Trends in the management of registered sexual offenders in Wales

Mr Andrew Henley (Keele University)
Dr Kirsty Hudson (Cardiff University)
Prof Chris Taylor (Cardiff University)
About the research:

• Henley, A., Hudson, K. and Taylor, C (Forthcoming) Trends in the management of registered sexual offenders across England and Wales: Do MAPPA agencies take a consistent approach to risk?

• Consistency of practice in the risk assessment and management of registered sexual offenders across England and Wales.
  – Category one, registered sex offenders (RSOs)
  – The administration of SOPOs

• Data collated from MAPPA area reports over a seven year period, 2004/5 to 2010/11.
  – National trends
  – Geographical mapping
Aim

• Exploring MAPPA and incidence of sex offenders in a new way

• Potential inconsistencies across MAPPA areas:
  – Incidence of RSO
  – Management of risk
  – Administration of SOPOs

• Focus on MAPPA in Wales
Incidence in RSO

Registered Sex Offenders by MAPPA
2004/05 to 2010/11

Level 2 and 3 Registered Sex Offenders by MAPPA
2004/05 to 2010/11

Rate based on average number of RSOs between 2004/05 and 2010/11 and the estimated total mid-year population for 2008.
Management of Risk

Category One cases (RSOs) under MAPPA in Wales

- All RSOs
- Level 2 & 3 RSOs
Change in percentage of RSOs being managed at Level 2 and 3 of MAPPA over time
Sexual Offences Prevention Orders

• Introduced in Sexual Offences Act 2003
• Can be imposed where it is “necessary...to protect the public...from serious sexual harm” (Section 104, SOA 2003) – guidance implies risk is a crucial factor
• Breach is a criminal offence punishable by up to five years imprisonment
• Important to note that many are subject to legal challenge on the grounds of disproportionality and lack of a link to identifiable risk (R v Hemsley 2010, R v Smith and others 2011)
Administration of SOPOs

Relative rate in the use of restrictive orders

SPOs imposed per 100 RSOs in Wales each year

- 2004/05: 1.56
- 2005/06: 1.63
- 2006/07: 2.60
- 2007/08: 4.57
- 2008/09: 4.25
- 2009/10: 3.49
- 2010/11: 6.76
Where next?

- Complex Picture
- Classification groups and typologies

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Risk-level allocation</th>
<th>SOPO use</th>
<th>Notification requirement sanctions</th>
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<td>A</td>
<td>Below average RSO</td>
<td>Above average SOPO</td>
<td>Average notifications</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>Below average RSO</td>
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MAPPA Typology

North Wales

Dyfed-Powys and South Wales

Gwent
Summary

• Exploring MAPPA and incidence of sex offenders in a new way

• Potential inconsistencies across MAPPA areas:
  – Incidence of RSO
  – Management of risk
  – Administration of SOPOs
What are the implications for public disclosure?

- Resource issues for MAPPA areas?
- Consistency across MAPPA areas with regard to Disclosure Decisions?