

DMPC Decision – PCD 893

Title: Grant Funding Acceptance for Multi-Agency Response Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC)

Executive Summary:

This paper requests the acceptance of £271,815 of grant funding for 2020/21 from the Ministry of Justice for the implementation of a multi-agency model to tackle Serious Organised Crime (SOC) in prisons to provide support to the criminal justice system.

Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to:

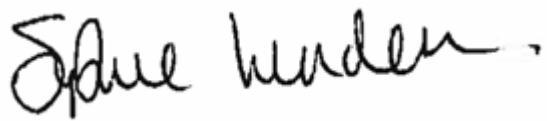
1. Approve the acceptance of an offer of funding from the Ministry of Justice of £271,815 of Serious Organised Crime (SOC) Grant funding to enable the establishment of the London MARSOC hub during 2020/21

Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct. Any such interests are recorded below.

The above request has my approval.

Signature



Date

7/12/2020

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE DMPC

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. This paper seeks the authority to accept grant funding from the Ministry of Justice to tackle SOC in prisons.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. The MPS set out that the aim of MARSOC is to “Pro-actively disrupt the highest-harm SOC individuals, using the most effective combination of our collective capabilities, information and intelligence, to deliver a ‘whole-system’ response.”
- 2.2. The agencies involved include Home Office, policing, prisons and probation and the National Crime Agency (NCA). This establishment phase of the national project is being overseen by a Delivery Board with representation from HO, HMPPS and policing.
- 2.3. The MPS state that this activity will contribute to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021 by
 - manage the London SOC threat in our prisons and, in doing so, enable better informed and more effective policing responses to the individuals and groups causing the greatest amount of harm
 - help provide greater collective capacity across threats and across capabilities through improved focus and coordination.
 - It will give greater collective agility to capitalise on intelligence opportunities and dividends.
 - MARSOC will also help lever greater support from the National SOC capabilities to better mitigate priority threats in London. This includes targeting organised crime groups engaged in serious violence, grooming and criminally exploiting children, and trafficking women for prostitution.
- 2.4. The MPS team will operate from within the London Region Prison Intelligence Unit (LRPIU).

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. The proposal is for the acceptance of grant funding of £271,815 for 2020/21.
- 3.2. The existing budget for staff allocated to this work will be retained and the roles backfilled to minimise operational impact of the change.
- 3.3. Future funding past 31 March 2021 is subject to the Spending Review. If future funding is not provided the officers/staff will be prioritised for roles within the LRPIU.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. Under Schedule 3 Paragraph 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 MOPAC may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental

to, the exercise of the functions of the Office which includes entering into contracts and other agreements (whether legally binding or not).

- 4.2. Paragraph 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation and Consent provides that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) has delegated authority to approve all bids for grant funding

5. GDPR and Data Privacy

- 5.1. MOPAC will adhere to the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018 and ensure that any organisations who are commissioned to do work with or on behalf of MOPAC are fully compliant with the policy and understand their GDPR responsibilities.
- 5.2. The MPS have assured that formal agreements for the MARSOC project are being finalized to be completed before the project commences. The processes governing the lawful exchange of information between the key partners, police and HMPPS, are well established, have been subject to rigorous judicial scrutiny and subject to IPCO inspection. HMPPS through their Operational Partnerships Team are finalising an information sharing MoU between HMPPS and law enforcement, to be signed off by NPCC.

6. Equality Comments

- 6.1. MOPAC is required to comply with the public sector equality duty set out in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010. This requires MOPAC to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations by reference to people with protected characteristics. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 6.2. The MPS has assured that an Equality Impact Assessment has been conducted and will be further developed as and when parameters change. No negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and to those who are not.

7. Background/supporting papers

- 7.1. Appendix 1 MPS Report Grant Funding for Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) Hub

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and will be made available on the MOPAC website following approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary.

Part 1 Deferral:

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

If yes, for what reason:

Until what date: n/a

Part 2 Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice considered as likely to be exempt from disclosure under the FOIA should be in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a **Part 2** form – No

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION

Tick to confirm statement (✓)

Financial Advice:

The Strategic Finance and Resource Management Team has been consulted on this proposal.

✓

Legal Advice:

The MPS legal team has been consulted on the proposal.

✓

Equalities Advice:

Equality and diversity issues are covered in the body of the report.

✓

Commercial Issues

Commercial issues are not applicable.

✓

GDPR/Data Privacy

GDPR compliance issues are covered in the body of the report

✓

Director/Head of Service:

The interim Chief Finance Officer has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the MOPAC's plans and priorities.

✓

Chief Executive Officer

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime.

Signature



Date 2/12/2020



MOPAC

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

Grant Funding for Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) Hub

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting 24th November 2020

Report by DI Mark Galloway on behalf of the Chief of Corporate Services

Part 1 – This section of the report will be published by MOPAC, classified as OFFICIAL – PUBLIC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), on behalf of Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS), has been offered grant funding from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to establish a Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) hub in London during a 12-month Early Adopter Phase.

The HMPPS-led multi-agency project team will oversee the Early Adopter Phase in year one, with the central MARSOC team managing 10 Regional hubs. The proposed funds will provide three new roles with four staff, including on-costs.

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is asked to approve this funding by the MoJ for the period Dec 2020 to Dec 2021.

Recommendations

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, via the Investment Advisory and Monitoring meeting (IAM), is asked to:

Approve the acceptance of an offer of funding from the Ministry of Justice of £271,815 of SOC Grant funding to enable the establishment of the London MARSOC hub during 2020/21

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by at the earliest opportunity. Whilst work continues to finalise the Operating Model, with the performance framework and evaluation requirements nearing completion. The early adopter rollout plan has been developed with the view to implement from late autumn.

Non-confidential facts and advice to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

Introduction and Background

1. Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) in our prisons impacts the justice system as a whole. When organised criminals are able to continue running their networks from custody offenders' rehabilitation is undermined, public confidence in prison and law enforcement is eroded, drug-trade in prisons impacts the ability of staff to carry out their duties and the wider public are at put at risk. With changes in technology, pressures on ageing prisons and an anticipated increase in the prison population, without further investment and development, we risk the ability to continue to combat SOC.
2. Effective implementation of a multi-agency model to tackle SOC in prisons will therefore provide much needed support to the criminal justice system and beyond. Lifetime Offender Management (LOM) is a multi-agency process that systematically assesses the threat from priority Serious Organised Crime offenders before, during and after custody and uses all available tools, powers and disruptions to prevent and disrupt offending. LOM enables better coordination between policing, HMPPS and other key partners; integrating the sharing of information and intelligence and bringing together skills and capability at the national, regional and local levels. Implementing LOM is part of the government's SOC Strategy and this will be achieved through an HMPPS-led multi-agency project team. The project is now known as the Multi-Agency Response to SOC (MARSOC) Project to distinguish it from existing LOM projects in law enforcement.
3. MARSOC Aim – To Pro-actively disrupt the highest-harm SOC individuals, using the most effective combination of our collective capabilities, information and intelligence, to deliver a 'whole-system' response'.
4. MARSOC Objectives:
 - I. Develop and maintain a list of the highest-harm SOC individuals for lifetime offender management using a single, consistent approach to assessment and prioritisation
 - II. Co-ordinate activities across multiple agencies to deliver disruptions which make the most of each agency's tools, powers and interventions, based on jointly agreed plans for each individual.
 - III. Share information and intelligence relating to the MARSOC cohort more effectively between partners to deliver a more joined up response.

Issues for consideration

5. The MARSOC Model will establish a hub in each ROCU staffed by HMPPS, police officers and police staff.
6. The HMPPS-led multi-agency project team will oversee the Early Adopter Phase in year one, with the central MARSOC team managing the 10 regional hubs. The MARSOC Project Delivery Board, which has senior representation from the Home Office, HMPPS and policing, will manage the strategic governance of this phase.

7. Longer term, the question remains as to where strategic governance should sit from Year 2 onwards, when MARSOC is broadened beyond its current focus on criminal justice system. The project are exploring options including NCA-led governance and joint governance with a rotating chair to commence from year 2. Ideally, in year 2 (2021 – 2022), subject to funding, it is proposed that the national oversight and assurance team and associated responsibilities transition to the NCA. An NCA-led Strategic Delivery Board will then be responsible for national strategic governance, including ownership of the MARSOC Framework.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021¹

8. The MARSOC team will manage the London SOC threat in our prisons and, in doing so, enable better informed and more effective policing responses to the individuals and groups causing the greatest amount of harm. MARSOC will help provide greater collective capacity across threats and across capabilities through improved focus and coordination. It will give greater collective agility to capitalise on intelligence opportunities and dividends. MARSOC will also help lever greater support from the National SOC capabilities to better mitigate priority threats in London. This includes targeting organised crime groups engaged in serious violence, grooming and criminally exploiting children, and trafficking women for prostitution.

Contributes to HM Governments Serious and Organised Crime Strategy 2018²

9. Commitment to implement Lifetime Offender Management (LOM); a multi-agency process that systematically assess the threat from priority SOC offenders before, during and after custody and uses all available tools, powers and disruptions to prevent offending.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

10. As part of the recent £100 million investment in prison security, the Home Office and HMPPS received funding to resource the national rollout of the Multi-Agency Response to Serious and Organised Crime (MARSOC) project over a 12-month Early Adopter Phase.
11. The MARSOC funding is a new grant and the MoJ confirm they intend to make payment in arrears on receipt of a quarterly invoice from the MPS. The early adopter phase is planned to commence in November
12. The eligible expenditure will be recovered from the MoJ supported by a Memorandum of Understanding between MoJ and MOPAC.
13. The budget for staff moved across to MARSOC will be retained within the LRPIU in order to backfill vacated core roles. Select list candidate are in place for this contingency and we do not expect any adverse operational impact.

¹ [Police and crime plan: a safer city for all Londoners | London City Hall](#)

² [HM Governments Serious and Organised Crime Strategy Nov 2018](#)

14. The new MARSOC posts - Manager, Officer (PC+DC) and Band E - Researcher.

Role	Salary + on costs	Overhead costs
ROCU MARSOC Manager (DS)	£72,904	£9,803.45
ROCU MARSOC Officer (PC & DC)	£59,078	£9,803.45
	£63,393	£9,803.45
Band E Researcher	£40,368	£6,661.86
Total	£235,743	£36,072.21
Grand Total	£271,815	
Quarterly payment total	£67,953.75	

15. The Home Office, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, have prepared multiple bids to retain current MARSOC investment and expand the policing capacity. Funding announcement is due by the end of November following refinement and negotiation with HMT during August and September.

16. Non-staff costs have been minimised by subsuming the MARSOC team within the existing MO2 Prison Intelligence Unit. The MARSOC role is an extension of current activity within the LRPIU. The roles are largely office based and will not require a dedicated vehicle. The current LRPIU fleet will be sufficient for this uplift.

17. Funding, at this time, can only be guaranteed for 1 year. Staff employed within MARSOC could be displaced at the end of this period, particularly relevant for the police staff Band E, Researcher role. Should this funding cease unexpectedly the Band E, and indeed the other post holders, would be prioritised for any appropriate vacancy within the PIU and then the wider MO2 structure.

Legal Comments

18. Under Schedule 3 Paragraph 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 MOPAC may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of the Office which includes entering into contracts and other agreements (whether legally binding or not). Making a crime and disorder reduction grant is a legally binding agreement which is justified by the fact that it will secure, or contribute to securing, crime and disorder reduction within the Metropolitan Police District and this is within the exercise of MOPAC's functions.

19. Para 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Consent and Delegation provides the DMPC with delegated powers to accept any offer of grant funding.

20. The grant agreement will be published under the Elected Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011.

Equality Comments

21. The London MARSOC team for 2020/21 will be partially staffed by existing members of the MPS Prison Intelligence Unit reflecting short term requirements regard skill set, vetting and qualifications. This use of existing staff and office space does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity. Other posts will be advertised as per agreed MPS policy.
22. Building the London MARSOC hub and associated protocols is intended as a long-term investment. An Equality Impact Assessment has been conducted and will be further developed as and when parameters change. No negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and to those who are not.

Privacy Comments

23. The MPS is subject to the requirements and conditions placed on it as a 'State' body to comply with the European Convention of Human Rights and the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018. Both legislative requirements place an obligation on the MPS to process personal data fairly and lawfully in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals.
24. Under Article 35 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Section 57 of the DPA 2018, Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) become mandatory for organisations with technologies and processes that are likely to result in a high risk to the rights of the data subjects.
25. The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the project meets its compliance requirements.
26. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) - Formal agreements for the MARSOC project are being finalized to be completed before the project commences. The processes governing the lawful exchange of information between the key partners, police and HMPPS, are well established, have been subject to rigorous judicial scrutiny and subject to IPCO inspection. HMPPS through their Operational Partnerships Team are finalising an information sharing MoU between HMPPS and law enforcement, to be signed off by NPCC.

Real Estate Implications

27. Cobalt Square is subject to a five-year refurbishment plan and the multiagency nature of MARSOC increases the importance of careful advanced planning to accommodate this. Temporary office moves maybe required to facilitate these works.
28. The PIU has lost unrelated HMPPS embeds and can accommodate this uplift within the current footprint at Cobalt Square. PSD are aware of this plan and reviewing any license requirements.

Environmental Implications

29. There are no environmental implications.

Background/supporting papers

30. There are no background papers.

Report author: Mark Galloway, MO2 – Met Intelligence, London Region Prison Intelligence Unit.