

Emergency Duty Team (EDT) and Bedfordshire & Luton Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP) Service

Joint Practitioner Protocol

Organisations	Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) Bedford Borough Council (BBC) Luton Borough Council (LBC) East London Foundation Trust (ELFT)		
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Approved by	AMHP Operational Group / Operational Reference Group		
Validated by	AMHP Strategic Governance Group	Version	2.0
Approval date	September 2024	Review date	n/a

Version no.	Date issued	Author	Change reference	Issued to
0.1	July 2018		ELFT input	NO, VS,
0.2	Sept 2018	NO	Include further operational information	NO, VS, EM
0.3	Nov 2018	NO	Include further operational information	NO, VS, EM, CT
0.4	December 2018	NO, LM, VS, CT	Amendments	AMHP Operational Group
2.0	September 2024	NO / CT	Amendments to structure RCRP statement	NO ASC Policy Hub

Approval to Adopt

Approved by	Job Title	Organisation	Date
Kate Walker	Assistant Director, Community Care Services, Adults & Older People	Bedford Borough Council	2018
Maud O'Leary	Service Director, Adult Social Care	Luton Borough Council	2018
Michelle Bradley	Director for Bedfordshire and Luton Mental Health and Wellbeing Services	ELFT (Bedfordshire & Luton)	2018
Nikki Kynoch	Head of Integrated Services, Adult Social Care	Central Bedfordshire Council	2018

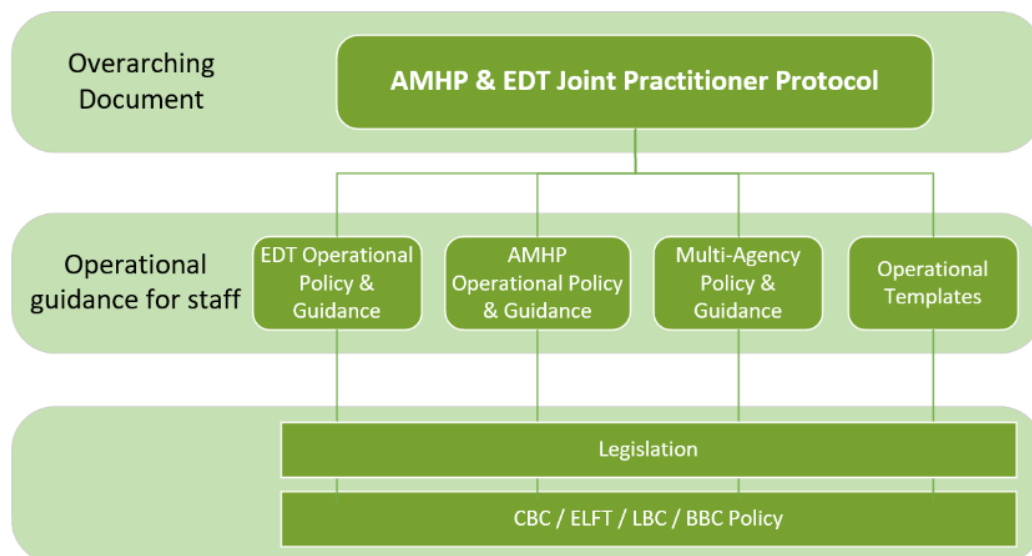
Right Care Right Person

Right Care, Right Person (RCRP) (DoH, July 2023) sets out a collective national commitment from the Home Office, Department of Health & Social Care, the National Police Chiefs' Council, Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, and NHS England to work to end the inappropriate and avoidable involvement of police in responding to incidents involving people. EDT and the AMHP Service will signpost and respond to contact's taking into consideration the RCRP principles. Meaning, where possible the right person with the rights skills, training and expertise will respond. Staff will use the escalation process in place if they feel this is required. The police have a legal duty to Keep the Kings peace, respond to imminent threat to life and respond where a crime has been committed. All documents will be reviewed and updated in 2025 to include specific details relating to RCRP.

Joint Practitioner Protocol Introduction

Under respective section 75 agreements, East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT) manage the AMHP Service on behalf of all the Local Social Service Authorities (LSSAs). Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) is commissioned by Luton Borough Council (LBC) and Bedford Borough Council (BBC) to host and provide the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on behalf of its partners out of hours, including the AMHP service.

The Joint Practitioner Protocol is a mutually agreed Document Management Suite (DMS) that describes the responsibilities of the EDT and AMHP services for Bedfordshire and Luton, and the arrangements for joint working across both services and with partners. This DMS includes written policies, procedures and practice guidance that are agreed by all agencies to ensure that support is delivered effectively to people who need access to services across boundaries. It covers the different processes and functions which support people accessing the AMPH and EDT service along with the supporting relevant national policy and legislative framework.



Equality Impact Assessment Statement

The purpose of the joint practitioner protocol is the provision of supporting documents and clear guidelines of working activities to maintain a safe, responsive, and effective service that is well led and caring as required under relevant legislative frameworks.

Any delivery of mental health and/or social care services from both AMHP and EDT Officers, should always consider whether there are any potential negative impacts arising from the actions they undertake in relation to this protocol. If any negative impacts are identified, appropriate steps should be taken to ensure that such impacts are removed or minimised. AMHPs and EDT Officers also have a general obligation to uphold the public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010.

AMHPs and EDT Officers are aware the contents of the protocol is guidance, due to the complexity of cases managed it is important legal advice is sought when needed to ensure the services remain legally compliant.