer programmes and extra work, which can help reduce offending. Approved premises can be a first step back into the community for offenders released from prison, and allow additional supervision for offenders who would otherwise have to look for accommodation elsewhere in the community.

The hostels have rules and conditions of residence including a strictly enforced overnight curfew and 24 hour staffing, which allow rigorous supervision.

The contribution of approved premises staff to the MAPPA includes:

- \* Advising on suitable accommodation taking into account public protection issues and the offender's requirements
- \* Hostel staff regularly attending MAPPPs to provide vital information on offenders who are current residents
- \* Assisting in organising surveillance and encouraging responsible behaviour from offenders under supervision

Manchester City Council Housing Services provide a tenancy support service to assist offenders with successful rehabilitation. The staff work closely with other agencies such as the Police and Probation Services to help manage and minimise risk in the community.

### YOUTH OFFENDING TEAMS

Dangerous offenders are usually adults. However, there are a few cases each year where young offenders, aged under 18, are

assessed as being a danger to the public. Such cases may be under the supervision of youth offending teams (YOTs).

YOTs can put intensive supervision arrangements in place for young offenders. This makes their attendance at MAPPPs essential.

Teams consist of police, probation, education and social workers who are well placed to co-ordinate arrangements to closely manage these dangerous young

offenders. YOTs have links to local child and adolescent mental health services.

### EDUCATION

Education staff can provide valuable assistance to the MAPPA by:

- \* Providing information to other agencies about known or potential child victims
- \* The management of the few dangerous offenders of school age who can disrupt local communities
- \* Working with children and parents to raise awareness of how to manage risks
- \* Providing support to victims and families in a safe environment
- \* Offering additional monitoring of offenders attending school or college courses.

### SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services departments have a primary responsibility for issues involving the protection of children and vulnerable adults. The work of MAPPA links to that of the Area Child Protection Committees, where police and probation officers attend relevant case conferences.

The contribution includes:

- \* Sharing vital information about offenders' behaviour
- \* Providing valuable information on family networks of sexual and violent offenders
- \* Assisting in the creation of a development plan for sex offenders under 18 years of age



### HEALTH

Health issues can be a significant factor in managing dangerous offenders, and the health professionals attend MAPPPs on a case-by-case basis. Some offenders have mental health problems, which need assessment and treatment. A local GP or specialist psychiatric staff may be represented at MAPPPs.

### CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

Representatives from the Crown Prosecution Service attend the MAPPA strategic management board when

required. The service plays a key part in looking at disclosure related to records where they become relevant during the course of a prosecution.

### OTHER AGENCIES

MAPPPs may be attended by other community agencies or individuals where they can add to the discussion. In Greater Manchester, this has included housing compliance officers, staff from Greater Manchester Police's Domestic Violence Unit, probation service victim liaison officers and offender's family members.

### LAY ADVISERS

Greater Manchester was among the first areas to have lay advisers appointed, chosen as one of only eight areas in the country to pilot lay adviser involvement. In April 2004 lay adviser involvement was rolled out to the 42 areas of England and Wales. There are two lay advisers in Greater Manchester. Both play a vital role in the MAPPA process representing the views of the community and questioning what is being done and why.



**HERE'S WHAT ONE GREATER MANCHESTER LAY ADVISER HAS TO SAY:**

I am warmed by a description of lay advisers as the 'critical friend' of MAPPA. I consider it a true reflection of a role that captures the inclusion of the views of ordinary members of the public. We are encouraged to contribute our views, challenge the views of professionals and inform the direction and decision making undertaken in relation to public protection.

As a lay adviser I am encouraged to play a full and active role, independent of other agencies. The strategic management board (SMB) umbrellas the arrangements across the 10 districts of Greater Manchester. Within the past 12 months the SMB has seen a significant increase in membership from across the agencies. There has been a clear drive from the agencies with 'responsibility' for public protection to engage a range of expertise that the duty to co-operate agencies can contribute to the oversight of effective arrangements across the area.

This is not without issue. Time and resources for the co-ordination of effective arrangements remain a contentious concern - not only for the SMB - but also for the agencies as they seek to work collaboratively.

The SMB is keen to address issues such as training for practitioners involved in public protection to ensure consistent practice and response across the area. I am pleased that funding implications are openly and continually discussed in the arena of the SMB. For me, it reflects a parallel with the issues encountered by other important public-sector funded work.

I have come to recognise the significant contribution that individual agencies can bring to arrangements. For example, I have been pleased by Manchester Housing's commitment to share knowledge, information and good practice by leading a seminar in relation to managing risk in the community for other housing providers. I found it enlightening to attend the seminar. I had never envisaged meeting so many organisations participating and contributing proactively to public protection arrangements.

This year I have sought to observe multi-agency public protection panel (MAPPP) meetings across the districts. I have found it helpful to view issues 'live' in the districts that have been brought to the SMB for clarity of direction. I have been pleased to observe a high level of detailed information exchange between agencies. I had not anticipated such robust and rigorous multi-agency

collaboration that clearly enables the effective planning of the management of serious high-risk offenders. This process, I believe, is further enhanced by MAPPA chairs who have exercised a clear grasp on the purpose and aim of the meetings. In the coming year I hope to continue to view other MAPPP meetings across the district.

Greater Manchester's commitment to public protection is further reflected in the development of the MAPPA support unit. A probation service led initiative, the unit has been created to work alongside Greater Manchester Police's ViSOR unit and develop on existing co-working arrangements. The unit is evidence of an innovative area response that underpins Greater Manchester's commitment to ensuring public protection is always high on the agenda"

**Maria Wright  
LAY ADVISER**

MR A IS 36 YEARS OLD. IN 2004 HE WAS CONVICTED OF CHILD CRUELTY OFFENCES AND SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS IMPRISONMENT. THE CASE WAS IMMEDIATELY LISTED ON THE PUBLIC PROTECTION REGISTER UNDER MAPPA AND CHILD PROTECTION MEASURES PUT INTO PLACE.

A local risk management meeting was held to share information with agencies involved in managing the case and a thorough risk assessment completed.

Mr A was assessed as having a personality disorder as well as posing a high level of risk to others. Consequently MR A was referred and transferred to a specialist dangerous and severe personality disorder unit - a joint prison, Department of Health & Home Office initiative, which combines the expertise of the health and prison services. The unit has developed specialised programmes to assist in assessing and treating prisoners with personality disorders and reducing risk.

Effective communications with the prison, social services, the supervising probation officer the VISOR unit and others has been maintained throughout.

## case studies

MR B IS A 34-YEAR-OLD MALE WHO HAS A LONG HISTORY OF SEXUAL OFFENDING AGAINST CHILDREN. HE WAS RELEASED INTO THE COMMUNITY IN 2003. GIVEN THE POTENTIAL DANGER TO CHILDREN HE WAS MADE THE SUBJECT OF THE MAPPA, WHICH RECOMMENDED AN APPLICATION FOR A SEX OFFENDER ORDER (NOW A SEX OFFENDER PREVENTION ORDER).

As part of that order, Mr B was required to stay in approved probation premises. This ensured a level of supervision and monitoring by the probation service and police. Surveillance was also put in place. Shortly after release Mr B was seen speaking to a young boy whilst travelling on public transport. Having breached the requirements of his licence and sex offender prevention order he was immediately recalled to prison and sentenced to a further term of imprisonment.

Back in custody Mr B continued to try and communicate with children. This behaviour was immediately stopped by the prison and referred to the police. Mr B has been interviewed again by the police and it is likely he will serve an additional period of imprisonment for a further breach of his sex offender prevention order.

FOLLOWING A LENGTHY PERIOD ON REMAND MR C WAS SENTENCED IN 1990 TO 22 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR OFFENCES OF ATTEMPTED MURDER, ARMED ROBBERY AND WOUNDING. MR C SERVED A TOTAL OF 16 YEARS IMPRISONMENT UNTIL HIS RELEASE IN 2004.

As Mr C was assessed as high-risk, there were concerns about his release back into the community. MAPPPs were held both before and after his release. A risk management plan, which included police surveillance, was put into action. A referral was also made to the Black Prisoners Support Project who provided a personal mentor for Mr C's period of resettlement. Encouraging Mr C to engage with the probation service on a voluntary basis enabled a higher level of monitoring. The Public Protection Courts Unit in London also provided specialist support. The case has since been closed and the information to date is that Mr C has not re-offended.

MR D IS A 68-YEAR-OLD MALE WITH AN EXTENSIVE HISTORY OF 29 SEXUAL OFFENCES AGAINST CHILDREN, COMMITTED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. MR D WAS ONE OF THE FIRST SEX OFFENDERS NATIONALLY TO BE SUBJECT TO A SEX OFFENDER ORDER. HE WAS ALSO ONE OF THE FIRST MEN TO BREACH THE ORDER RESULTING IN 3 YEARS, 7 MONTHS, IMPRISONMENT.

Given the potential risk of harm Mr D presents to children in the community he is subject to the MAPPA. He was transferred to a local prison to ensure that his release into the community could be managed more effectively. On the day of his release the police served Mr D with an amended copy of the sex offender prevention order. He was taken to an approved probation premises so there was no scope for contact with children.

Mr D was closely monitored and supervised using various means including surveillance. Having been in the community for a few weeks Mr D was recalled to custody for breaching the conditions of his licence. Although he had not attempted to contact any children his own disclosure had put his accommodation and others at risk.

This case will remain a high priority in terms of risk management.

MR E IS A 42 YEAR OLD MAN WITH MILD LEARNING DISABILITIES AND MAY HAVE A PERSONALITY DISORDER. HE HAS A HISTORY OF OFFENCES INCLUDING ATTEMPTED MURDER, ABDUCTION AND GROSS INDECENCY WITH A CHILD. HE WAS SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS IMPRISONMENT IN 1989. HE WAS LATER TRANSFERRED TO A HIGH SECURE HOSPITAL AND THEN TO A MEDIUM SECURE HOSPITAL.

In 2002 Mr E became an informal resident until a suitable package of care could be found. As an informal resident there would be no restrictions when he moved back into the community. He was made the subject of MAPPA and a psychological and a rigorous risk assessment carried out to inform how he should be managed.

As a result of the MAPPA Mr E was referred to and accepted at a specialist day centre. Very close liaison between all the agencies concerned is ongoing. To date Mr E is living in the community with no further offending reported.

THE CASE OF MR G DEMONSTRATES THE BENEFITS OF INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION, GOOD WORKING PRACTICE AND OF BASING POLICE AND PROBATION STAFF IN THE SAME OFFICE.

In January 2005 a probation officer based at the MAPPA support unit working in the ViSOR unit received a phone call from a charitably run hostel. Concerns were expressed about the behaviour of one of the residents who had recently arrived at the hostel. The resident had been talking about his past violent exploits and frightening other residents. The probation officer spoke with a police officer from the ViSOR Unit regarding the incident. Together they identified the offender and that he was in breach of his registration requirements.

The Police attended the hostel and arrested Mr G. He appeared in court the following morning and was remanded in custody to appear again at the end of January. On appearing in court he received a 4 month prison sentence.



MR F HAS A LONG HISTORY OF OFFENDING, MAINLY ROBBERIES AND VIOLENCE AGAINST STUDENTS. IN 1999 HE WAS SENTENCED TO A 6 YEAR CUSTODIAL SENTENCE FOR KIDNAP, FALSE IMPRISONMENT AND ROBBERY. HE HAD A LONG HISTORY OF DRUG USE AND THERE WERE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONCERNS AGAINST HIS MOTHER. HIS MOTHER WAS ALSO THE MAIN CARER FOR HIS CHILDREN AND THERE WERE PREVIOUS CHILD PROTECTION CONCERNS.

A rigorous risk management plan was put in place. His licence conditions included restrictions on where he could live and having to attend programmes to address his offending behaviour and drug use. Child protection procedures were initiated. A marker on his electronic police record meant that any information regarding an increase in immediate risk would initiate a prompt response.

Mr F was released on licence and immediately returned to drug use. He was seen by the police on a number of occasions by cash machines. After making a violent threat to a drug worker he was recalled to prison immediately. Mr F was to be released at the end of his recall period without supervision. As a result of the MAPPA Mr F was visited by the police before being released and offered support and monitoring through a drug scheme.

Mr F responded positively to the support offered. He found suitable accommodation and began to address his drug use. The case was de-registered from the MAPPA once his risk of immediate harm had diminished and all suitable risk management strategies had successfully been put in place.



DESPITE ONLY BEING 16 YEARS OF AGE MISS H, HAS MANY PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS AND A HISTORY OF VIOLENT AND AGGRESSIVE OFFENCES. SHE HAS SUFFERED A COMPLEX AND TRAUMATIC FAMILY BACKGROUND INCLUDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, MANY BEREAVEMENTS AND DRUG ABUSE IN THE FAMILY.

On release from custody early in 2005 she was registered as a level 3 MAPPA case. Her licence conditions included electronic monitoring and surveillance and input from the youth offending team and supported accommodation from social services.

The initial release plan and accommodation arrangements went well. However, Miss H was soon associating with known criminals and problems with her tenancy were reported. This resulted in her being immediately recalled to serve the remainder of her sentence in prison.

The number of Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) in the area on 31 March 2004	1,800
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The number of RSOs per 100,000 population	70
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The number of sex offenders having a registration requirement who were either cautioned or convicted for breaches of the requirements between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2005	67
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The number of Sexual Offences Prevention Orders (SOPOs) applied for, interim granted and full imposed between 1 May 2004 and 31 March 2005

a) applied for	10
b) interim granted	3
c) imposed by the courts	7

## facts and figures

The number of Notification Orders applied for, interim granted and full imposed between 1 May 2004 and 31 March 05

a) applied for	0
b) granted	0
c) imposed by the courts	0

The number of Foreign Travel Orders between 1 May 2004 and 31 March 2005

a) applied for	0
b) imposed by the courts	0

The number of violent offenders and other sexual offenders (as defined by Section 327 (3) (4) & (5) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 living in the area between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2005	1910
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The number of 'other offenders' (as defined by Section 325 (2) (b) of the Criminal Justice Act (2003) between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2005 59

For each of the three categories of offenders covered by MAPPA (registered sex offenders, violent and sex offenders, and other offenders) the number of offenders that have been managed through the MAPPP (level 3) and through local inter-agency risk management (level 2) between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2005

	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 2</b>
a) MAPPP - registered sex offenders	52	63
b) MAPPP - violent and other sex offenders	63	67
c) MAPPP - other offenders	27	27

Of the cases managed at levels 3 or 2 how many, whilst managed at that level, were:

	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Level 2</b>
a) returned to custody for breach of licence	38	26
b) returned to custody for breach of a restraining order or sexual offences prevention order	1	4
c) charged with a serious sexual or violent offence	3	1

**FURTHER INFORMATION ON STATISTICS**

The numbers of registered sex offenders and violent/dangerous offenders have risen during the last year which is linked to continued good work to ensure offenders are well managed through specific action plans.





This report has been produced by the National Probation Service (Greater Manchester) and Greater Manchester Police in conjunction with members of the Greater Manchester Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Management Board.

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All photos posed by models