

DMPC Decision – PCD 753

Title: Grant funding for the National Policing Data Communications Group Futures Group

Executive Summary:

The Metropolitan Police Service has received grant funding from the Home Office (HO) for the National Policing Data Communications Group Futures Group since 2007.

This funding has previously been formalised under an umbrella grant agreement between the HO and MOPAC for the Communications Capabilities Development Programme (CCD).

However, in 2018 the HO and the MOPAC signed a separate grant agreement covering the funding of the CD Delivery and National Communications Delivery Service, which expires on 31 March 2020, and HO have now issued a new grant agreement to formalise the funding of the DCG Futures Group for the next financial year.

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is asked to approve the continuation of HO grant funding for the National Policing Data Communications Group Futures Group.

Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to approve the continuation of £1,018,000 of grant funding from the Home Office for the National Policing Data Communications Group Futures Group for the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

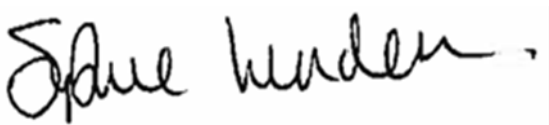
Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

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 21/4/20



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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The National Policing Data Communications Group (DCG) Futures Group is a sub-group of the National Policing DCG. The group was formed to address the challenges that an increasingly sophisticated and ever-changing communications environment poses for the National Law Enforcement community. The group is concerned with an improved understanding of existing technologies and exploring the impact of new technology and services on investigators.
- 1.2. The Home Office (HO) have funded the DCG Futures Group since 2007. This funding was originally formalised under a series of umbrella grant agreements between the HO and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) for the Communications Capabilities Development (CCD) Programme. However, in 2018 the HO and the MOPAC signed a separate grant agreement covering the funding of the CD Delivery and National Communications Delivery Service, which expires on 31 March 2020, and HO have now issued a new grant agreement to formalise the funding of the DCG Futures Group for the next financial year.
- 1.3. The grant of £1,018,000 funds staff and resource costs, maintaining and improving existing capability, new capability, research and development and communications and training.
- 1.4. DCG Futures work with all UK law enforcement and industry partners on new and emerging communications technology. The findings directly result in the development/delivery of tools and products to assist investigators. Training programmes are developed and delivered for first responders through to senior officers and criminal justice partners.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. DCG Futures are leading and supporting a number of national projects, which are scheduled for completion during 2020 / 21. The projects assist across a wide variety of policing roles which directly impact on the prevent, protect and pursue strategy.
- 2.2. The MPS acquires more Communications Data than any other Law Enforcement Agency in the UK. However, the use of Communications Data by Law Enforcement and Public Authorities has undergone significant legal challenges in recent years. The Investigatory Powers Act has transformed how the MPS authorises, acquires, stores and retains Communications Data. New legislation, application forms, authorisation processes, training and CD workflows each bring about new challenges.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. All the cost shown for the DCG Futures Group will be recovered from the HO under a new grant agreement between HO and MOPAC. These costs were previously recovered from the HO under a separate grant agreement, which also covered CD Delivery.
- 3.2. The Home Office have confirmed that grant funding is available for the DCG Futures Group for the next year. There are no financial risks to the MPS.

- 3.3. The DCG Futures Group are an integral part of the new National Communications Data and Legal Interception (CDLI) Partnership. There are plans for the Partnership staff and services to be permanently funded from March 2021 through the HO, who are part of the partnership. The long-term discussions will also explore the physical location of the staff, which subject to agreement would have the futures group remain within the MPS.
- 3.4. A summary of the breakdown of the grant funding of the DCG Futures Group is shown in the table below:-

The funding has been included in the 2020/21 A1A2652 budget.

Category	Amount (£)
Staff/resource costs (4 x police Staff, 1 x Contractor)	373,000
Travel and subsistence	35,000
New capability	130,000
Maintaining and improving existing capability	135,000
Research and development	220,000
Communications and training	125,000
Total	1,018,000

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. These grants will be paid to the MOPAC in exercise of the power conferred upon the Secretary of State for the Home Department under Section 57 of the Police Act 1996. The Secretary of State may provide and maintain, or may contribute to the provision or maintenance of, such organisations, facilities and services as he considers necessary or expedient for promoting the efficiency or effectiveness of the police.
- 4.2. This report seeks MOPAC approval for the continuation of grant funding for DCG Futures
- 4.3. Para 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Consent and Delegation provides the DMPC with delegated powers to accept any offer of grant funding.
- 4.4. The grant agreement will be published under the Elected Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011.

5. GDPR and Data Privacy

- 5.1. A Privacy Impact Screening Questionnaire has been completed for DCG Futures and assessment which has determined that an Information Sharing Agreement is not required.
- 5.2. 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.
- 5.3. 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.

- 5.4. The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the programme project meets its compliance requirements.
- 5.5. As the programme does not use personally identifiable data of members of the public, there are no GDPR issues to be considered.

6. Equality Comments

- 6.1. As this is an extension of an existing service this work does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity. No diversity or equality issues have been raised by the DCG Futures Lead or CDLI Partnership.
- 6.2. DCG training events utilise professional event teams and ensure disability related issues are addressed during registration and at events. The tools and products developed or identified are integrated into Home Office systems where compliance with UK legislation is the responsibility of their programme teams.

7. Background/supporting papers

- 7.1. MPS Report.

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

Tick to confirm statement (✓)

Financial Advice:

The Strategic Finance and Resource Management Team has been consulted on this proposal.

✓

Legal Advice:

Legal advice is not required.

✓

Equalities Advice:

Equality and diversity issues are covered in the body of the report.

✓

Commercial Issues

Commercial issues are not applicable.

✓

GDPR/Data Privacy

- GDPR compliance issues are covered in the body of the report.
- A DPIA is not required.

✓

Director/Head of Service:

The Interim Chief Finance Officer has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the MOPAC's plans and priorities.

✓

Interim 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



Date 20/04/20



MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

Grant funding for the National Policing Data Communications Group Futures Group

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting

Report by Assistant Commissioner, Frontline Policing on behalf of the Chief of Corporate Services

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This funding has previously been formalised under an umbrella grant agreement between the HO and MOPAC for the Communications Capabilities Development Programme (CCD).

However, in 2018 the HO and the MOPAC signed a separate grant agreement covering the funding of the CD Delivery and National Communications Delivery Service, which expires on 31 March 2020, and HO have now issued a new grant agreement to formalise the funding of the DCG Futures Group for the next financial year.

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is asked to approve the continuation of HO grant funding for the National Policing Data Communications Group Futures Group

Recommendations

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

- 1. Approve the continuation of £1,018,000 of grant funding from the Home Office for the National Policing Data Communications Group Futures Group for the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by as soon as possible because the MPS will be incurring expenditure for the funding of the National Policing Data

Communications Group Futures Group from 1st April 2020 and will need to reclaim this money from the Home Office.

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

Introduction and background

National Policing Data Communications Group (DCG) Futures Group

1. The National Policing Data Communications Group (DCG) Futures Group is a sub-group of the National Policing DCG. The group was formed to address the challenges that an increasingly sophisticated and ever-changing communications environment poses for the National Law Enforcement community. The group is concerned with an improved understanding of existing technologies and exploring the impact of new technology and services on investigators.
2. The Home Office (HO) have funded the DCG Futures Group since 2007. This funding was originally formalised under a series of umbrella grant agreements between the HO and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) for the Communications Capabilities Development (CCD) Programme. However, in 2018 the HO and the MOPAC signed a separate grant agreement covering the funding of the CD Delivery and National Communications Delivery Service, which expires on 31 March 2020, and HO have now issued a new grant agreement to formalise the funding of the DCG Futures Group for the next financial year.
3. The grant of **£1,018,000** funds staff and resource costs, maintaining and improving existing capability, new capability, research and development and communications and training.
4. DCG Futures work with all UK law enforcement and industry partners on new and emerging communications technology. The findings directly result in the development/delivery of tools and products to assist investigators. Training programmes are developed and delivered for first responders through to senior officers and criminal justice partners.

Issues for consideration

5. DCG Futures are leading and supporting a number of national projects, which are scheduled for completion during 2020 / 21. The projects assist across a wide variety of policing roles which directly impact on the prevent, protect and pursue strategy.
6. The MPS acquires more Communications Data than any other Law Enforcement Agency in the UK. However, the use of Communications Data by Law Enforcement and Public Authorities has undergone significant legal challenges in recent years. The Investigatory Powers Act has transformed how the MPS authorises, acquires, stores and retains Communications Data. New legislation, application forms, authorisation processes, training and CD workflows each bring

about new challenges.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021¹

7. DCG Futures research and findings are disseminated across UK law enforcement to ensure investigators are aware of the operational risks and opportunities of new and emerging technology. This assists with priorities highlighted in the Police and Crime Plan such as keeping children and young people safe and violent crime against women and girls.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

8. All the cost shown for the DCG Futures Group will be recovered from the HO under a new grant agreement between HO and MOPAC. These costs were previously recovered from the HO under a separate grant agreement, which also covered CD Delivery.
9. The Home Office have confirmed that grant funding is available for the DCG Futures Group for the next year. There are no financial risks to the MPS.
10. The DCG Futures Group are an integral part of the new National Communications Data and Legal Interception (CDLI) Partnership. There are plans for the Partnership staff and services to be permanently funded from March 2021 through the HO, who are part of the partnership. The long-term discussions will also explore the physical location of the staff, which subject to agreement would have the futures group remain within the MPS.
11. A summary of the breakdown of the grant funding of the **DCG Futures Group** is shown in the table below:-

The funding has been included in the 2020/21 A1A2652 budget.

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Communications and training	125,000
Total	1,018,000

Legal Comments

12. These grants will be paid to the MOPAC in exercise of the power conferred upon

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

the Secretary of State for the Home Department under Section 57 of the Police Act 1996. The Secretary of State may provide and maintain, or may contribute to the provision or maintenance of, such organisations, facilities and services as he considers necessary or expedient for promoting the efficiency or effectiveness of the police.

13. This report seeks MOPAC approval for the continuation of grant funding for DCG Futures
14. Para 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Consent and Delegation provides the DMPC with delegated powers to accept any offer of grant funding.
15. The grant agreement will be published under the Elected Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011.

Equality Comments

16. As this is an extension of an existing service this work does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity. No diversity or equality issues have been raised by the DCG Futures Lead or CDLI Partnership
17. DCG training events utilise professional event teams and ensure disability related issues are addressed during registration and at events. The tools and products we develop or identify are integrated into Home Office systems where compliance with UK legislation is the responsibility of their programme teams.

Privacy Comments

18. A Privacy Impact Screening Questionnaire has been completed for DCG Futures and assessment which has determined that an Information Sharing Agreement is not required.
19. 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.
20. 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.
21. The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the programme project meets its compliance requirements.
22. As the programme does not use personally identifiable data of members of the public, there are no GDPR issues to be considered.

Real Estate Implications

23. There are no real estate implications.

Environmental Implications

24. There are no environmental implications.

Background/supporting papers

25. There are no background papers.

Report author: Andrew Beet Band L - DCG Future Group Lead Specialist Central Crime Directorate 07876478404

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]

There are no sections of the business case, which are unsuitable for publication.