



Response Date: 22/05/2026

2026/424 - Management of Offenders

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

I am writing to request information regarding the management of violence against women and girls (VAWG) high-harm offenders within your force - specifically, but not exclusively, in relation to Offender Management Units (OMUs) that specialise in, or focus on, high-harm offenders.

For the purposes of this request, "high-harm" refers to offenders who pose a risk of serious interpersonal or violent harm, including sexual offences, violent crimes, and other offences with a high impact on female victims.

Factors Considered at Referral to High-Harm OMUs:

- Which static or historical factors (e.g., prior convictions, demographic characteristics, offence history) are routinely considered when deciding whether an offender is managed - within a high-harm OMU or elsewhere within the force?**
- Are any behavioural or dynamic indicators (e.g., escalation patterns, substance misuse, relationship breakdown) formally used to inform this decision? If yes, please specify which indicators.**

Decision-Making Frameworks and Tools:

- Are structured tools, guidance documents, or panel frameworks used to assess whether an offender should be managed within a high-harm OMU?**

Management of Sexual Offenders and Violent Offenders (MOSOVO) and Integrated offender management (IOM) are the only offender management units in the force, albeit MOSOVO deal exclusively with Registered Sex Offenders whilst IOM cohorts qualify more in relation to acquisitive crime and specific scoring metrics on this. We do not have a specific offender management unit that specialise or focus on VAWG offenders in the way your request has outlined.

Beyond this, MAPPA would be the main framework that any such offenders would be recognised under, usually as a Category 2 Violent Offender or a Category 3 Dangerous Offender. In both cases, the offenders would need to be open to probation to hold ownership risk management plans, the Detective Inspector would be involved in the discussion and drafting of said plans as part of the MAPPA 2 panels.

The publicly available MAPPA guidance outlines what criteria an offender has to meet to be a Cat 2 or Cat 3 offender, whilst decisions as to what level of MAPPA management are made by the Inspector and the MAPPA Co-ordinator for North Wales when considering Level 2

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management, or the Head of Probation Delivery Unit for North Wales when considering Level 3 management.

Factors considered in determining levels of management are listed on the MAPPA A and MAPPA B referral documents and include determined risks to children, public, known adults, staff and prisoners, previous conviction history, assessment on recidivism or reconviction (both in and out of the community) inter-agency work, substance misuse, mental health, DV history, child protection risks, housing risks, to name but a few. This is publicly available on the MAPPA website [Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements - MAPPA](#)

We do have the Potentially Dangerous Persons process coming into force that would likely capture offenders such as these if there was no conviction history.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 21/05/2026