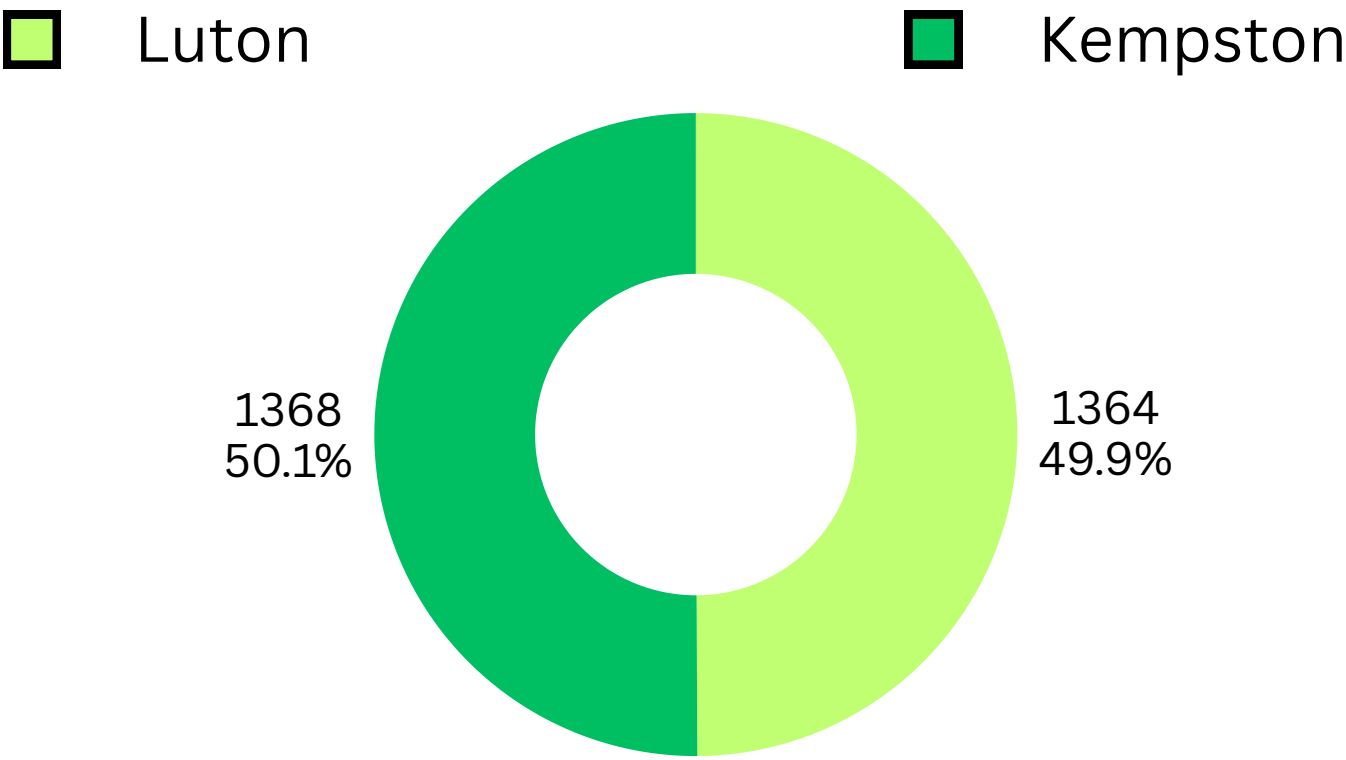


Bedfordshire Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel

June 2026
Quarterly Bulletin



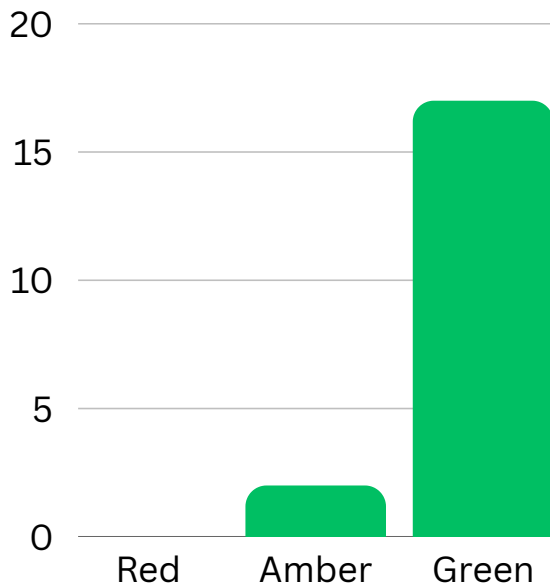
This Quarters Custody Data



The chart above illustrates the total number of detainees held at Luton and Kempston custody suites during April, May and June 2026. Across this three-month period, Bedfordshire Police Custody recorded 2732 detainees in total. A breakdown by month is provided below.

Month	Luton	Kempston	Total
April	478	473	951
May	500	414	914
June	386	481	867

ICDSP Record Review Data

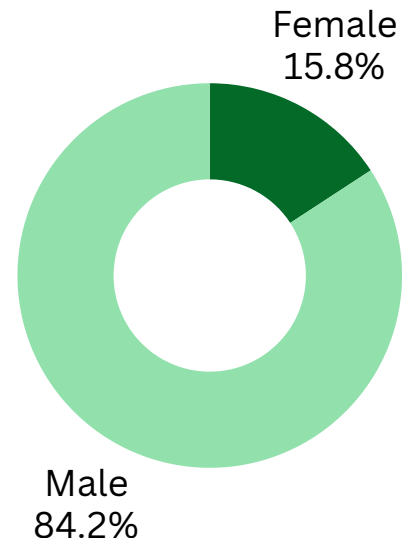
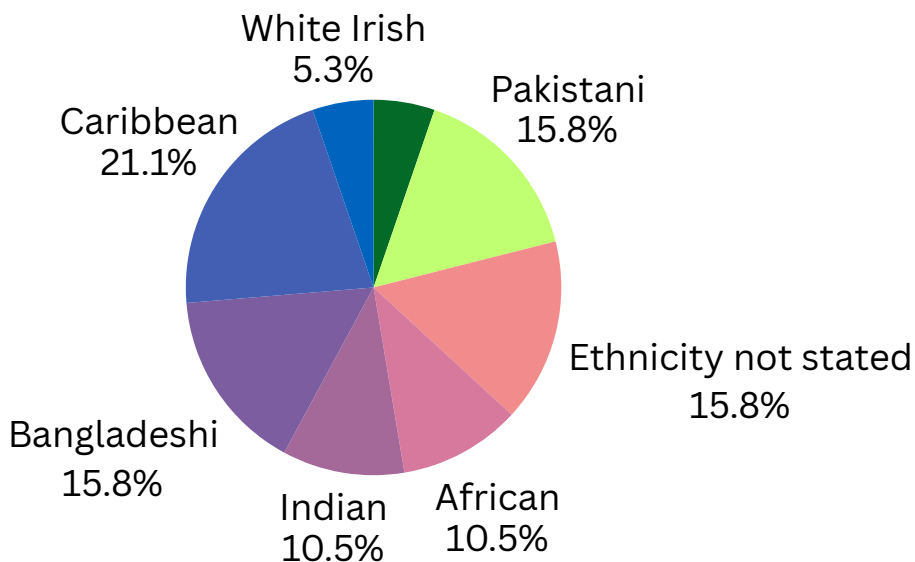


17 records were graded green

2 records were graded amber

0 records were graded red

19 Custody Records were reviewed this quarter



The focus for the meeting in May was on strip searches of those from an ethnic minority background and other records of those from an ethnic minority background

Feedback on Custody Records

The record was positive on the whole, however there was only one record of food and beverage being offered to the detainee, which was a prolonged period after being in custody. Therefore, it is unclear if custody did not document when food and beverage was offered and provided.

Detainee requested an Appropriate Adult. The Youth Offending Team were involved in the detainees care. The rights and strip search were delayed until the arrival of the Appropriate Adult and detainee was released within 3 hours.

Detainee was released very quickly. No issues found with record.

Child was 11 years old. Appropriate Adult arrived within the hour. Youth Offending Team (YOT) referral to be confirmed. All procedures followed, clearly documented.

The detainee was on Level 2 Observations and markers were recorded on record. Medication was prescribed by the HCP. The record was very detailed, however it is noted that one of the cell visits were delayed due to custody being busy.

Dealt with appropriately. Detainee was in custody for 23 hours. Positive strip search.

ACTIONS AND OUTCOMES

Custody Inspectore to discuss 'unknown' strip search section on Power BI Dashboard with Policy Inspector.

Currently ongoing.

The Inspector to send out reminders to all custody staff to ensure they are documenting when food and beverage has been offered to detainees, even if declined.

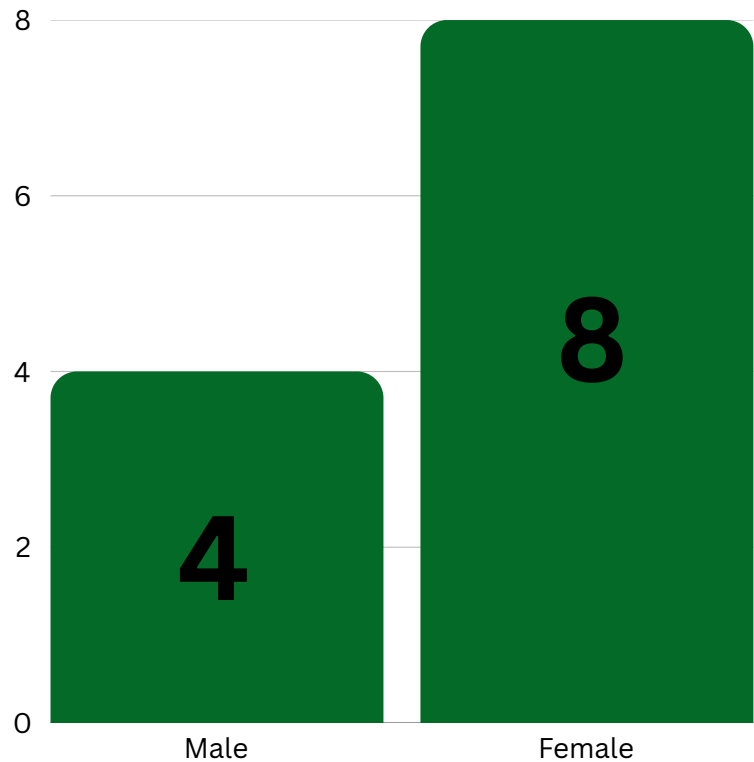
Messaging provided to all custody staff.

The Inspector advised that she will ensure the learning is cascaded through weekly messaging, emphasising the importance of consistently referring to detainees by the correct gender throughout their custody record. This follows an issue where a detainee was correctly recorded as female but subsequently referred to as male within the record.

The Inspector cascaded this in weekly messaging including warning around the use of pre-set templates in records.

Recruitment

12
volunteers



One of our aims for 2026 is to continue to recruit from diverse backgrounds so that we can accurately represent the community of Bedfordshire. We also aim to recruit those with lived experience, as well as subject matter experts for our panel.





CALL *for* VOLUNTEERS

Could you help make a difference in your community?

The Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel (ICDSP) is currently undertaking a recruitment drive for new volunteers, and we would love to hear from people from all walks of life across Bedfordshire.

We are particularly keen to ensure that our volunteers reflect the diversity of Bedfordshire's communities. We welcome applications from:

- Members of the public from across Bedfordshire
- People with lived experience and unique perspectives
- Individuals from different ethnic, cultural, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds
- Professionals from a range of sectors
- People of all ages and backgrounds who are passionate about making a positive contribution to their community

Having experience of custody or the criminal justice system is not a requirement. We value a broad range of experiences and perspectives, as these help ensure that our scrutiny reflects the community we serve.

Our aim is to build a panel that represents Bedfordshire in its entirety. The more diverse our volunteers are, the better we can understand and represent the needs, concerns, and experiences of the communities we serve.

If you are interested in becoming an ICDSP member or would simply like to find out more about the role, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Your voice, your perspective, and your experience could make a real difference.

ICDSP Annual Report

We are pleased to announce that our first Annual Report has now been published following review and ratification by the Police and Crime Panel.

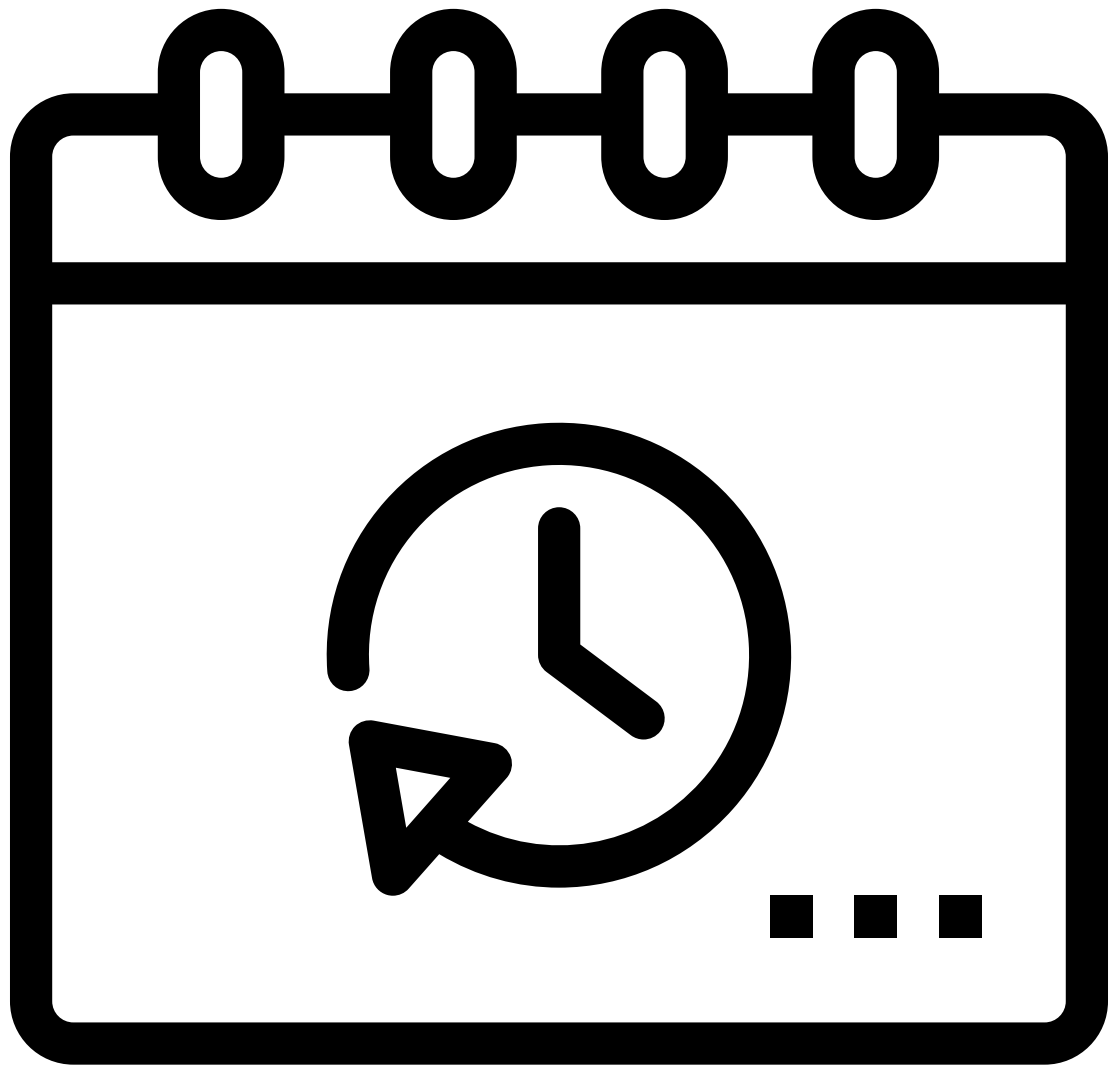
The report highlights the important work undertaken by the Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel (ICDSP) over the past year and showcases our commitment to providing independent scrutiny and promoting transparency.

As part of our ongoing efforts to continuously improve, we are keen to hear from and involve a diverse range of voices from across Bedfordshire. We would particularly encourage individuals with lived experience to consider joining the Panel and contributing to this important work.

Please take a moment to read the Annual Report, which is available on our website [here](#).



Date of Next Meeting



ICDSP Meeting - Monday 7th September 2026

SCAN ME



**BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE
CUSTODY**



MORE INFO

<https://www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk/independent-custody-detention-scrutiny-panel/>

PCC@beds.police.uk

01234 842 064

Bridgebury House, Bedfordshire Police Headquarters, Woburn Road, Kempston, Bedford, MK43 9AX

