

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

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Introduction

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are statutory arrangements for managing sexual, violent and certain other offenders in the community. The purpose of a MAPPA is to help reduce re-offending and also to protect the public (including previous victims) from serious harm. The Responsible Authority will notify organisations who need to work with them on particular aspects of an offender's life, for example:

- claiming benefits
- employment
- education
- housing
- social care

The Responsible Authorities are:

- Police
- Prison service
- National Probation service
- Youth Offending Teams
- Mental Health Services where they are the lead agency

Offenders managed under MAPPA

The Responsible Authorities identify offenders who need to be managed under MAPPA as a consequence of their caution, conviction and sentence, including those who are:

- being released into the community
- starting a community order
- starting a suspended sentence

Notifying DWP about MAPPA offenders

Once offenders have been identified as MAPPA offenders, the Responsible Authority assesses the risk they pose. MAPPA notifications could also be

received from the Youth Offending Teams for offenders aged under 18 or from the Mental Health Services where they are the lead agency.

The risks involved could be reconviction, reoffending, or the risk of serious harm to others. They record information about any restrictions or risk to the public and inform relevant organisations, including DWP. There is an appointed person at each jobcentre who receives this notification. They are notified of all MAPPA offenders living in their area, even though not all of them will necessarily make a claim to Universal Credit.

If the MAPPA offender has made a claim to Universal Credit, they must be placed in their regime according to their circumstances. Any restrictions to employment and training or risk to staff should be taken into account when setting requirements on the claimant's tailored Commitment.

Unacceptable customer behaviour

MAPPA notifications may indicate that some customers may also present a risk to staff. Where this is the case, suitable control measures will be put in place for when they attend the jobcentre. Control measures might include:

- seeing them in a screened area
- seeing a member of staff of the same sex
- seeing them at a different jobcentre if they are banned from their local jobcentre

This is not a complete list.

MAPPA offenders who have restrictions on internet access may not be able to declare and verify change of circumstances via their journal. They would need to telephone their change of circumstances and have a face-to-face appointment for verification.

The MAPPA notification forms are subject to the Data Protection Act and are held securely by the jobcentre, with limited access to them. They are classed as official-sensitive.

Reviewing MAPPA notifications

The MAPPA notification forms will say how long the offender is subject to MAPPA for.

MAPPA forms received for offenders that have not claimed Universal Credit are checked daily against the UCFS, in case they do make a claim.

The MAPPA notification forms are destroyed when the offender is no longer subject to MAPPA, whether they have made a claim to Universal Credit or not.

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