



Memorandum of Understanding between the Merseyside Local Safeguarding Children Boards and the Merseyside Strategic MAPPA Board

Introduction

The Merseyside Strategic MAPPA Board (SMB) and the five Merseyside LSCBs have agreed this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to ensure there is effective cooperation and communication between all relevant LSCBs and the SMB.

- Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are in place to reduce the re-offending behaviour of sexual and violent offenders in order to protect the public, including previous victims, from serious harm.
- LSCBs are responsible for putting in place effective arrangements to enable agencies to work together to keep children safe.

The purpose of this MoU is to identify how the Merseyside SMB will work with the five Merseyside LSCBs and how strategic information will be shared. This is to ensure:

- that the safeguarding needs of children are kept as a priority both for the SMB and MAPPA Chairs;
- ensure that strategic safeguarding issues relevant for the SMB and one or more of the Merseyside LSCBs are shared across the partnerships and joint working is enabled.

*NB. The LSCB is not responsible for operational matters. Any sharing of information about these matters must take place directly between the relevant agencies. If there are disagreements between agencies regarding MAPPA work they should be escalated to senior managers within the relevant agency. This document **does not** set out the processes within MAPPA. These can be found within National MAPPA Guidance.*

1. Information will be shared between both boards in a proportionate manner as determined by business needs and within the legal framework for sharing such information; most notably for client identifiable information, the Children Act 2004 (information can be shared for the prevention of serious harm) & the Data Protection Act 1998 (which allows for the sharing of personal information for the Prevention and Detection of Crime).

2. Each LSCB will consider relevant aspects of the Annual Report of Merseyside SMB when planning its annual business plan priorities.
3. Merseyside SMB will consider relevant aspects of the Annual Reports of the Merseyside LSCBs when planning its forthcoming work.
4. The LSCB Business Managers will ensure that relevant strategic information from the LSCB is shared with the SMB. This will include: relevant learning from Serious Case Reviews and other reviews; the LSCB Annual Report or relevant excerpts if preferred; Business Plan priorities relevant for SMB.
5. The MAPPA co-ordinator will ensure that any relevant information from SMB is shared with the LSCB. This will include useful data that could be shared with all Boards that would help us see MAPPA performance comparatively across the Mersey area; business plans; audits relevant to safeguarding children; trend reports;
6. Merseyside SMB will ensure that Serious Further Offences, where a child was involved in an offence or the offender are deemed to be a potential risk to children, are reported to the relevant LSCB Chair or Business Manager urgently; and that an appropriate representative is designated as the lead for this task in each area.
7. Each LSCB will consider the role of the Merseyside SMB when reviewing individual cases.
8. Merseyside SMB will consider the role of the LSCBs when reviewing individual cases.
9. Relevant information is freely shared within the above context in the interests of public protection and the safeguarding of children and the statutory responsibilities of each of the Boards.
10. Confidential information will be marked as such and stored securely.

**LSCBs have a function of strategic oversight;
therefore direct referrals into MAPPA will not occur**

[This MoU will be reviewed in October 2017 by representatives of both boards.](#)