

**Manual:** Inter-Agency Documents, Operations Manual - Care Management, Community Safety, Operations Manual - Children's Services  
**Title:** Potentially Dangerous Persons Policy and Standard Operating Procedures  
**Category:** Policy with Procedure  
**Procedure Number:** IA/007  
**Service:** Adults, Wellbeing and Health  
**Last Reviewed:** 18/01/2010  
**Next Review Due:** 04/01/2013

## **INTRODUCTION**

On 14th October 2009, Adults, Wellbeing and Health Management Team agreed and adopted the Potentially Dangerous Persons Policy and Standard Operating Procedure for Adult Care Services. In order for this policy and procedure to be considered more widely, on 2nd December 2009 Corporate Management Team agreed to adopt the Potentially Dangerous Persons (PDP) Policy and Standard Operating Procedure across Durham County Council.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Potentially Dangerous Persons Policy and Standard Operating Procedure has been developed by Durham Constabulary as a result of increasing concern about the risk management of a small number of people who present a serious risk of harm but who do not, for whatever reason, meet the criteria for consideration under the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). It has been agreed by the multi agency MAPPA Strategic Management Board, the three regional police authorities: Durham, Cleveland and Northumbria and MAPPA boards across the region.

The policy and procedure provide details on the identification, referral and management processes for potentially dangerous persons. For the purpose of this procedure a Potentially Dangerous Person is defined as someone 'who has not been convicted of, or cautioned for any offence placing them into one of the three Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) categories, but whose behaviour gives reasonable grounds for believing that there is a present likelihood of them committing an offence or offences that will cause serious harm'.

Serious harm is defined as harm that is 'life threatening and/or traumatic, and from which recovery, whether physical or psychological can be expected to be difficult or impossible'.

## ACTIONS

The procedure is to be followed by staff directly involved with casework and is intended for individuals who are suspected of committing serious violent or sexual offences. Where there is concern about an individual case, staff should refer this to the MAPPA Co-ordinator using the MAPPA referral form, Appendix A, within the attached policy and procedure and sent to the following address:

Mr Hugh Story  
MAPPA Co-ordinator  
Public Protection Unit  
Durham Constabulary  
Aykley Heads  
Durham  
DH1 5TT

The MAPPA Co-ordinator along with the Public Protection Unit Detective Sergeant will determine if the case fits the criteria for MAPPA, Potentially Dangerous Persons (PDP) or neither. Where an individual meets the Potentially Dangerous Persons criteria, interim risk management strategies will be developed and professionals will be invited to attend weekly meetings to share information to complete the risk assessment. This risk assessment will be reviewed by a police officer with the rank of Superintendent to ratify that the individual is classed as a Potentially Dangerous Person.

A Detective Chief Inspector will be allocated responsibility for the management of the individual and co-ordination of a risk management plan. The Detective Superintendent HQ CID will make the decision to discharge an individual from classification as a potentially dangerous person on receipt of a report detailing how the risks have been reduced and why the individual is no longer considered potentially dangerous.

## RELATED DOCUMENTS



Potentially Dangerous Persons Policy and Standard Operating Procedures.pdf



Mappa - PDP Referral Form, Appendix A.pdf

**This is a Controlled Document.** It is due for review on 04/01/2013. After this date please check the Intranet for the current version.

(c) Durham County Council