



Approval to Award Contract for Support, Maintenance and Development for the Mercury platform used by National Police Coordination Centre (NPoCC)

MOPAC

Report by Andrea Enti on behalf of the Chief People and Resources Officer

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Police Coordination Centre (NPoCC) uses the Mercury platform to manage the coordination of police mutual aid requests between nine police regions (43 home office police forces) plus Police Scotland, Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), Ministry of Defence Police (MDP), Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC), British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies. Mercury supports them in meeting demand during large scale events, special operations, and national crises. The current agreement is due to expire on 30 September 2024. As per the approval to initiate provide via PCD1150, Commercial Services completed a mini-competition via the Crown Commercial Service's "Technology Service 3" Framework to procure a new Supplier to support, maintain and develop the Mercury platform. Since the value of the contract is above £500,000, Commercial Services and NPoCC are seeking the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime approval to award the new contract.

Recommendations

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, is asked to:

- Approve the award of a three year contract (1+1+1) plus two optional 12-months extensions for the NPoCC Mercury Platform support (maintenance and development), to Informed Solutions Ltd.

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by 01 September 2024. This is because the current agreement will expire on 30 September 2024.

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

Introduction and background

1. The approval of this proposal is necessary for NPoCC to ensure the continuous provision and development of the Mercury Platform, a national database used to track police skills and capabilities across the country.
2. The National Police Coordination Centre (NPoCC) uses the Mercury platform to manage the coordination of police mutual aid requests between nine police regions (43 home office police forces) in addition including Police Scotland, PSNI, MDP, CNC, British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies, supporting them in meeting demand during large scale events, special operations, and national crises.
3. The current contract for the support, maintenance and development of Mercury is managed by Informed Solution Ltd. and will expire on 30 September 2024.
4. The approval to initiate the procurement of this contract was granted by MOPAC via PCD1150.
5. The new contract has been procured via mini-competition under the Crown Commercial Service's "Technology Service 3" Framework.

Issues for consideration

6. This information is contained in the restricted section of the report.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2022-25¹

7. This procurement does not directly contribute to MOPAC's Plan as it's a National Police Coordination Centre (NPoCC) project.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

8. The cost of the new contract will be funded from within existing budgets in NPCC.
9. The successful bid provides savings for the Authority and allows for headroom in the existing NPoCC budget to fund further development work on the Mercury Platform during the Contract's Term.
10. The successful bidder proposed several commitments to deliver Social Value, in alignment to the London Anchor Institutions' Charter². In particular, the Supplier committed to:
 - a. Create new employment opportunities under the contract and aligned to the 2010 Equality Act.
 - b. Deliver training, skills and development session for under-represented communities through the contract, and facilitate apprenticeships for under-represented communities under this contract.
 - c. To procure 30% of their goods and services from local micro- and small-business

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

² <https://www.london.gov.uk/coronavirus/londons-recovery-coronavirus-crisis/anchor-institutions-charter>

and VCSEs.

- d. Reinvest 1% of the contract value in activities aimed at improving community integration and well-being, and to report annual on its achievements.

Legal Comments

11. The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) is a contracting authority as defined in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the Regulations). All awards of public contracts for goods and/or services valued at £214,904 or above shall be procured in accordance with the Regulations. This report confirms the value of the proposed contract exceeds this threshold. The award of this contract complies with these Regulations.
12. Purchasing through a compliantly procured Framework Agreement shall comply with the Regulations where the proposed contract's scope is within the technical and financial scope of the Framework Agreement and where the ordering processes of the Framework Agreement have been followed. The report confirms the above are met.
13. Paragraph 4.14 of the Scheme provides that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime ("DMPC") reserves the right to call in a proposal to award a contract valued at £500,000 or above.

Equality Comments

14. This business case has undergone an initial Equality screening. Due regard has been taken to ensure compliance with the Equality Act in particular the Public Sector Equality Duty.
15. Real consideration has been taken to assess Equality impact caused by the proposed business case. As a result, no negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and to those who are not negating the requirement to document any mitigation.
16. As the intention of this document is to seek an extension for an existing function, there is no real organisational change. Further reviews will be conducted and if any new Equality Impact is identified, a full Equality Impact Assessment will be initiated.

Privacy Comments

17. 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.
18. 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.
19. The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the programme meets its compliance requirements.
20. The programme does not use personally identifiable data of members of the public, so there are no GDPR issues to be considered.

Real Estate Implications

21. There are no real estate implications for the MPS and for NPoCC associated with this requirement.

Environmental Implications

22. There are no additional environmental implications for the MPS and for NPoCC associated with this requirement.

Background/supporting papers

23. None.

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Part 2 – This section refers to the details of the Part 2 business case which is NOT SUITABLE for MOPAC Publication.

The Government Security Classification marking for Part 2 is:

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE [COMMERCIAL]

Part 2 of the *Approval to Award Contract for Support, Maintenance and Development for the Mercury platform used by National Police Coordination Centre (NPoCC)* Paper is exempt from publication for the following reasons:

- Article 2(2)(c) of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011; and
- Section 31(1) (Law Enforcement) and Section 43(2) (Commercial Interests) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000

The paper will be exempt until 1st October 2029