

Knowsley Risk Management Arrangements

There are several processes, arrangements and meetings for risk management in Knowsley.

Multi-agency processes and arrangements are known as:

- [Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements \(MAPPA\)](#)
- [Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Meeting \(MARAM\)](#)
- [The Domestic Abuse Pathway](#)

Risk management is everybody's responsibility and there are a number of risk management pathways which professionals may refer to or contribute to.

An individual can be at risk themselves and pose risk to others, therefore risk may need to be managed across arrangements.

e.g., if a person with care and support needs is using street drugs they may be at risk of abuse (exploitation, violence, medical issues etc.) and is known to be abusive to others (violence, sexual abusive etc.) consideration should be given to refer to MARAM and MAPPA.

The following summaries and flowcharts outline the arrangements for multi-agency management of risk in Knowsley.

What is MAPPA?

Multi **A**gency **P**ublic **P**rotection **A**rrangements

What is the purpose of a MAPPA?

MAPPA stands for Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. It is the set of arrangements through which the Police, Probation and Prison Services work together with other agencies to manage the risks posed by violent and sexual offenders living in the community in order to protect the public. MAPPA is not a statutory body in itself but is a mechanism through which agencies can better discharge their statutory responsibilities and protect the public in a co-ordinated manner. Agencies at all times retain their full statutory responsibilities and obligations.

Responsible Authority – The Responsible Authority is the primary agency for MAPPA. This is the police, prison and Probation Trust in each area, working together. The Responsible Authority has a duty to ensure that the risks posed by specified sexual and violent offenders are assessed and managed appropriately.

Lead Agency - The lead agency is the agency with the main statutory authority and responsibility to manage a MAPPA offender in the community. It has the primary responsibility for referring the offender to Level 2 or Level 3 MAPPA management or for continuing management at Level 1. This may be Probation, Youth Offending Service, Mental Health/LD service or Police.

Duty to Cooperate Agencies - Other bodies have a duty to co-operate with the Responsible Authority in this task. This duty to co-operate agencies ("DTC agencies") will need to work with the Responsible Authority on particular aspects of an offender's life (e.g. education, employment, housing, social care). The UK Border Agency became a DTC agency in 2011 - the first addition to the list since the scheme in the CJA 2003 was implemented.

Criteria

There are 4 **categories** of violent and sexual offenders who are managed through MAPPA:

Category 1 - Registered sexual offenders

Category 2 - Violent offenders who have been sentenced to 12 months or more in custody or to detention in hospital.

Category 3 - Other dangerous offenders who have committed an offence in the past, are considered to pose a risk of serious harm to the public and require active management at MAPPA Level 2 or 3

Category 4 – Those who have been convicted of an offence under the Terrorism Act, or where their offence is deemed to be terrorist connect by a Court, or they are subject to a Terrorist Risk Notification

There are three **levels** of MAPPA management. These are mainly based upon the level of multi-agency co-operation required, with higher risk cases tending to be managed at the higher levels. Offenders will be moved up and down levels as appropriate:

Level 1 - Ordinary agency management is for offenders who can be managed by one or two agencies (e.g. Police and/or Probation). It will involve sharing information about the offender with other agencies if necessary and appropriate.

Level 2 - Active multi-agency management is for offenders where the ongoing involvement of several agencies is needed to manage the offender. Once at level 2, there will be regular multi-agency public protection meetings about the offender.

Level 3 - Same arrangements as level 2 but cases qualifying for level 3 tend to be more demanding on resources and require the involvement of senior people from the agencies, who can authorise the use of extra resources. For example, surveillance of an offender or emergency accommodation.

Who instigates the process, who chairs, timescales?

Lead Agency identifies MAPPA eligibility, completes the [MAPPA screening](#) and makes referral to MAPPA Level 2 or Level 3.

MAPPA co-ordinator & panel threshold the referral and agree L2 or L3.

Responsible Authority chairs the meeting. For cases supervised by Probation Service, Probation Service chairs. For all other cases, Police chair.

Meetings held every 16 weeks for L2 case and every 8 weeks for L3.

For further information please contact:

NWPS.merseyside.mappa@justice.gov.uk

Pathway Stages Flowchart

Identification of MAPPA eligibility (Category 1-4) and identify MAPPA level by completing [MAPPA screening \(MAPPA Q document\)](#).

If Level 1, manage as single agency and review level every 6 months. Rest of pathway does not need to be followed unless L2 or L3 management is required.



If need for Level 2 or 3 identified at screening stage:

[Completion of MAPPA referral \(MAPPA A document\)](#), send to MAPPA co-ordinator)



Initial MAPPA L2/3 meeting held following confirmation of acceptance into MAPPA L2/3



Review MAPPA meetings held every 16 weeks (Level 2) or every 8 weeks (Level 3).

Within a review meeting, decision can be made to reduce level or exit from L2 or 3 management as appropriate.

What is MARAM?

Multi **A**gency **R**isk **A**ssessment **M**anagement

What is the purpose of a MARAM?

- Information on adults at risk is shared between agencies and enables the widest range of expertise and resources to come together to deal with instances of abuse or neglect.
- Working together to support individuals to live as fully and independently as possible.
- Organisations are sometimes faced with situations in which an adult with care and support needs may be at risk as a result of their own decisions or behaviour.
- This process is not intended to replace existing arrangements. **However, in some cases it may be helpful to use the Multi-Agency Risk Management Meeting alongside these processes.**

Why might I use the MARAM process?

A worker from any agency can complete a [MARAM risk assessment](#) (Appendix 1), which will identify if the individual, or others, are at serious risk, due to their own behaviour or choices or environmental factors in respect of:

- Risk to self or maybe others
- [Hoarding](#)
- [Self-neglect](#)
- Refusal of support
- Alcohol or drug dependence
- Fire safety

It may be that the concern does not meet the criteria for [safeguarding section 42 enquiry](#), however the risk remains and there on concerns for the persons wellbeing.

MARAM Pathway Stages Flowchart

Any partner agencies may call a Multi-Agency Risk Management Meeting and other agencies should co-operate by ensuring attendance.



At this stage workers should discuss potential actions with their line manager and ensure that referrals to other services for specialist assessments etc are done in a timely manner.



At all stages, the individual who's at risk should be engaged in this process and supported to understand the risks and, hopefully, accept support to minimise them. However, if this approach is not successful, and the worker believes that the person is still facing substantial risks to health and wellbeing then a Multi-Agency Risk Management Meeting should be called. This should then be convened within one week.



The Agency convening the meeting should complete a Risk Management Meeting Request ([Appendix 7](#)) and circulate it to the member of staff identified as the named Risk Co-ordinator for each agency they request to attend.



The agency convening the meeting should complete a brief report outlining the risks and the steps taken to date to manage or mitigate them ([Appendix 8](#)). The agency convening should consider whether their Risk Management Co-ordinator should chair the meeting. If this is not possible, the co-ordinator should identify a suitably experienced member of staff to take on the role. (A suggested agenda is outlined in [Appendix 9](#))



Where there is multi-agency involvement, the co-ordinator from another agency may take on the role of the chair with agreement. All participating agencies should ensure that they bring information they may hold in relation to the specific individuals and any experience they may have in dealing with similar situations.



It is not necessary to keep detailed notes of discussions, but the Risk Management Plan ([Appendix 10](#)) should be completed and an agreed timescale for the meeting to reconvene. The Risk Management Plan should also identify the Key Worker who is responsible for co-ordinating the Plan.



All participating agencies should commit to ensuring that they discharge all actions allocated to them within the timescale outlined. In some circumstances it may be appropriate to invite the person and/or a representative or relatives to all or part of the meeting. This will depend on the individual circumstances of each case.

Review and completing a MARAM.

- The Key Worker should convene a review meeting in line with the timescale agreed at the original Risk Management Meeting.
- The Action Plan should be reviewed and updated in the light of experience or if new information is available.
- Whilst completing the Risk Management Process any number of reviews can take place whilst work is underway to reduce / manage / mitigate the risk. However, it may not be possible to eliminate or reduce these to the point where no substantial risks remain as the person is entitled to make choices about how they want to live.
- The Review Meeting may consider that no further action is possible or practicable in which case a final review of all the actions taken should be recorded and retained in the file of each agency involved in the Risk Management Process. The person should be kept informed of actions taken throughout and of any decision to close the process.

What is The Knowsley Domestic Abuse Pathway

What is the purpose of The Domestic Abuse Pathway

Knowsley has an established victim/survivor support offer (for those aged 16+) that ensures that when referred, all victims of domestic abuse are offered **specialist domestic abuse advocacy support**, regardless of their risk level.

Domestic abuse is a pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence. It is the misuse of power and control by one person over another. Domestic abuse can be perpetrated by a partner, an ex-partner, or a family member (when two people are “personally connected” to each other). It is categorised as domestic abuse when both parties are 16 and over. It is never acceptable. It is very common and there are support services available to help.

Domestic abuse can happen to anyone, regardless of age, background, gender, religion, sexuality, or ethnicity. Domestic abuse can have a devastating and long-term impact on a victim and their children. It can impact on their health and wellbeing including significant detrimental impact on self-esteem, mental wellbeing, and economic and employment prospects.

Why might I use the Domestic Abuse Pathway?

If you have identified or suspect domestic abuse or a client has disclosed domestic abuse, you can refer to the Knowsley Domestic Abuse Pathway or you can ask the client to self-refer to an independent domestic abuse service.

To understand where you are referring to, you must first understand whether you would categorise the client’s current circumstances as Bronze (Low Risk), Silver (Medium Risk) or GOLD (High Risk).

To establish this risk **a worker from any agency can complete a MERIT assessment** - this should be completed based on the **last known incident** that the client discloses to you or that you have been made aware of. Following this the worker can make a referral in line with the Knowsley pathway and the client will be offered specialist advocacy support.

Helpful Hint: If a MERIT is completed on the full history of a relationship every time, it is likely to ALWAYS reach GOLD status. This might not be helpful to the client, as it may result in the wrong intervention. We have a collective responsibility to ensure that MARAC is used for clients who are at immediate risk of serious harm or death.

For a MERIT assessment form and guidance please contact

Safercommunities@knowsley.gov.uk

Who Provides the Specialist Community Based Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support?

Knowsley Council's Safer Communities Service offer Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support to **low and medium risk** victim/survivors of domestic abuse who are referred to the service by Police or other professionals.

The First Step Project (Knowsley's Independent Specialist Domestic Abuse Agency) who support to **low and medium risk** victim/survivors of domestic abuse through a self-referral pathway.

Knowsley Council fund The First Step Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) Service to provide the offer of support to **high-risk** victims of Domestic Abuse, (**high risk of serious injury or murder**). High risk victims are referred to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

Knowsley Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meets fortnightly to discuss any new domestic abuse high risk cases, agree actions and review previous cases to ensure appropriate support is in place to reduce risks to individuals referred.

Domestic Abuse Pathway

Following a domestic abuse incident or disclosure complete a MERIT assessment

MERIT Score: 1 -15
Bronze/Low Risk

MERIT Score: 16 - 71
Silver/Medium Risk

MERIT Score: 72 +
Gold/High Risk

Professionals refer to Safer Communities Service via The Early Help System (EHM) select Referral: Safer Communities DA (all non-police professionals).
Merseyside Police will refer to Safer Communities Service directly

All referrals are completed via The Early Help System (EHM) – Select Referral RAC

Specialist Domestic Abuse Advocacy Support is provided by KMBC Safer Communities Service (**0151 443 2610**)
safertools@knowsley.gov.uk

Independent Specialist IDVA Support is provided by The First Step

Please note The First Step Community Project accept all self-referrals from all clients.

Knowsley Council's Safer Communities Service Choices Pathway work with residents who have been identified as perpetrators of domestic abuse. Based on voluntary engagement, those referred, are supported to change their behaviours to prevent re-offending and re-victimisation. For more information contact safertools@knowsley.gov.uk