

## REQUEST FOR DMPC DECISION – PCD 329

### Title: London Child House – Lease and Refurbishment

#### Executive Summary:

MOPAC and NHS England (London Region) have secured funding from the Home Office and the Department for Education, alongside match funding from MOPAC and NHS England (London Region), to pilot the Child House model for victims of child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation in North Central London. This Decision sets out spend in relation to the refurbishment and lease of a building to be used for the Child House pilot.

#### Recommendation:

The DMPC is asked to:

- Approve a lease in MOPAC's name for the Child House located in Camden to the value of circa £250,000 p.a. plus associated service charges and rates for the two-year duration of the Child House pilot.
- Approve a licence between MOPAC and the lead provider for the Child House service which binds them into a contract with MOPAC to comply with the conditions of the lease.
- Approve that MPS Property Services take on oversight of the lease, ensuring that the service provider is meeting their licence obligations and that MOPAC is meeting the obligation to them to ensure that the premises are compliant.
- Approve up to £1.5m spend for a contractor to refurbish the Child House site across 2017/18 and 2018/19 through the MPS building contractor framework.

#### 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

Suzie Wenden .

Date

28/2/18 .

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

### **Decision required – supporting report**

#### **1. Introduction and background**

- 1.1. MOPAC and NHS England (London Region) have secured funding from the Home Office and the Department for Education (DfE) to pilot the 'Child House' model in London, a first for the UK. Both MOPAC and NHSE (London Region) will also be contributing funding for the pilot. This is also a commitment within the Police and Crime Plan 2017- 2021.
- 1.2. It is estimated that 1 in 20 children in the UK are victims of sexual abuse. Abuse can derail a child's development and can have serious physical and psychological impacts. The trauma of abuse can be made worse if a child has to undergo assessments and interviews in multiple, adult settings. But with timely, co-ordinated support children and young people can get back on track and can give their best evidence to help bring perpetrators to justice.
- 1.3. The London Child House will be based on a model of international best practice, bringing together medical, investigative and therapeutic services 'under one roof', alongside support for child victims to progress more rapidly through the criminal justice and court process. It will provide support to children and young people who have been sexually abused or exploited, as well as providing support to their families or carers.
- 1.4. The Child House will be located in Camden and serve the North Central sector in London providing services to children and young people who reside in five London boroughs (Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington). It is expected that the Child House will support approximately 700 children and young people in North Central London per year. The Child House will open in 2018 and run as a pilot for two years.

#### **2. Issues for consideration**

- 2.1. The Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) for the Child House programme is the Chief Executive of MOPAC, who chairs a multi-agency monthly programme board which includes MOPAC, NHS England (London Region) and Home Office representation amongst other key partners.
- 2.2. The programme comprises of a number of different workstreams including estates, IT, service design and commissioning, evaluation and communication. Ahead of the service going live in 2018/19, a number of elements for the estates workstream require authorisation to facilitate the implementation and mobilisation of the service.
- 2.3. A property has been sourced in Camden that will host the Child House for the duration of the pilot. The Child House will have shared use of the building. There will be a shared ground floor and then two floors dedicated to the Child House.
- 2.4. MOPAC will hold the lease for the property. The lease will last a total of two years only, at which point this will revert back to the building owner or transfer to a named service provider should the Child House continue beyond the pilot.
- 2.5. MOPAC will not be in occupation of the building, but rather the Child House service led by an NHS Healthcare Trust. The lead provider for the Child House service will sign a licence which binds them into a contract with MOPAC to comply with the conditions of the lease. The MPS Property Services will take on oversight of the lease, including ensuring that the service provider is meeting their

licence obligations and that MOPAC is meeting the obligation to them to ensure that the premises are compliant.

- 2.6. Given the unique and innovative nature of the pilot, the Child House site will be refurbished to accommodate the range of services that will be conducted in the building. These include medical examinations, counselling and therapy as well as the Achieving Best Evidence Interview and links to court. Children and Young People as well as their families or carers will spend up to two years at the site in receipt of the Child House services. As such, the look and feel of the Child House is incredibly important and should provide a welcoming environment. The refurbishment designs have been produced in consultation with practitioners, children, young people and adult survivors.
- 2.7. We will appoint a contractor (via the MPS building contractor framework) to refurbish the building to the specification required for the Child House.

### **3. Financial Comments**

- 3.1. The cost of the lease will be circa £250,000 p.a. (subject to the final demised area at the completion of the works) plus associated service charges and rates for the two-year duration of the Child House pilot.
- 3.2. The cost of refurbishing the building will be up to £1.5m across 2017/18 and 2018/19. Procurement has taken place through the pre-approved MPS building contractor framework. The procurement has been managed jointly by the MPS and Atkins. The contract will be awarded to lowest bidder meeting all the requirements of the refurbishment specification.
- 3.3. MOPAC will be liable for no more than £50,000 reinstatement works payable to the building owner should the pilot not continue.
- 3.4. The lease and refurbishment costs will be fully met by the programme funding. The funding amounts and profile for the Child House pilot is as follows:

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Home Office Funding	£970,869	£3,034,861	£0	£4,005,730
MOPAC	£134,537	£134,537	£980,926	£1,250,000
NHSE (London)	£250,000	£250,000	£1,230,000	£1,730,000
Department for Education	£64,500	£265,000	£225,000	£554,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,419,906</b>	<b>£3,684,398</b>	<b>£2,435,926</b>	<b>£7,540,230</b>

- 3.5. Home Office funding will be released every six months following completion of a return, to evidence delivery and spend. The DfE funding will be released every three months following completion of a return, to evidence delivery and spend.
- 3.6. DMPC Decision “London Child House” – PCD 324 (2018) has previously approved the overall programme spend to deliver the Child House model in London, comprising of funding from the Home Office, Department for Education, NHS England (London Region) and MOPAC; and as specified in Grants from the Home Office and Department for Education.
- 3.7. DMPC Decision “Integrated Victim and Witness Services Resource Plan 2017-2020” – PCD 174 (2017) has previously approved the MOPAC funding contribution to the Child House pilot.
- 3.8. As a large programme, MOPAC will monitor spend closely in consultation with all funding partners and in particular the Home Office as the majority funder.

3.9. The funding profile matches the programme budget to ensure the two year pilot is fully funded.

#### **4. Legal Comments**

4.1. MOPAC's general powers are set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). Section 3(6) of the 2011 Act provides that MOPAC must "secure the maintenance of the metropolitan police service and secure that the metropolitan police service is efficient and effective." Under Schedule 3, paragraph 7 MOPAC has wide incidental powers to "do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of the Office." Paragraph 7(2) (a) provides that this includes entering into contracts and other agreements.

4.2. MOPAC has the power to acquire and dispose of properties (including land) under paragraph 7 (2) (b) of Schedule 3 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act). The acquisition of the head lease constitutes the acquisition of an interest in property and is within MOPAC's powers under the Act.

4.3. MOPAC has statutory duties to hold the MPS Commissioner to account for the exercise of child safeguarding duties under sections 10 and 11 of the Children Act 2004 as well as to discharge its own functions having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, as outlined in the same legislation. Keeping children and young people safe is core priority within the Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021. Child safeguarding runs through almost every strand of MOPAC's work and we will continue to provide strategic oversight of the MPS's work in this area and to work with agencies across London to ensure that we do everything we can to protect children in the capital.

4.4. Under MOPAC's Scheme of Delegation, approval of business cases for revenue or capital expenditure of £500,000 and above is a matter generally reserved to the DMPC (paragraph 4.8). The release of funding in accordance with the proposals set out in this decision form is accordingly to be approved by the DMPC. The delegation of responsibility for the finalisation of planning and contractual arrangements, including relevant terms and the signing of agreements, to the Chief Executive is in accordance with the general power of delegation in section 5.

#### **5. Equality Comments**

5.1. 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.

5.2. The service will enable a more tailored approach and greater level of accessibility to services for victims of child sexual abuse and exploitation. Links will be made between the Child House and other MOPAC commissioned services such as the Children and Young Person's Havens, to ensure that victims are well supported and referred into the most appropriate services.

5.3. The Police and Crime Plan 2017-21 Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) takes into account feedback from the public and stakeholders and makes an assessment of its impact on a number of objectives including Crime, Safety and Security, Equality and Inclusion and Social Integration. The Impact Assessment shows that young people are disproportionately impacted by crime as victims.

5.4. Responding to the needs of young victims of crime, particularly for the most appalling cases such as child sexual abuse, must be seen in a challenging local and national context. The Metropolitan Police

Service (MPS) has carried out nearly 16,000 investigations into child abuse over the past year. Nearly 1,600 children in London have been identified by the MPS as being at risk of sexual exploitation.

- 5.5. This decision supports the provision of services and interventions for this extremely vulnerable group of victims, as well as support for their families and/or carers.

## **6. Background/supporting papers**

- 6.1. This decision should be read in conjunction with DMPC Decision "London Child House" – PCD 324 (2018).
- 6.2. This decision supersedes the previous DMPC Decision "Home Office Innovation Fund – Child House" – PCD 39 (2016).
- 6.3. DMPC Decision "Integrated Victim and Witness Services Resource Plan 2017-2020" – PCD 174 (2017).

**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**

		<i>Tick to confirm statement (✓)</i>
<b>Head of Unit:</b> The Acting Director of the Criminal Justice and Commissioning Directorate has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the MOPAC's plans and priorities.		✓
<b>Legal Advice:</b> Legal advice is not required.		✓
<b>Financial Advice:</b> The Strategic Finance and Resource Management Team has been consulted on this proposal.		✓
<b>Equalities Advice:</b> Equality and diversity issues are covered in the body of the report.		✓

**OFFICER APPROVAL****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**

R. Lawrence

**Date** 27/2/18