



Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements

# BEDFORDSHIRE



# Annual Report 2019/2020



# Introduction

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**T/ Assistant Chief Constable  
Sharn Basra  
Bedfordshire Police**



This has been another busy year for all agencies involved in the MAPPa process. This report contains the annual statistics for the area with a detailed explanation of what the statistics cover. The statistics show the number of offenders being managed in the community and each attracts a dedicated response by our partnership professionals, all committed to keeping Bedfordshire safe.

The report provides an overview of how MAPPa operates to explain the different levels of management and categories of offenders that fit under these arrangements.

We also report on key areas of activity both within and outside the Criminal Justice System that contribute to the management of this group of

offenders and changes that have occurred in relation to victims.

As ever the Strategic Management Board for MAPPa in Bedfordshire recognises the contribution made by partner agencies at a time of continuing challenge in securing resources to work with this group of offenders.

Serious violent and sexual offending perpetrated by individuals make up a relatively small proportion of all recorded crime. Yet, by their nature, the impact of such offending can be devastating. The SMB is committed to improving practice and in the last year has commissioned a Serious Case Review and will continue to ensure that actions arising from that review are implemented.

# What is MAPPA?

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## MAPPA background

MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) are a set of arrangements to manage the risk posed by the most serious sexual and violent offenders (MAPPA-eligible offenders) under the provisions of sections 325 to 327B of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

They bring together the Police, Probation and Prison Services in each of the 42 Areas in England and Wales into what is known as the MAPPA Responsible Authority.

A number of other agencies are under a Duty to Co-operate (DTC) with the Responsible Authority. These include Social Services, Health Services, Youth Offending Teams, Jobcentre Plus and Local Housing and Education Authorities.

The Responsible Authority is required to appoint two Lay Advisers to sit on each MAPPA area Strategic Management Board (SMB) alongside senior representatives from each of the Responsible Authority and DTC agencies.

Lay Advisers are members of the public appointed by the Minister with no links to the business of managing MAPPA offenders who act as independent, yet informed, observers; able to pose questions which the professionals closely involved in the work might not think of asking. They also bring to the SMB their understanding and perspective of the local community (where they must reside and have strong links).

## How MAPPA works

MAPPA-eligible offenders are identified and information about them is shared between agencies to inform the risk assessments and risk management plans of those managing or supervising them.

That is as far as MAPPA extend in the majority of cases, but some cases require structured multi-agency management. In such cases there will be regular MAPPA meetings attended by relevant agency practitioners.

There are 3 categories of MAPPA-eligible offender:

- **Category 1** - registered sexual offenders;
- **Category 2** – mainly violent offenders sentenced to 12 months or more imprisonment or a hospital order; and
- **Category 3** – offenders who do not qualify under categories 1 or 2 but who currently pose a risk of serious harm.

There are three levels of management to ensure that resources are focused where they are most needed; generally those presenting the higher risks of serious harm.

- **Level 1** is where the offender is managed by the lead agency with information exchange and multi-agency support as required but without formal MAPPA meetings;
- **Level 2** is where formal MAPPA meetings are required to manage the offender.
- **Level 3** is where risk management plans require the attendance and commitment of resources at a senior level at MAPPA meetings.

MAPPA are supported by ViSOR. This is a national IT system to assist in the management of offenders who pose a serious risk of harm to the public. The use of ViSOR increases the ability to share intelligence across organisations and enable the safe transfer of key information when high risk offenders move, enhancing public protection measures. ViSOR allows staff from the Police, Probation and Prison Services to work on the same IT system for the first time, improving the quality and timeliness of risk assessments and interventions to prevent offending.

All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

# MAPPA Statistics

<b>MAPPA-eligible offenders on 31 March 2020</b>				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 1	626	237	--	863
Level 2	8	6	6	20
Level 3	0	1	2	3
Total	634	244	8	886

<b>MAPPA-eligible offenders in Levels 2 and 3 by category (yearly total)</b>				
	Category 1: Registered sex offenders	Category 2: Violent offenders	Category 3: Other dangerous offenders	Total
Level 2	10	9	8	27
Level 3	2	5	5	12
Total	12	14	13	39

<b>RSOs cautioned or convicted for breach of notification requirements</b>	32
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<b>RSOs who have had their life time notification revoked on application</b>	4
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<b>Restrictive orders for Category 1 offenders</b>	
<b>SHPOs, SHPOs with foreign travel restriction &amp; NOs imposed by the courts</b>	
SHPO	73
SHPO with foreign travel restriction	0
NOs	2

<b>Number of people who became subject to notification requirements following a breach(es) of a Sexual Risk Order (SRO)</b>	1
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<b>Level 2 and 3 offenders returned to custody</b>				
	<b>Category 1: Registered sex offenders</b>	<b>Category 2: Violent offenders</b>	<b>Category 3: Other dangerous offenders</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Breach of licence</b>				
Level 2	2	4	0	6
Level 3	2	3	2	7
Total	4	7	2	13
<b>Breach of SOPO</b>				
Level 2	1	-	-	1
Level 3	0	-	-	0
Total	1	-	-	1

<b>Total number of Registered Sexual Offenders per 100,000 population</b>	109
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This figure has been calculated using the mid-2019 estimated resident population, published by the Office for National Statistics on 24 June 2020, excluding those aged less than ten years of age.

# Explanation commentary on statistical tables

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## MAPPA background

The totals of MAPPA-eligible offenders, broken down by category, reflect the picture on 31 March 2020 (i.e. they are a snapshot). The rest of the data covers the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

**(a) MAPPA-eligible offenders** – there are a number of offenders defined in law as eligible for MAPPA management, because they have committed specified sexual and violent offences or they currently pose a risk of serious harm, although the majority are actually managed at Level 1 without formal MAPPA meetings. These figures only include those MAPPA eligible offenders living in the community. They do not include those in prison or detained under the Mental Health Act.

**(b) Registered Sexual Offenders (RSOs)** – those who are required to notify the police of their name, address and other personal details and to notify of any subsequent changes (this is known as the “notification requirement.”) These offenders are assessed and managed by the police. They may also be managed by probation or health services if they are subject to licence or a hospital order. Failure to comply with the notification requirement is a criminal offence that carries a maximum penalty of 5 years’ imprisonment.

**(c) Violent Offenders** – this category includes violent offenders sentenced to imprisonment or detention for 12 months or more, or detained under a hospital order. It also includes a small number of sexual offenders who do not qualify for registration. These offenders are assessed and managed by the National Probation Service, Youth Offending Team or Mental Health Services.

**(d) Other Dangerous Offenders** – offenders who do not qualify under the other two MAPPA-eligible categories, but who currently pose a risk of serious

harm which requires management via MAPPA meetings. These offenders are assessed and managed by whichever agency has the primary responsibility for them.

**(e) Breach of licence** – offenders released into the community following a period of imprisonment will be subject to a licence with conditions (under probation supervision). If these conditions are not complied with, breach action will be taken and the offender may be recalled to prison.

**(f) Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO) (including any additional foreign travel restriction).** Sexual Harm Prevention Orders (SHPOs) and interim SHPOs replaced Sexual Offence Prevention Orders. They are intended to protect the public from offenders convicted of a sexual or violent offence who pose a risk of sexual harm to the public by placing restrictions on their behaviour. They requires the offender to notify their details to the police (as set out in Part 2 of the 2003 Act) for the duration of the order.

The court must be satisfied that an order is necessary to protect the public (or any particular members of the public) in the UK, or children or vulnerable adults (or any particular children or vulnerable adults) abroad, from sexual harm from the offender. In the case of an order made on a free standing application by a chief officer or the National Crime Agency (NCA), the chief officer/NCA must be able to show that the offender has acted in such a way since their conviction as to make the order necessary.

The minimum duration for a full order is five years. The lower age limit is 10, which is the age of criminal responsibility, but where the defendant is under the age of 18 an application for an order should only be considered exceptionally.

**(g) Notification Order** – this requires sexual offenders who have been convicted overseas to register with the police, in order to protect the public in the UK

from the risks that they pose. The police may apply to the court for a notification order in relation to offenders who are already in the UK or are intending to come to the UK.

#### **(h) Sexual Risk Order (including any additional foreign travel restriction)**

The Sexual Risk Order (SRO) replaced the Risk of Sexual Harm Order (RoSHO) and may be made in relation to a person without a conviction for a sexual or violent offence (or any other offence), but who poses a risk of sexual harm.

The SRO may be made at the magistrates' court on application by the police or NCA where an individual has committed an act of a sexual nature and the court is satisfied that the person poses a risk of harm to the public in the UK or children or vulnerable adults overseas.

A SRO may prohibit the person from doing anything described in it, including travel overseas. Any prohibition must be necessary to protect the public in the UK from sexual harm or, in relation to foreign travel, protecting children or vulnerable adults from sexual harm.

An individual subject to an SRO is required to notify the police of their name and home address within three days of the order being made and also to notify any changes to this information within three days.

A SRO can last for a minimum of two years and has no maximum duration, with the exception of any foreign travel restrictions which, if applicable, last for a maximum of five years (but may be renewed).

The criminal standard of proof continues to apply. The person concerned is able to appeal against the making of the order and the police or the person concerned are able to apply for the order to be varied, renewed or discharged.

A breach of a SRO is a criminal offence punishable by a maximum of five years' imprisonment. Where an individual breaches their SRO, they will become subject to full notification requirements.

Individuals made subject of a SRO are now recorded on VISOR as a Potentially Dangerous Person (PDP).

#### **(i) Lifetime notification requirements revoked on application**

A legal challenge in 2010 and a corresponding legislative response means there is now a mechanism in place that allows qualifying sex offenders to apply for a review of their notification requirements. Persons do not come off the register automatically. Qualifying offenders may submit an application to the police to review their indefinite notification requirements. The police review the application and decide whether to revoke the notification requirements. This decision is made at the rank of Superintendent. Those who continue to pose a significant risk will remain on the register for life, if necessary.

Individuals will only become eligible to seek a review once they have been subject to indefinite notification requirements for a period of at least 15 years for adults and 8 years for juveniles. This applied from 1 September 2012 for adult offenders.



# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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Charlotte O'Brien MSc

MAPPA Co-ordinator Bedfordshire

I have had the pleasure, now, of being the MAPPA co-ordinator and chair for 2 years, and this year, I have to say, this year's business plans have focused on maximising resources and endeavouring to focus our resources on the most harmful offenders at the right time.

As I reflect on that Journey, agencies have really stepped up their commitments and there is a continued focus on building, developing and maintaining support from our duty to co-operate agencies. Lastly a focus on how we can work pro-actively together to reduce harm in relation to our Organised Crime Gang and Extremism Cohorts.



*Bedford river in Autumn*

# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## National Probation Service

### Alison Harding

#### Head of Local Delivery unit

The National Probation Service is often the lead agency with responsibility for managing the offender being heard in MAPPA. By bringing together statutory partners and other agencies, MAPPA helps the NPS Offender Manager deliver a co-ordinated and joined up response to managing risk of serious harm, to reducing offending and protecting victims.

An example of how this works is Mr P.

Mr P was referred into MAPPA and was accepted for management at Level 2. He had been convicted of indecent assault on a child under the age of sixteen. Further work was needed to fully understand Mr P's family connections and his links with potentially vulnerable people (children and adults). The NPS offender manager was tasked by the MAPPA panel with finding out more about Mr P's family and producing a family tree that was then used to develop a comprehensive risk management plan owned by all MAPPA partners, including the NPS, the police and Children's services. Recognising that a more complete picture was needed, and supporting this work, meant that potential victims were protected from harm

# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## Bedfordshire Police Police Offender Management

Bedfordshire police remain committed to the MAPPA process ensuring participation at level 2 and 3 meetings.



Over the last year we have also committed to a new level 1 partnership review process where cases are discussed to ensure they are sitting at the right MAPPA level. An Offender Management Inspector also participates in the threshold process whereby potential MAPPA cases are reviewed and either accepted or rejected.

We have seen an increase in the number of high-risk cases discussed in MAPPA. One particular long standing case whereby the MAPPA nominal is a sexual risk to young vulnerable women has seen the input of the relatively new serious organised crime unit within probation. This asset will assist with release planning and risk assessment. This also allows timely intelligence sharing, a partnership approach to managing offenders and improved risk management. I think the addition of such resources is testament to the effectiveness of the MAPPA process.



*Luton Crown Court*

# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## HMP Bedford

Head of Offender Management Delivery Jay Ali  
Head of Offender Management Services Nicholas Long

As a Category B local prison, HMP Bedford services the Courts of Luton, St Albans and Hatfield. On occasions, residents are also brought from London courts. HMP Bedford accommodates, predominantly, short stay prisoners. This is either because their sentence is short (less than 12 months), or they are moved on to a more appropriate establishment. Typically, around 80% of residents stay for less than 6 months. Approximately a third of residents are on remand. The short length of stay means that there is a high turnover for example in 2017-18 over 3,000 residents went through the establishment.

Risk Management and Public Protection are core principles that run as a common thread through the day to day operations of the Offender Management Unit (OMU) at HMP Bedford. All staff contribute daily to effective sentence planning, sentence delivery, rehabilitation and pre-release preparation work. Inter Departmental Risk Management Team (IRMT) meetings have a standing agenda item around MAPPA notification and high-risk releases prompting referrals at an early stage into MAPPA.

HMP Bedford works closely with MAPPA arrangements and contributes directly on an operational level through sharing risk assessment, through collaboration in risk management and information sharing as well as active involvement on a strategic level in MAPPA SMB's.

Offender Manager's participate in all MAPPA meetings and prepare MAPPA F report's providing an update around positive and negative behaviour, progression, observations around interactions with staff and during supervision sessions as well as any other pertinent information relevant to the risk management process.

HMP Bedford has a Key Worker Scheme where residents are supported under the Offender Management in Custody (OMiC) model. OMiC transfers responsibility for offender management for those in custody, from the community and into prisons making Governors accountable for the quality and delivery of prison offender management. The focus of the Key Worker role is to reduce the negative effects of imprisonment. Key Workers encourage individuals to take responsibility for their progression plan in custody. Key Worker sessions are a supportive meeting to review progress, identify any barriers or obstacles and agree/identify new goals. These meetings help build supportive relationships.



Currently the effects of the Covid 19 Pandemic have meant that there have had to be significant adaptations made to ensure the delivery of key services and support required to help residents navigate this difficult time. Prison Offender Managers in the OMU throughout the pandemic have been and are pivotal to ensuring there is a link with Community Offender Managers and key stakeholders for release and resettlement.

# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## Youth Offending Services in Bedfordshire

### Luton YOS

David Collins

Service Manager

Luton Youth Offending Service (LYOS) is a multi-agency service and tackling serious violence and criminal exploitation remains a priority. LYOS jointly manages the multi-agency gang panel (MAGPan) and this exists to co-ordinate appropriate, intelligence-led and evidence based multi-agency partnership interventions with individuals involved in serious violence and gang related activity across Luton.

Given the risks presented, most youths and young adults discussed could be construed as MAPPA Cat 3 cases and the MAPPA coordinator attends to maintain

an overview of the cases. Should a case need to be referred into MAPPA, this action would be expedited through MAGPan.

The MAPPA Serious Further Offence (SFO) Notification and Review procedure is written within the LYOS Community Safeguarding or Public Protection Reporting Policy and Procedure. The YOS Head of Service reviews the documentation prior to making the notification to the MAPPA coordinator and ensure that the YOS trigger the Critical Learning Review process.

### Bedford YOS

Pat Jennings

Service Manager

Bedfordshire Youth Offending Service (BYOS) is a shared (Bedford and Central Bedfordshire Councils) multi-agency youth justice agency including secondees from; Children Social care; Health; Police and Probation.

BYOS has two Panels which reviews and feeds referrals to MAPPA: The Serious Youth Violence Panel,

which focuses on children and young adults whom are involved in gangs or at the peripheral of gang involvement. The second is our Risk and Safeguarding Panel, which addresses children on our caseload whom present a risk to themselves and the community due to their offending behaviour.

# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## Children's Social Care

### Central Bedfordshire

### Bedford Borough

Across Bedfordshire we have three counties, (Central Beds, Bedford Borough and Luton Children's Social care). With that in mind, we have three local children's social care representative's attending MAPPA for their respective agency.

Bedford Borough Children's Services has a designated Head of Service to be the strategic lead within the Service and to both represent Children's Services at MAPPA Strategic Management Board and at level 3 meetings as well as to be the conduit for discussion and activity as needed. This includes being the point of contact in any escalation issues. Support and response for MAPPA 1 and 2 cases is through the individual in the LADO post within the LA. This ensures that there is timely response to MAPPA level 1 information and assurance requests as well as consistency in attendance at panels. We ensure that – where appropriate – other workers from within Children's Social Care are invited to MAPPA. Also key is ensuring follow up, dissemination of information and liaison about actions needed within Children's Services. This means that the MAPPA co-ordinator has a direct link to relevant senior manager and the MAPPA 2 representative when there needs to be prompt response or discussion. We will liaise with other Children's Services outside of the county where needed.

We are fully committed to our role in working effectively as partners to manage risk and to safeguard children. We participate in QA work and take back relevant learning from both QA activity and SCRs. Our membership and role within the Local Children's Safeguarding Board means that we can directly feed in learning and messages from SMB to the main Board and to the pan Beds sub groups. Good

strategic and partnership linkup with key individuals sitting on a range of strategic boards means that activity such as SCR on children involving MAPPA and the conclusions can be raised and discussed in the right way. We have a successful and positive working relationship with the MAPPA co-ordinator. We have had some very challenging cases this year that have involvement across the services such as the management of TACT offenders. We seek to work collaboratively to find solutions and demonstrate effective joint work, whilst recognising that we have specific responsibilities within the framework. As a Children's Service we recognise the critical importance of our collective approach to matters across partners and that good communication and open, candid debate and discussion is needed in current climate of reduced capacity and resources for all.



# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## Luton Children's Social Care



Luton Children's Social Care is a unitary authority in South Bedfordshire. Whilst a small authority, Luton is a very busy, diverse and vibrant town.

Luton Children's Services work closely with partnership agencies including police, health, education, children's & adult's social care, early help, substance misuse, probation and domestic violence services.

Partners within Luton work together to share and analyse information and to build a picture of a child's history, current circumstances, support systems, needs and risks so that proportionate and timely decisions can be made about the type and level of services children need to safeguard their welfare, meet their needs and improve their outcomes,

ensuring that children receive the right help at the appropriate time. Working together in this way ensures that agencies can appropriately share information and respond to needs quickly and efficiently.

MAPPA meetings are attended by dedicated leads. The information obtained within the meetings allows professionals to ensure that children are protected from high risk individuals who are awaiting their impending release from prison. This means identifying the family networks and undertaking appropriate actions to ensure that parents/carers are able to safeguard appropriately when offenders are released into the community. Where ever possible, if a child is linked to a potential offender and is open to Children's social care then it is essential that the allocated social worker attends to receive and provide all up to date information.

It is imperative that there are clear lines of communication and contact between MAPPA and Luton Children's social care in order to ensure early risk identification, improved information sharing, joint decision making and a coordinated action to assess, manage and reduce risk.

Luton Children's Social Care are committed to supporting and attending all MAPPA meetings for the safety of our children and will endeavour to continue to strengthen our partnership working.

# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## Central Bedfordshire County Council Children's social care

Central Bedfordshire Children's Services work in close partnership with MAPPA and are clear about their role in this multi-agency approach to managing high risk offenders in the community; the CBC Children Services MAPPA representatives promote the role and responsibilities of the MAPPA panel across the organisation, and the MAPPA Coordinator recently conducted a presentation for the CBC Children's Services Team Managers' Meeting. As a result, we have developed strong working relationships and a service wide understanding of the purpose and importance of MAPPA.

The dedicated MAPPA representatives from CBC Children's Services attend every MAPPA meeting held where the subject has any relevant link to CBC; this may include the subject residing in the area, having children or family in the area, or any other important connection that may impact upon children in the CBC area. The role of the MAPPA representative is to share any relevant information held by Children's Services with the MAPPA panel to assist in forming the risk management plan, and to also undertake any actions from the MAPPA meeting relating to the safeguarding of children within CBC. This may include ensuring that

assessments are undertaken on children known to the offender, and that needs-led support is identified and secured for children to ensure their safety.

In addition to the contribution of information and providing child safeguarding advice, the Children's Services representative also works closely with MAPPA to ensure that proactive measures are undertaken in respect of safeguarding children; examples include providing individual risk briefings directly to the Exploitation Coordinator and/or Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub. Individual case workers or team managers may also attend MAPPA in addition to the representative, if this is appropriate.

The Children's Services representative may also provide constructive challenge to the MAPPA panel in respect of child safeguarding issues, to ensure that the most appropriate and robust procedures are being followed. This challenge is notably welcomed, and the MAPPA panel are very responsive to criticism and to professional curiosity. This is also apparent through the quarterly Quality Assurance meetings whereby cases are audited to ensure best practice and to propose learning moving forward



# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## Bedfordshire County Council

### Adult social care

‘Luton ASC remain committed to furthering positive partnership working in support of MAPPA. This includes operational joint working to promote a holistic and strengths based approach for adults with care and support needs who are MAPPA subjects as well as bringing relevant professional expertise to the strategic partnership. We will continue to take learning forward with our MAPPA partners with the goal of achieving and improving positive outcomes.’

Bedford Borough Adult Services continue to support the MAPPA process by attending both the MAPPA Strategic meetings as well as individual MAPPA case meetings, as the importance of agencies working together to share information, assess risk and plan is recognised. Attendance at the MAPPA Strategic Meeting is at a senior level (Chief Officer), to enable any high level decisions to be made swiftly. Individual case meetings are attended by the Bedford Borough Adult Safeguarding manager with the aim being to provide information on individuals or victims to contribute to the information sharing as well as

providing expertise on adult safeguarding. By attending the meetings, advice and information can be provided about relevant support and services available from the local authority to ensure effective sign posting and planning with the correct services and to ensure needs are identified and met. Requests for additional information on local services and pathways to support or individual cases is provided to the MAPPA coordinator as needed.

The central point for all queries and referrals for social care assessments from the prison is the Bedford Adult Learning Disability Team. Assessments undertaken are completed in line with the Care Act 2014 to identify care and support needs and eligibility for services. As a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, adjustments have been made in terms of current practice, and it has therefore been important for good contact to be maintained with colleagues in the prison to support the assessment process within Government practice guidelines to safeguard staff and residents at the prison.



*Borough of Bedford Council Offices*

# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## Community Offender Personality Disorder Pathway Project

The Offender Personality Disorder (OPD) Pathway was initiated in 2011 to meet the joint strategic aims of the Ministry of Justice and Department of Health. It is a nationally commissioned programme aimed to provide psychologically informed services for a highly complex and challenging group who are more likely to have personality disorder(s) and pose a high risk of harm to others and / or reoffending.

In Bedfordshire the health provider is HMPPS Psychology Services meaning that the Bedfordshire OPD pathway has clinicians with extensive forensic experience and an interface with custodial settings. The OPD service provides psychological advice to any cases that screen into the pathway in Bedfordshire, and supports the male and female Approved Premises

in working with service users on a daily basis. The OPD service offers consultation for Offender Managers who have service users managed by MAPPA and can be invited to MAPPA panels to provide psychologically informed advice regarding engagement, understanding, formulation and risk management. In some cases, joint case working is completed between the OPD pathway practitioner and the Offender Manager, with the service user. The OPD pathway practitioner may be invited to MAPPA panels to jointly provide feedback around this work with the Offender Manager. The OPD pathway service also provides psychological consultation within the recently established joint MAPPA Level 1 and IPP Panels.

# Bedfordshire MAPPAs

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Bedfordshire and Luton Mental Health and Wellbeing services provided for by East London Foundation trust

The Team Managers for the South Central Bedfordshire Adult Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs) and one of the Luton CMHTs attend the Bedford and Luton MAPPAs panel meetings respectively as core panel members representing the East London Foundation Trust (ELFT).

ELFT provide the panel advice from a mental health perspective regardless of if the case is open to ELFT or other mental health Trusts and services. The Managers prepare for each case prior to every meeting, gathering together any known information relating to the case being discussed. Updates are provided in regard to mental health involvement; care and treatment.

In addition to attendance at the panel, the Managers ensure the responsible worker/Care Coordinator also attends the MAPPAs meeting and arrives for the meeting fully up to speed with their case. Time is spent outside the meetings following up the relevant ELFT worker and respective team to ensure they



As a mental health core panel member, the Managers play a vital role in the overall risk management of each case. Their professional opinion is considered by the panel Chair and there is an opportunity to highlight and discuss any issues in relation to risk management. Their opinion is considered in the Chair's summary of risk for each case.

# Bedfordshire MAPPA

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## Bedfordshire Luton and Central Beds Housing Options Teams

The last 12 months have been challenging for the Housing Service, as they have been for all front-line services responding to the COVID19 pandemic and doing everything possible to keep residents, public and Officers safe.

In most MAPPA cases there is a housing issue and not to have accommodation for an offender to be released to makes the management of cases very difficult to co-ordinate, and in some cases places significant pressure on the limited resources of Approved Premises.

Housing have played a vital role on the Bedfordshire MAPPA panel to support and guide on housing related matters. The input on housing has not solely been to assist with the provision of housing but has proved a valuable to guide and support on matters such as seeking private rented accommodation in and outside the local area, financial assistance in securing alternative accommodation, challenging other authorities where obstacles are presented where legal duties are triggered, and the facilitating joint working conferences with statutory and voluntary services to take a holistic approach to addressing the housing needs of an individual MAPPA subject.

Central Bedfordshire Council created a new Rough Sleeper Outreach service in 2018 which includes dedicated Mental Health professional funded by Central Beds but employed by East London Foundation Trust and a Drug and Alcohol frontline worker again funded by Central Beds but employed by Pathway to Recovery. Both of these positions provide outreach services dedicated to Central Bedfordshire rough sleepers.

As a response to COVID19 and as part of the Council's commitment to ending Rough sleeping by 2027, the Council will now offer discretionary placements to those that are rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping to prevent them from having to spend another night on the streets. This commitment extends to ensuring that those released from prison have somewhere safe to stay and to allow agencies to be able to put in place appropriate risk management plans for the benefit of the community.

Central Bedfordshire Council are now in the process of reviewing its Allocation Scheme to see how colleagues can better be supported when finding sustainable and suitable accommodation for offenders for risk management plans to be put in place upon release.

**All MAPPA reports from England and Wales are published online at:**  
[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

**National  
Probation  
Service**

