

# **Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) in Scotland:**

**National Overview Report 2021/2022**

**October 2022**

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# Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) in Scotland: National Overview Report 2021 / 2022

## 1. Background

The Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), are a set of statutory partnership working arrangements introduced in 2007 under [Section 10 of the Management of Offenders etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#) (the 2005 Act).

The purpose of MAPPA is public protection and the reduction of serious harm. In Scotland MAPPA brings together the Police, Scottish Prison Service (SPS), Health Boards and the Local Authorities, in partnership as the Responsible Authorities, to assess and manage the risk posed for certain categories of offender:

- Sex offenders who are subject to notification requirements under the Sexual Offences Act 2003;
- Mentally disordered restricted patients; and
- Other individuals who by reason of their conviction are assessed by the Responsible Authorities as posing a risk of serious harm to the public.

A number of other agencies are under a 'Duty to Cooperate' (DTC) with the Responsible Authorities including, housing providers, the voluntary sector, Social Security Scotland and the Children's Reporter.

Responsible Authorities fulfil their statutory duties by jointly preparing and publishing MAPPA annual reports. Each of these reports can be viewed on Local Authority websites as included at Appendix A and cover the reporting period - 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

This report covers the fifteenth year of MAPPA in operation in Scotland and provides an overview of the main national developments in relation to MAPPA as a result of work conducted by the Scottish Government, and its partners. The statistics provided at Appendix B are an aggregate of data extracted from the Violent and Sex Offender Register (ViSOR).

## 2. The National Picture

Scotland's Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements are an excellent example of joint working between justice partners and other agencies, which is driven by the shared aim of managing individuals who present a risk of serious harm and ensuring that the protection of the public remains paramount.

Whilst COVID-19 restrictions came to an end in 2021, many justice partners and agencies continue to deal with the aftermath of the pandemic. However, despite these challenges, they have continued throughout the year to work together in order to focus on risk assessment/management and the continued protection of the public.

Nationally MAPPA has seen a number of developments in the past 12 months and work continues to deliver future improvement to the arrangements.

### **3. MAPPA Developments**

A summary of this work includes:

#### MAPPA and Terrorism

The Scottish Government continues to work with the Responsible Authorities in considering MAPPA's role in the risk assessment and risk management arrangements for individuals convicted of terrorism and terrorism related offences. This work is being taken forward by the Scottish Government-led multi-agency national MAPPA Development Group and builds on the findings of two reports published by the Risk Management Authority in 2021 which will inform future policy direction in this area. (A Review of Risk Assessment Tools and Risk Factors relevant to Terrorism and Radicalisation and A Review of Risk Management Approaches relevant to Terrorism and Radicalisation).

#### Moving Forward 2 Change (MF2C)

The Moving Forward: Making Changes (MF:MC) programme was designed jointly by the Scottish Prison Service and Community Justice Operational Practice Unit of the Scottish Government, with the aim of reducing the risk of sexual recidivism. The programme was accredited in 2014 and though accreditation has now lapsed the programme continues to be delivered to accredited standards. A National Advisory Board was set up in May 2019, who unanimously concluded that a revision (not a replacement) of the programme was required.

The re-designed programme, called Moving Forward 2 Change (MF2C) reflects a developing evidence base, advice from the Scottish Advisory Panel on Offender Rehabilitation (SAPOR), evaluation recommendations, and stakeholder consultations. The pilot of MF2C launched on 1 July 2022 in two custodial sites and three community sites. There is a feedback loop to the National Design Lead to ensure the safety of the staff and participants. Changes will be made as necessary (and with approval of the MF2C Steering Group) to ensure that the pilot participants receive the best service possible and so that the pilots inform the ongoing development of MF2C.

#### MAPPA National Guidance

Updated [MAPPA National Guidance](#) was published in March 2022 by the Scottish Government. The guidance, which aims to bring a greater clarity to MAPPA procedures, was developed in collaboration with key justice partners and stakeholders.

#### **4. Risk Management Authority**

The Risk Management Authority (RMA) continues to promote effective practice in risk assessment and management to support public protection in Scotland. Collaboration is key to ensuring a shared understanding of risk and best practice. In 2021-22 the RMA have positively contributed to a number of national working groups and continued to deliver and progress key relevant business objectives.

##### Risk Practice Course

Whilst public health advice and guidance related to COVID-19 continued to impact ability to deliver face-to-face training across 2021-22, the RMA responded by adapting products and facilitating events online via a virtual platform. The social work course was delivered in August 2021 and February 2022 to a total of 24 justice social workers. Additionally, the RMA worked with Police Scotland to deliver two events in April and one in August 2021 to 32 police colleagues. As restrictions began to ease in early 2022, this has informed planned future delivery that is intended to be a blend of online and face-to-face in 2022-23.

##### Internet Offending Assessment Framework

The RMA continued to work with others to develop the internet offending assessment framework during 2021-22. In July 2021, a two-year pilot of the framework was agreed between the RMA and Scottish Government. In September 2021, the framework was finalised and associated guidance was developed. This led to applications for piloting being received and evaluated in December 2021. Eight areas across Scotland were selected to pilot (South Ayrshire, Glasgow, South Lanarkshire, Edinburgh, East Lothian and the Tayside Partnership areas of Dundee, Angus, Perth and Kinross).

The RMA also established an associated multi-agency working group including representatives from the Scottish Government, Police Scotland, Justice Social Work and the Forensic Network, as well as experts in the field from academia.

Arrangements for training the pilot areas were agreed and were scheduled for May and June 2022. The pilot will test reliability, validity, and user friendliness of the proposed framework, and provide assurance that the framework can support the expected outcomes.

##### Counter Terrorism and Sentencing Act 2021

Terrorism is one of the most serious challenges facing the world today. Counter-Terrorism remains a significant area of work for the RMA. We continue to work with other justice agencies to ensure Scotland's approach to terrorism risk assessment and management is evidence-based and proportionate.

In 2021-22, the RMA conducted and published two rapid reviews of literature relating to counter-terrorism. The reviews, – [A Review of Risk Assessment Tools and Risk Factors Relevant to Terrorism](#) and [A Review of Risk Management Approaches](#)

[Relevant to Terrorism and Radicalisation](#), are expected to be of interest to justice partners in both the United Kingdom and internationally.

The RMA will continue to contribute to the Prisons Oversight Group and associated sub-groups for the Management of TACT Offenders in 2022-23, to ensure that risk assessment and management processes have been carefully considered.

## **5. The Scottish Prison Service (SPS)**

The Scottish Prison Service (SPS) is committed to protecting the public from harm as a Responsible Authority in the operation and governance of MAPPA.

The risk assessment and management of individuals in custody who are subject to release on licence is carried out in partnership with Local Authority Justice Social Workers, through an enhanced version of the Integrated Case Management (ICM) process.

Such individuals are risk assessed, using a structured professional judgement approach informed by a variety of risk assessment tools. For certain individuals, a Psychological Risk Assessment may be carried out by SPS Forensic Psychologists and used to inform ICM case conferences and at key points in a person's time in custody, to share information and inform action plans.

SPS establishments work in partnership with MAPPA Coordinators, prison and community based Justice Social Work Teams and Police Scotland Offender Management Units.

SPS is represented on the MAPPA National Strategic Group, MAPPA Development Group and short-life working groups, established to progress the future delivery of MAPPA. Prison Governors also contribute to and attend local Strategic Oversight Groups.

SPS activity in 2021-2022 largely focussed on developing and implementing its COVID-19 Routemap for recovery, guided by the Scottish Government's own plan. Additional activity included:

- Ensuring all internal practitioners and stakeholders are aware of revised National MAPPA Guidance 2022;
- Working closely with the Scottish Government, Police Scotland and other MAPPA Partners to ensure that information from ViSOR can be shared safely with partners;
- Continuing to respond to all recommendations relating to [The SPS Risk Management Review](#);
- Continuing to respond to all actions relating to Significant Case Review (SCR) Recommendations;
- Working closely with the Scottish Government, Risk Management Authority and Social Work Scotland in continuing to review processes relating to First Grant of Temporary Release applications, in order to strengthen focus on:

Risk Assessment, Analysis, suitability of Risk Management Plans and assurance.

### **Programme Delivery**

In the April 2021 – March 2022 delivery period, COVID-19 has continued to have an impact on the delivery of offending behaviour programmes. Inhibitors to delivery have included: a period of time where physical distancing remained in place in this period; COVID related absences; and Programmes Officers being re-deployed to backfill other operational roles. Despite these inhibitors throughout the year, 65% of targets were achieved nationally. This is broken down further in the table below:

<b>*Programme</b>	<b>Target Risk</b>	<b>Number of Completions</b>	<b>Target Completions</b>
Moving Forward: Making Changes	Sex Offending	19	24
Self-Change	Instrumental Violence	17	50
Discovery	Violence	50	40
Constructs	Problem solving & consequential thinking	40	48
Pathways	Drug & Alcohol Misuse	30	72
Youth Justice	Youth Offending	5	12
Ultimate Self	Adult women in custody	7	12
Short Term Intervention Programme (STIP)	Broad range of needs with a focus on desistance for those serving short term sentences	164	Undetermined <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total</b>		<b>332</b>	<b>N/A</b>

In the 2022-23 delivery period, SPS will continue to discuss inhibitors to programme delivery and possible solutions to this via the Executive Management group and Risk Management Strategy Group. There is a robust training timetable in place to ensure that staff are suitably trained to deliver programmes as well as a planned national Gantt chart which is developed based on staff resource and national programmes waiting lists.

SPS have also been working with national partners in the re-design of the MFMC programme (MF2C), and have commenced pilot delivery of the redesigned programme in HMP Edinburgh and HMP Barlinnie.

<sup>1</sup> Targets for STIP have not been set because this intervention is provided for individuals subject to short-term sentences and delivery is completed at sites when there is capacity to deliver. It is modular and so there is no clear timeframe on how long an individual will attend this. Completions for STIP are typically high, however in the next delivery year the other programmes have taken priority due to waiting lists.

SPS have also now commenced pilot delivery of a high intensity Self-Change Programme which is designed for those with high risk and needs in the areas of sexual, general and intimate partner violence. This also includes a consolidation phase, which can be utilised following completion of the intervention to reinforce learning and support the individual. Consolidation sessions can be delivered at each stage of progression (National Top End, Open Estate) and discussions are ongoing in relation to this being implemented in the community.

Completion figures for all pilots will be reflected in the end of year programme completions report.

SPS also offers a range of other opportunities and supports to people in custody to help them build their strengths and address their needs in preparation for release. Such supports are assessed on an individual basis and can include substance misuse treatment, assistance with mental health, vocational and academic education to increase job readiness, and support with family matters such as parenting and relationships. There is a specific intervention for young adult men in development and a separate specific intervention for female offending, Ultimate Self, which achieved accreditation in early 2022 and is currently being delivered.

## **6. Health**

NHS Boards have a dual role under MAPPA and are both a Responsible Authority and a DTC Agency under [Section 10 \(3\) of the Management of Offenders etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#). As a Responsible Authority, Health Boards are the lead agency for the management of restricted patients. This means they are responsible for both clinical care and risk management of restricted patients in accordance with the MAPPA National Guidance. This also extends to providing data for publication in the local annual report about the number of restricted patients in each Health Board area. Health Boards also have a statutory duty to cooperate with other MAPPA Responsible Authorities in relation to all individuals subject to MAPPA (or likely to be subject to MAPPA).

NHS Boards also have a responsibility to contribute to MAPPA strategic planning. Each Board has a nominated senior manager who will represent the Board at the strategic and also Level 3 MAPPA meetings. As a DTC Agency, NHS Boards also have a responsibility to share risk relevant information about individuals subject to MAPPA. Each Board has a MAPPA health liaison officer who has responsibility for this. The MAPPA health liaison officer will also represent the Health Board at MAPPA meetings and in addition to sharing health information that is relevant to risk, will also manage risk relevant information that is provided to them by other MAPPA partners. This ensures information about risk is available and, when appropriate, managed within a healthcare setting.

On 31 March 2022 there were 304 restricted patients recorded on ViSOR as being managed under the MAPPA process in Scotland. Work has begun on the collation of restricted patients' data nationally for annual reporting purposes with a view to ensuring that is collectable, meaningful and robust.

The Scottish Government continues to provide funding to the Forensic Mental Health Services Managed Care Network (the Forensic Network) to support engagement by



the NHS with MAPPA. The Forensic Network, through the Lead for Serious and Violent Offenders, supports the NHS MAPPA work in a number of ways. These include: attendance at National Strategic meetings on behalf of Health, for example those related to information sharing processes; chairing regular meetings with MAPPA Health liaison colleagues to share good practice; and undertaking specific MAPPA related pieces of work which has this year included contributing to the revision of the MAPPA guidance.

The Forensic Network Lead continues to advise others on a range of MAPPA related projects, for example the Lady Dorrian Sexual Offences Governance Group and the MAPPS<sup>2</sup> Project Team.

The Forensic Network also supports the MAPPA Clinical Forum, an annual practitioner forum which has the objectives of “Networking, Education, Operations and Policy”. The forum provides a vehicle for services to consider areas within MAPPA practice that might require guidance and a shared approach, as well as providing the opportunity to network and share good practice. Over the last two years, this has been delivered remotely and has themes of risk formulation, managing Terrorist Risk offenders under MAPPA, and for this year, reviews relating to MAPPA management.

### The Independent Review into the Delivery of Forensic Mental Health Services

[The Independent Review into the Delivery of Forensic Mental Health Services](#) chaired by Derek Barron, published its final report in February 2021. The Review made a number of recommendations, which, if taken forward will have implications for MAPPA partners. One MAPPA specific recommendation is for the Scottish Government to consider the development of a more consistent way of sharing forensic mental health expertise with MAPPA partners and other external individuals or organisations (including other NHS services) across the country, citing the NHS Lothian Serious Offender Liaison Services and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde STAR services as potential models for this.

The Scottish Government are in the process of formulating a programme of work to deliver the commitments made in response to the Review and will publish the details in due course.

## **7. Police Scotland**

Police Scotland work in partnership with other Responsible Authorities and DTC Agencies to provide effective and efficient policing of Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) and Other Risk of Serious Harm individuals in pursuance of overall MAPPA management. This is achieved through consistent practice, enhancing and developing new and existing partnerships to manage the inherent risks and challenges posed by these individuals.

Police Scotland has continued to support MAPPA partners, Community Justice Scotland and the Risk Management Authority in the development and multi-agency

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<sup>2</sup> MAPPS will be the replacement system for ViSOR.

training delivery of relevant risk assessment tools essential in the policing of individuals convicted by the courts.

Work has also continued in promoting lawful, necessary and proportionate information sharing processes to support police and partners in working together to assess and mitigate risks in a manner fit to face current and future demands.

Recognising the ongoing rise in online and online facilitated sexual offending, and in pursuance of Police Scotland's priority of tackling crime in a digital world, the National Sex Offender Policing Unit continue to explore developing technologies, working with specialists to develop and deliver real time monitoring of online activity and examination of internet capable devices of RSOs with relevant court issued prevention orders.

It is important to note that the use of technology does not replace conventional sex offender policing methods, but supports and enhances established practices. In addition, Sex Offender Policing Units have developed collaborative working relationships with Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (OCSAE) teams, embedding officers in enforcement activity where RSOs are suspected of OCSAE involvement, maximising both risk management and investigative opportunities.

## **8. Sex Offender Community Disclosure Scheme (Keeping Children Safe)**

The [Sex Offender Community Disclosure Scheme](#) (Keeping Children Safe) was introduced across Scotland in 2011 and is managed by Police Scotland.

The scheme enables parents, carers or guardians to make a formal request for information about a named person who may have contact with their child if they are concerned that the person may be a risk to their child's safety and wellbeing.

For the year 2021/2022, Police Scotland received a total of 338 applications, an increase of 53 from the previous year. Online submission was the preferred method of application with 304 received this way - an increase of 1 from the previous business year. It is considered that the COVID-19 pandemic and national lockdowns may have impacted the number of applications received within the timeframe under review.

Each application submitted is carefully reviewed and risk assessed by specialist officers, including consideration of whether there was material to disclose. These processes help ensure potentially direct or indirect risks towards children are identified quickly and progressed by Police Scotland. Of the 338 applications received, a total of 19 progressed for disclosure - 4 of which were in relation to concerns around an RSO.

The scheme remains a proactive tool in protecting children, providing a clear access route for the public to raise potential child protection concerns and allowing parents/carers to take informed action to safeguard their children or indeed to provide reassurance.

## 9. Social Work Scotland

Social Work Scotland is the professional body for social work leaders, working closely with partners to shape policy and practice, and improve the quality and experience of social services.

The local authority is the Responsible Authority with primary responsibility for the management of individuals subject to statutory supervision in the community. The responsibility for the joint arrangements within a local authority lies primarily with the Chief Social Work Officer. However, other local authority services, such as housing, education and children and families, also have key responsibilities in relation to this function.

As a Responsible Authority, the local authority is a key member of MAPPA Strategic Oversight Groups and contributes to significant case reviews and implementing any related recommendations pertaining to practice, and adherence to legislation and guidance. The local authority is also a key member of local Public Protection Chief Officer Groups, and Social Work Scotland is represented on the Scottish Government MAPPA National Strategic Group by the Chair of the Justice Standing Committee.

Although the management of the vast majority of Registered Sex Offenders (RSO) is Police led for the purposes of MAPPA, justice social work supervise and manage MAPPA Category 1 RSOs subject to community payback orders and licences following release from prison. During 2021-22, they have continued to work in collaboration with other Responsible Authorities and DTC agencies to ensure the protection of the public. Over the past year justice social work have continued to:

- provide criminal justice social work reports and risk assessments to inform the court sentencing process;
- provide a Throughcare service to prisoners released on statutory supervision including ongoing risk assessment, developing risk management plans, contributing to the Scottish Prison Service's enhanced Integrated Case Management (ICM) process and providing reports to the Parole Board for Scotland; and
- deliver sex offender programmes to people subject to community payback orders and licences in the community. Justice social work professionals are also involved in contributing to the design and testing of the new Moving Forward 2 Change (MF2C) programme.

Local authorities are also the lead Responsible Authority for MAPPA Category 3, Other Risk of Serious Harm Individuals. This includes people who are not required to comply with the Sex Offender Notification Requirements and who are assessed by the Responsible Authorities as posing a high or very high risk of serious harm to the public (for example, people convicted of serious violent and domestic abuse related offences). As with RSOs, the local authority is responsible for holding the community payback order or licence and for taking immediate action to initiate breach proceedings with the court or the Parole Board where a person has breached

their order or licence. This includes recommending immediate recall to prison where there is an imminent risk of serious harm.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, local authorities have continued to provide services and prioritised the management of individuals who present the most serious risk of harm. This has been challenging, particularly with Covid-related restrictions in place such as physical distancing and the closure of offices. However, local authority justice social work have maintained delivery of their MAPPA responsibilities and continued to make an important contribution to public protection.

## **10. Social Security Scotland**

On 8 January 2021, [the Management of Offenders etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2005 \(Specification of Persons\) Amendment Order 2020](#) came into force. The 2020 Order amended the Management of Offenders etc. (Scotland) Act 2005 (Specification of Persons) Order 2007 to include Social Security Scotland as a DTC agency under the terms of the 2005 Act and this Order provides for the exchange of certain prescribed information for those individuals subject to MAPPA.

Since becoming a DTC agency on 8 January 2021, Social Security Scotland have updated their operational guidance (which operates as a Memorandum of Understanding), to include Social Work Scotland as one of the organisations they receive notifications from. This ensures appropriate information sharing in order to manage the risk posed by individuals subject to MAPPA for the protection of the public.

Over the course of the last year, Social Security Scotland have established and continued to develop relationships with the Responsible Authorities, and now receive notifications regarding individuals subject to MAPPA. They have continued to support the learning and development opportunities for the teams involved in MAPPA activity and updating guidance where appropriate.

Over the next 12 months Social Security Scotland aim to further develop their relationships throughout the MAPPA network to continue meeting their DTC responsibilities.

## Appendix A: MAPPA Website Addresses

<b>Fife</b>	<a href="http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/">www.fifedirect.org.uk/</a>
<b>Forth Valley</b>	Home   Stirling Council <a href="http://www.clacks.gov.uk/community/ccjp/">www.clacks.gov.uk/community/ccjp/</a> <a href="http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/people-communities/community-justice.aspx">www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/people-communities/community-justice.aspx</a>
<b>Glasgow</b>	Homepage of Glasgow City Council - Glasgow City Council
<b>Lanarkshire</b>	<a href="http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/">www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/</a>
	<a href="http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/">www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/</a>
<b>Grampian</b>	<a href="http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk/our-priorities/aberdeenshire-community-justice-partnership/mappa/">http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk/our-priorities/aberdeenshire-community-justice-partnership/mappa/</a> <a href="http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk">www.aberdeencity.gov.uk</a> Moray Council - Moray Council
<b>Edinburgh, the Lothians and Scottish Borders</b>	<a href="http://www.midlothian.gov.uk">www.midlothian.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/MAPPAREport">www.scotborders.gov.uk/MAPPAREport</a> <a href="http://www.westlothian.gov.uk">www.westlothian.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk">www.edinburgh.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/mappa">www.eastlothian.gov.uk/mappa</a>
<b>Highlands and Island</b>	<a href="http://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/S/criminal-justice-team.htm#MultiAgency">www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/S/criminal-justice-team.htm#MultiAgency</a> Shetland Islands Council – Shetland Islands Council <a href="http://www.highland.gov.uk">www.highland.gov.uk</a> CnES Web (cne-siar.gov.uk)
<b>North Strathclyde</b>	<a href="http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk">www.argyll-bute.gov.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk">www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk">www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.inverclyde.gov.uk">www.inverclyde.gov.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk">www.renfrewshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>South West Scotland</b>	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements - Dumfries and Galloway Council (dumgal.gov.uk)
	<a href="http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk">www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk">www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk">www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Tayside</b>	<a href="http://www.Angus.gov.uk">www.Angus.gov.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.PKC.gov.uk">www.PKC.gov.uk</a>
	<a href="http://www.dundeecity.gov.uk">www.dundeecity.gov.uk</a>

## Appendix B: MAPPA National Data

This Appendix outlines patterns in information on Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) extracted from the ViSOR database on 31 March of each year. This provides a snapshot at a point in time.

### Numbers of Registered Sex Offenders in Scotland, 2021 to 2022

Category	2021	2022
RSOs managed in custody and in the community on 31 March	5,830	6,038
RSOs managed in the community on 31 March	4,358	4,520
RSOs managed at Level 1 in the community on 31 March	4,234	4,407
RSOs managed at Level 2 in the community on 31 March	115	111
RSOs managed at Level 3 in the community on 31 March	2	2
RSOs reported for breaches of notification	282	374
RSOs convicted of a further group 1 or 2 crime <sup>3</sup>	96	114
RSOs wanted on 31 March	13	16
RSOs missing on 31 March	0	0

On 31 March 2022, there were 6,038 RSOs in Scotland who were managed in custody or in the community. The total number of RSOs has increased by 3.6% compared with 2021 when there were 5,830 recorded.

On 31 March 2022, 75% of RSOs (4,520 RSOs) were being managed in the community with 97.5% (4,407 RSOs) of those in the community being managed at the lowest MAPPA management level, Level 1. The remaining 2.5% (113) were being managed at level 2 or level 3.

In 2021-2022, 94% of RSOs (5,664 RSOs) complied with their notification requirements under the Sexual Offences Act 2003, compared to 95% (5,548 RSOs) in 2020-21. The proportion of RSOs who failed to comply with their notification requirements has remained constant at around 5%-6% for the last six years.

Sex Offender Notification Requirements are robustly policed so that those who breach their terms are identified at the earliest opportunity. The RSO can receive a maximum penalty of 5 years' imprisonment for failing to comply with notification requirements.

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<sup>3</sup> Group 1 and 2 crimes - Group 1 relates to non-sexual crimes of violence and group 2 relates to sexual crimes.

The [National Statistics on Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2021-22](#) published in June 2022, illustrated that sexual crimes accounted for 5% of all crimes recorded in Scotland in 2021-22, as was the case in 2020-21. The report stated that sexual crimes recorded by the police in Scotland increased by 15% from 13,131 in 2020-21 to 15,049 in 2021-22. Historical reporting of sexual crimes continues to play a role in this. Further information from Police Scotland suggests that just under a quarter (23%) of sexual crimes in 2021-22 were recorded at least one year after they occurred. The increase in sexual cyber-crimes has also had an impact on the trend of recorded sexual crimes in recent years.

The number of RSOs who have been convicted of a further Group 1 or 2 crime has increased in the last year (114 in 2021-22 compared to 96 in 2020-21). These convictions include offences detected as a result of proactive management and effective policing by the partner agencies. When individuals managed under MAPPA commit further serious offences, the significant case review process examines the MAPPA policies and processes in place for the management of the individual. It identifies areas of learning and good practice and so contributes to continuous learning to improve future policy and practice.

#### **Wanted and Missing Registered Sex Offenders:**

A Missing person is defined as anyone whose whereabouts is unknown and:

- where the circumstances are out of character; or
- the context suggests the person may be subject to crime; or
- the person is at risk of harm to themselves or another.

Wanted Registered Sex Offenders are defined as those who are subject to the notification requirements of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and who have a live warrant in force.

On 31 March 2022, of the 16 of the Wanted RSOs, 14 were assessed as having left the United Kingdom with no indication they have returned. The latest update from Police Scotland shows that of the 2 wanted RSOs on 31 March 2022, one has since been traced and the other is no longer believed to be in Scotland. Police Scotland treat all missing and wanted RSOs with the utmost seriousness and carry out thorough enquiries to trace their whereabouts and to re-establish the management required to protect the public. On all occasions a Senior Investigating Officer of a rank no less than Inspector will be appointed to lead these investigations. Up to date figures are available via the [Police Scotland Website](#).



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