

REQUEST FOR DMPC DECISION – DMPCD 2016 18

Title: Global Policing Database: Further development

Executive Summary:

This paper requests the approval of accepting a grant from the College of Policing to supplement the development of the Global Policing Database (GPD). This year MOPAC launched this innovative resource funded through the Innovation Fund of the College of Policing. This funding will enable additional progress to the development of the Global Policing Database. The grant is being awarded by the College of Policing, and will be delivered through MOPAC's partnership with the University of Queensland who are delivering the GPD.

Recommendation:

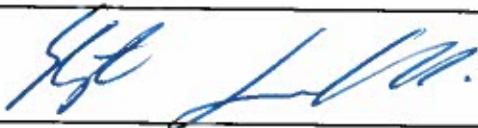
The DMPC is asked to approve and sign the agreement to accept the College of Policing Grant of £28,193.29 to supplement the development of the Global Policing Database.

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

18/2/2016

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

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The Global Policing Database (GPD) is a web-based and searchable database designed to capture all published and unpublished experimental and quasi-experimental evaluations of policing interventions conducted since 1950. Using innovative systematic review technologies, a team of researchers is compiling the GPD by systematically searching, retrieving and screening published and unpublished literature that reports on impact evaluations of policing interventions from 1 January 1950. What makes the GPD unique is lack of restrictions on the type of policing technique, type of outcome measure, or language of the research. The GPD captures research where police are implementers of an intervention, participants in an intervention research, or intervention partners. In addition, measures of intervention effectiveness will extend beyond crime and disorder outcomes to include all possible outcomes, including, but not limited to: perceptions of police, fear of crime, or police biopsychosocial wellbeing.
- 1.2. The Beta Version of the GPD was launched by MOPAC and the University of Queensland in London in June 2015. This Beta Version contains a sample of research from 2014 (see www.gpd.uq.edu.au). The foundational development and Beta Version of the GPD were supported by College of Policing funds (administered through MOPAC) and an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship awarded to Professor Mazerolle.
- 1.3. As of December 2015 the research team (in conjunction with a large team of unpaid student interns) has achieved the following milestones:
 - Screened 86,277 title and abstracts for initial eligibility (2014 – 2008 inclusive)
 - Retrieved the full-text for over 30,000 documents screened as initially eligible
 - Screened 9,888 full-text documents for Stage 1 final eligibility (2014 – 2012 inclusive)
 - Screened and coded 306 full-text documents for inclusion in the GPD (final eligible for 2014 documents, $n = 80$)
 - Graduated approximately 60 unpaid students through the GPD internship program. This program requires that students complete standardised training and simulation tasks and a minimum of 35 hours work. For quality assurance purposes, each intern's work is continually monitored and cross-checked by senior project staff.
 - Completed the first systematic review using the GPD. This review synthesises the evidence on the effectiveness of police investigative techniques for serious violent crime.
 - Profiled the GPD in an evidence-based policing segment compiled at the request of the International Association of Police Chiefs (see <https://youtu.be/Dc6SQrbMfjw>)
- 1.4. This College of Policing Fund will enable work to continue to improve the system and the associated inputting process to ensure that it is fit for purpose and enhance its usability.

2. Commissioning Process

- 2.1. Currently the GPD is populated solely by the AU University but is accessed globally by academics and enforcement bodies around the world. The GPD is at risk of not realising its full global potential as there is a lack of sufficiently competent and capable persons to undertake full-text screening and light coding of eligible research studies. There are currently an estimated 500 to 700 pieces of identified research dating back to 2010, which represents approximately 20% of all research captured by the comprehensive GPD systematic search,

awaiting full text screening and coding onto the GPD. As a key exponent of the evidence based approach and a partner organisation for the creation and ongoing use of the GPD, there is a reputational risk to the College if the records are not accurate, current and accessible in line with HMG data standards; the GPD will lose credibility and fall into disuse.

- 2.2. This grant of £28,193.29 will enable the assessment of the current and future needs of the GPD to meet the developing user requirements and to create a resilient and future proofed application.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. The College of Policing has approved this funding.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. The funding will come from the College of Policing through the Home Office.

5. Equality Comments

- 5.1. There are no direct equality and diversity implications arising from this proposal.
- 5.2. The Global Policing Database will increase international multi-agency partnership cooperation and learning; undoubtedly facilitating the development of a range of policing areas with an equality dimension whether this be community engagement or the recruitment of a diverse police force.

6. Background/supporting papers

- 6.1 Annex 1: The Schedule of the Project
- 6.2 Background paper – Draft grant contract from the College of Policing

Public access to information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the MOPAC website within 1 working day of approval. Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form. Deferment is only applicable where release before that date would compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.

Is the publication of **this** form to be deferred? NO

If yes, for what reason:

Until what date (if known):

Is there a **part 2** form – No

If yes, for what reason:

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

	<i>Tick to confirm statement (✓)</i>
Head of Unit: Betsy Stanko, Head of Evidence and Insight, has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the MOPAC's plans and priorities.	✓
Legal Advice: This is an extension of a previous project with a sole provider.	✓
Financial Advice: The Head of Strategic Finance and Resource Management has been consulted on this proposal.	✓
Equalities Advice: The Workforce Development Officer has been consulted on the equalities and diversity issues within this report.	✓

OFFICER APPROVAL**Chief Operating 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 18/02/2016.

Appendix: SCHEDULE 1 – THE PROJECT

Purpose (aims and objectives) of the funding

This proposed grant will create a sustainable and effective resource pool for the continued use, growth and promotion of an evidence led approach to policing through the use of the GPD. It will ensure that the relevant evidence is screened, coded and input onto the GPD in a timely manner.

The GPD is a web-based and searchable database designed to capture all published and unpublished experimental and quasi-experimental evaluations of policing interventions conducted since 1950. Using innovative systematic review technologies, a team of researchers is compiling the GPD by systematically searching, retrieving and screening published and unpublished literature that reports on impact evaluations of policing interventions from 1 January 1950. What makes the GPD unique is lack of restrictions on the type of policing technique, type of outcome measure, or language of the research. The GPD captures research where police are implementers of an intervention, participants in an intervention research, or intervention partners. In addition, measures of intervention effectiveness will extend beyond crime and disorder outcomes to include all possible outcomes, including, but not limited to: perceptions of police, fear of crime, or police biopsychosocial wellbeing (see attached methodology appendix).

The Beta Version of the GPD was launched in London in June 2015. This Beta Version contains a sample of research from 2014 (see www.gpd.uq.edu.au). The foundational development and Beta Version of the GPD were supported by College of Policing funds (administered through MOPAC) and an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship awarded to Professor Mazerolle.

As of December 2015 the research team (in conjunction with a large team of unpaid student interns) has achieved the following milestones:

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This Fund will enable work to continue to improve the system and the associated inputting process to ensure that it is fit for purpose and enhance its usability.

Currently the GPD is populated solely by the AU university but is accessed globally by academics and enforcement bodies around the world. The GPD is at risk of not realising its full global potential as there is a lack of sufficiently competent and capable persons to undertake full-text screening and light coding of eligible research studies. There are currently an estimated 500 to 700 pieces of identified research dating back to 2010, which represents approximately 20% of all research captured by the comprehensive GPD systematic search, awaiting full text screening and coding onto the GPD. As a key exponent of the evidence based approach and a partner organisation for the creation and ongoing use of the GPD, there is a reputational risk to the College if the records are not accurate, current and accessible in line with HMG data standards; the GPD will lose credibility and fall into disuse.

The solution to this is to create a global network of competent and capable individuals who can screen, code and input eligible research studies into the GPD, thus creating a sustainable and effective resource pool for the continued use, growth and promotion of an evidence led approach to policing through the use of the GPD. A global network approach will ensure that evidence is screened, coded and input onto the GPD in a timely manner and remove the backlog.

A two-stage solution is proposed, with Stage 1 work being addressed through this grant. This grant will enable the assessment of the current and future needs of the GPD to meet the developing user requirements and to create a resilient and future proofed application. The outputs of this funded work will then inform Stage 2 which is anticipated to be a project brief for future work and funding based on the outcomes from Stage 1. This could, for example, include the development of a cloud based Graphical User Interface (GUI) for the database and the training of a series of global administrators who can undertake local screening, coding and input activities on behalf of their organisations and countries.

It is proposed that for Stage 1 this grant covers the employment of five qualified local Subject Matter Experts (SME), including a consultant systems development officer and online training expert, to use the screening, coding and input of eligible research studies within the backlog to inform a scoping study to assess the upgrade and access needs of the GPD to meet current and future requirements.

In addition, the grant will need to design the materials needed to implement a global inputter role for the GPD. While clearing of the backlog is not an objective of this stage, it is envisaged that the increased resource and focus in this area will contribute significantly to its reduction.

The SMEs will be required to perform sufficient screening, coding and input of eligible research studies to ensure the recommendations made for the future development are robust and evidence based.

Stage 1 Deliverables

Deliverable	Product
Screen additional research studies in the backlog of GPD cases (estimated coverage 2012 – 2014)	Addition of 200 – 400 studies to GPD
Identify the user requirements for a cloud based Graphical User Interface (GUI)	User requirement paper
Identify solutions for realising the user requirements	Solutions paper
Develop user specification for global inputter role	System operating document (SyOps)
Develop a training course for global inputter role	Training course guide
Develop a test strategy	UAT and Functional test scripts
Make recommendations for the cost of implementation of the new functionality. Identify opportunities for joint funding.	Cost forecast paper

The GPD is hosted on the College of Policing's website thus giving access to the Database to all police agencies and Police Crime Commissioners in the UK. The GPD actively supports the work of the What Works Centre for Crime Reduction and contributes to one of the College's five key objectives – to identify, develop and promote practice based on evidence'. The GPD provides scientific evidence on the relative effectiveness of different approaches to improve existing policy and practice. It increases the accessibility of high quality research evidence for use by researchers and policing agencies and enhances professional development.

CI: Chief Investigator
PI: Partner Investigator