



## Gloucestershire

Newsletter September 2018

### Information Sharing and Disclosure

Information sharing is the sharing of information about a MAPPA offender between the Responsible Authority and Duty to Cooperate Agencies.

Disclosure is the sharing of information about a MAPPA offender with a third party (not involved in MAPPA) for the purpose of protecting the public.

#### Principles of Information Sharing

The purpose of sharing information about individuals is to enable the relevant agencies to work more effectively together in assessing risks and considering how to manage them.

This points towards sharing all available relevant information, so that nothing is overlooked and public protection is not compromised.

#### Disclosure

Consideration must be given as to whether the disclosure of information about an offender to others should be made to protect victims, potential victims, staff, and other persons in the community. This applies to all levels and categories of MAPPA subjects. The purpose of the disclosure must be specified and recorded in all cases (by the lead agency if level 1), and alternatives to disclosure must be considered and rejected as inappropriate or ineffective in all circumstances where it is reasonable to do so.

#### When to disclose

Disclosure will take place only when the need to protect the public outweighs the offender's right to privacy. Circumstances where disclosure should be considered could include, but are not limited to, where:

- there is evidence or a risk that grooming may be taking place;
- there is a condition in a civil order/licence excluding an offender from a specific location or having contact with named persons;
- others may be at risk, for example those in supported accommodation;
- an offender starts a new relationship.

#### Where can I find out more?

MAPPA guidance is continually under review so for the most up-to-date news, advice and supporting documents, visit the MAPPA website:

[www.mappa.justice.gov.uk](http://www.mappa.justice.gov.uk)

Information-sharing and disclosure must be lawful, necessary and proportionate.

If complex disclosures are being considered, it would be good practice to discuss such a decision at a MAPPA meeting. Why not consider a referral to Level 2 or 3?

For local queries or to discuss potential referrals, contact the MAPPA Team:

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