



MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

NPCC Knife Crime Co-ordinator

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting 10th March 2025

Report by Insp Jen Caswell on behalf of Cmdr. Stephen Clayman

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper requests approval to accept a Home Office Grant for the continuation of a National Knife Crime Co-ordination role, hosted by the MPS within the NPCC Knife Crime portfolio. This post will drive and support/co-ordinate the activity of forces across the country, as well as supporting the Home Office to reduce knife crime and knife enabled homicide.

A grant of £120,000 has been made available by the Home Office, for a dedicated Detective Inspector post for 12 months commencing 1st April 2024 funded by the Homicide Prevention Fund.

Reducing homicide is a key priority for the policing minister and government. Knife crime makes up a large proportion of violent offences nationally and the knife crime portfolio would be hugely enhanced by the effectiveness of having a full time member of staff who could co-ordinate activity across the country to support the policing response to knife crime and knife related homicides.

This funding was achieved through a competitive bid into a national homicide fund set up by the Home Office. The funding for the post runs from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, at which time the necessity for further funding will be reviewed.

Recommendations

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

- 1. Approve the acceptance of £120,000 Home Office Grant as the host force to the NPCC Knife Crime Portfolio to fund a new National Knife Crime Co-ordination post between April 2024 to March 2025.**

Time sensitivity

There is not a time sensitive decision attached to this as the approval is retrospective for FY24/25.

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

Introduction and background

1. As set out in the Beating Crime Plan (published July 2021) the Government is committed to reducing homicide and serious violence and putting an end to the tragedies afflicting our communities.
2. The Home Office Homicide Prevention Fund will be invested in activity that has evidenced impact on homicide reduction or activity that seeks to improve national processes, enhance capabilities, and/or improve analysis and use of data.
3. This role assists in coordinating 43 national forces and increasing national activity to reduce knife crime and is focused around delivering an accurate analysis of the current threat posed by knife enabled crime, producing an effective national operational response and developing and disseminating relevant best practice.

Issues for consideration

4. This is a national post working to the NPCC Knife Crime Lead. As the NPCC lead for knife crime remains in the MPS it is proposed that this is the host location for the portfolio coordinator.
5. The grant is considered up to £120,000 covering the deployment of one Inspector for deployment to the NPCC lead.

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

6. The knife crime coordinator will enable the MPS across all boroughs (and other forces) to have an enhanced response to knife crime, its victims and the public. The coordinator will also enable the MPS to benefit from national collaboration to tackle and combat knife crime and its impact on serious violence, and nationally support all four priorities within the Police and Crime Plan.
7. Working with partners in the Home Office, MOPAC, Trading Standards, Ministry of Justice and others, this role seeks to bring together all sectors to work together in the reduction of knife enabled violence. Serious violence involving knives is linked to organised crime and urban street gangs, coordination in this area works towards protecting people from exploitation and harm.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

8. As an extension to an existing service this work does not change any aspects relating to responsible procurement.
9. This Grant contributes to delivering the London Anchor Institutions' Charter by helping to restore confidence in the city and helping young people to flourish with access to support.

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

Legal Comments

10. This paper seeks MOPAC's approval to accept the receipt of Home Office funding in order to help reduce homicide, which is a national police priority.
11. 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".
12. The acceptance and provision of Grant Agreements to support this function are legal under Schedule 3, Paragraph 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 which provides that,
 - a. 7(1) The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of the Office.
 - b. (2) That includes— entering into contracts and other agreements (whether legally binding or not);
13. MOPAC has an obligation to publish a grant agreement pursuant to Schedule 1, Paragraph 3(g) of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) (Amendment) Order 2012.

Equality Comments

14. As this is an extension of an existing service this work does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity

Privacy Comments

15. 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.
16. 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.
17. The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the programme meets its compliance requirements.
18. The programme does not use currently personally identifiable data of members of the public, so there are no current GDPR issues to be considered. If the programme uses personally identifiable data of members of the public at a later date DPIAs will be completed as needed.

Real Estate Implications

19. There are no changes to Real Estate arrangements as there will be no physical base for this role.

Environmental Implications

20. There will be no impact on the Mayor's London Environment Strategy and this Grant contributes to delivering the London Anchor Institutions' Charter by

helping to restore confidence in the city and helping young people to flourish with access to support.

Background/supporting papers.

21. None

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