



Grant Variation to the NPCC Chief Scientific Adviser Core Grant

Report by Jennifer Ewing on behalf of the Police Chief Scientific Adviser

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper seeks approval to accept additional Home Office grant funding of up to £1,250,000 for 24/25 in respect of the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) Core Grant.

In addition, the NPCC seeks to increase the pre-approved acceptance value of the CSA Core Grant 25/26 from £5,400,000 to up to £6,400,000.

There is no financial exposure to MOPAC.

Recommendations

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is asked to:

- 1. Approve receipt of an additional £1,250,000 in grant funding in 2024/25 to support the NPCC CSA Core Grant; and**
- 2. Approve increase in pre-approved acceptance value of the 25/26 CSA Core Grant from £5,500,000 to up to £6,400,000.**

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor as soon as possible. This is because spend and delivery of the additional funding must be completed by 31 March 2025.

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

Introduction and background

1. On 06/07/2023 the Deputy Mayor for London agreed to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Home Office (HO), on behalf of the NPCC, to receive the Police STAR Fund of up to £4,700,000 in 23/24. Approval was also given to enter into subsequent HO Grant Agreements up to a value of £5,500,000 for the same purpose annually, up to and including 2025/26. The Grant Agreement in question was subsequently titled the Police Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA) Core Grant.
2. In 24/25, the value of the funding provided by the HO to the NPCC via the CSA Core Grant was £5,349,520. This Grant Agreement was signed by MOPAC's Chief Finance Officer on 10/07/2024.

3. The Home Office wishes to increase the CSA Core Grant 24/25 by an additional £1,250,000. This increase to the grant, achieved via variation, is intended cover the following:
 - a. £500,000 to support evaluation in policing to understand productivity gains of science, technology, analysis and research for the benefit of policing and the criminal justice system.
 - b. £750,000 for resourcing the Office of the Police Chief Scientific Adviser (OPCSA), which will support the team this financial year to deliver their increased science and technology portfolio.
4. In line with the requirements of the existing CSA Core Grant, all deliverables relating to this additional £1,250,000 of funding are to be completed by 31 March 2025. Governance around spend and delivery will fall under existing reporting procedures between the Home Office and OPCS.
5. MOPAC has provided prior approval to accept the future CSA Core Grant in 25/26 for up to £5,500,000 (PCD 1457 refers). We request an increase to that pre-approved value for 25/26 to £6,400,000 given the Grant's current level.

Issues for consideration

6. This Grant Agreement relates to Home Office funding provided to the NPCC. There is no financial exposure to MOPAC.

Contributes to the New Met for London (NMfL) Plan and / or MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2022-25¹

7. Not applicable – NPCC Funding.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

8. These funds will be managed by Professor Paul Taylor, Police Chief Scientific Adviser, based in the NPCC. The NPCC is overseen by Chief Constable Gavin Stephens, the Chair of NPCC. Additional reporting and assurance processes are outlined in the Grant Agreement to address oversight and transparency.
9. The NPCC works closely with the Home Office to ensure all allocated funding is operating against the key deliverables and spend monitored.
10. Financial management of the fund is overseen and facilitated by existing NPCC Commercial and Financial controls with full expenditure expected in the financial year 2024-25.

Legal Comments

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

11. This grant variation funding will be paid to MOPAC, as the host organisation for the NPCC, in exercise of the power conferred upon the Secretary of State for the Home Department under Section 57 of the Police Act 1996.
12. Under paragraph 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Consent and Delegation the DMPC has delegated authority to approve “Bids for grant funding made and all offers made of grant funding; and/or where appropriate a strategy for grant giving”.
13. The Grant Agreement will be published under the Elected Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011.

Equality Comments

14. No equality or diversity issues relating to this Grant Variation to accept additional funding, have been identified.

Privacy Comments

15. The receipt of additional Home Office Funding to the CSA Core Grant does not use personally identifiable data of members of the public, so there are no GDPR issues to be considered.

Real Estate Implications

16. There are no direct implications arising from the receipt of the additional Home Office funding. Any related Real Estate requirements would fall to the NPCC, not MOPAC.

Environmental Implications

17. Not applicable – NPCC Funding.

Background/supporting papers

18. Not applicable.

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