

DMPC Decision – PCD 974

Title Grant Funding Project Dorothy 2020/21

Executive Summary:

This decision seeks approval to accept the grant funding from Bedfordshire Police of £569,000 for 2020/21. The funding will support the development of Project Dorothy a project to enhance the digital capability to tackle high harm vulnerability in the internet including some of the highest harm offenders seeking to commit Child Sexual Abuse. The scale of the threat continues to grow exponentially, and technical innovation is essential to keep pace. Project Dorothy has been instigated to address key technology requirements for the MPS and the national network in support of this work.


Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to approve the acceptance of grant funding totalling £569,000 from Bedfordshire Police to upgrade the MPS Dorothy system that will also provide a suitable platform for the national network.

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 30/3/2021

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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. Project DOROTHY is an innovative technical solution that will assist the deployment of the national online network. It will deliver:
 - secure deployments online through virtualisation
 - transform the security and efficiency of evidential product transfer, in order to significantly improve CJS outcomes
 - increased agility of supervision of online operations, improving oversight and governance.
 - Capture, store and share data internally / externally between supervisor, intelligence, operational teams and the national network.
 - Reduce operating costs
 - Reduce the threat of operational compromise.
- 1.2. This proposal will further support the development of the digital capability to enable the transfer of data efficiently and securely from different operating systems.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. The proposed grant funding will support the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan by addressing priority issues including violence against women and girls and keeping children and young people safe.
- 2.2. Project Dorothy was developed at the instigation of the MPS and a basic system was produced, whereby all costs were accommodated in house.
- 2.3. The funding, which has now been awarded to the MPS, supports the upgrade to the Dorothy system. This allows for increased capability and functionality providing a faster and more efficient service. It creates additional capacity should further expansion of the system be viable.
- 2.4. Since the beginning (2018) Dorothy has been run and supported by the Met Operations 3 (MO3) and will continue to do so in the same manner while being used exclusively by MO3 MPS. Any further expansion to other Law enforcement (LE) will be determined by ongoing support and costs, and does not form part of this application.
- 2.5. The work on the upgrade of the system is nearing completion and this decision recommends the acceptance of grant funding from Bedfordshire Police to meet the costs of the investment.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. This proposal seeks approval to accept £569,000 of Bedfordshire Police grant funding for 2020/21. The grant funding will meet the costs of equipment, cloud computing, testing, software and staffing costs as set out in Appendix 1.

- 3.2. The MPS has assured that any on-going costs associated with acceptance of the grant funding will be met from within the existing MPS resources.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. The legal powers applicable to the acceptance of the Grant will be under Schedule 3, Paragraph 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 which provides that,
“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.
(2) That includes—
entering into contracts and other agreements (whether legally binding or not);”
- 4.2. Paragraph 4.8 of MOPAC’s Scheme of Delegation and Consent requires the approval of the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime to approve the receipt of the grant.

5. GDPR and Data Privacy

- 5.1. MOPAC will adhere to the Data Protection Act (DPA) 2018 and ensure that any organisations who are commissioned to do work with or on behalf of MOPAC are fully compliant with the policy and understand their GDPR responsibilities.
- 5.2. MPS assure that a DPIA has been completed. The project will ensure a privacy by design approach, which will allow the MPS to find and fix problems at the early stages of any project, ensuring compliance with GDPR.

6. Equality Comments

- 6.1. 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.
- 6.2. MPS assure that this is an extension of existing MPS service to the wider law enforcement network and does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity.

7. Background/supporting papers

- Appendix 1a MPS Report NPCC Project Dorothy

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 – Yes

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION

Tick to confirm statement (✓)

Financial Advice:

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

✓

Legal Advice:

The MPS legal team has been consulted on the proposal.

✓

Equalities Advice:

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

✓

GDPR/Data Privacy

GDPR compliance issues are covered in the body of the report

✓

Director/Head of Service:

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

✓

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 23/03/2021



MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

NPCC Project Dorothy

Report by Ann Dubois 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

The Home Office has made a significant investment into forming a national online capability to tackle high harm vulnerability on the internet. This includes some of the highest harm offenders seeking to commit Child Sexual Abuse.

The scale of the threat continues to grow exponentially, and technical innovation is essential to keep pace.

Project Dorothy has been instigated to address key technology requirements for the MPS and the National network in support of this work.

Recommendations

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, is asked to:

- 1. Approve the acceptance of Grant funding totalling £569,000 from Bedfordshire Police**
2. Note that there are no further terms and conditions attached to the acceptance of this grant. This upgrade is not a condition to any further action or any further mandatory expansion.

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by (31/03/2021). This is due to the funding being available for this financial year.

The funding is for this year only, to upgrade the MPS system. Dorothy has been designed and implemented within the MPS, but has the potential to become a core system that can meet the needs of all UCOL ROCU's across the country.

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

Project DOROTHY is an innovative technical solution that will assist the deployment of the national online network. It will deliver:

- secure deployments online through virtualisation
- transform the security and efficiency of evidential product transfer, in order to significantly improve CJS outcomes
- increased agility of supervision of online operations, improving oversight and governance.
- Capture, store and share data internally / externally between supervisor, intelligence, operational teams and the national network.
- Reduce operating costs
- Reduce the threat of operational compromise.

Introduction and background

Project Dorothy was developed at the instigation of the MPS and a basic system was produced, whereby all costs were accommodated in house.

The funding, which has now been awarded to the MPS, supports the upgrade to the Dorothy system. This allows for increased capability and functionality providing a faster and more efficient service. It creates additional capacity should further expansion of the system be viable.

Since the beginning (2018) Dorothy has been run and supported by the Met Operations 3 (MO3) and will continue to do so in the same manner while being used exclusively by MO3 MPS.

Any further expansion to other Law enforcement (LE) will be determined by ongoing support and costs, and does not form part of this application.

Issues for consideration

Please see Part 2- BJP

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021¹

This directly links in with the police and crime plan addressing priority issues including violence against women and girls and keeping children and young people safe.

Project Dorothy supports long standing proactive investigations online including child sexual abuse. Since February 2020 – January 2021 these investigations have resulted in the dissemination of 180 evidential / intelligence packs via the national ROCU and POLIT networks, the arrest of 114 suspects and the safeguarding of 99 children

The work carried out has led to the identification of ‘contact offenders’ who were committing child sexual offences against the most vulnerable persons/ children in their care. On several occasions the circumstances of this abuse is such that it would have gone undiscovered for many years.

MPS STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Safety

Strategic outcome: A safer city for everyone

Corporate objectives: Local & Specialist investigations

Key activities;

An effective response – to police online areas in the clear and dark web and gather evidence and intelligence for successful prosecution

Improving outcomes - Mitigate the impact of online criminality by identifying and removing safe spaces for criminals to operate online

Focus

Strategic outcome: Keeping children and young people safe

Corporate objectives: To improve the quality of our response in the MPS and nationally to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and organised crime

Key activities;

Understand and respond to public priorities, including keeping children and young people safe and tackling violence.

Value for money

Strategic outcome: Transformed, Modern and Efficient MET

Corporate objective: To drive further efficiencies and savings

Key activities:

Provide flexible, good-value technology for covert policing

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

Summary of costs

The development and upgrade of the system has incurred costs in the following areas;

Police/ staff pay	£75,000 staffing hours including overtime
*Equipment / software / licences	£300,000
(including some equipment supplied to national network - please see part 2 for further details)	
Central Material Costs	£ 24,000
Cloud Computing	£100,000
Penetration Testing	£ 30,000
Security software and ISO standards	£ 40,000
Totals	£569,000

Legal Comments

1. The legal powers applicable to the acceptance of the Grant will be under Schedule 3, Paragraph 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 which provides that,
 - 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.
 - (2) That includes—
 - (a) entering into contracts and other agreements (whether legally binding or not);
2. This request for approval is consistent with Paragraph 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Consent and Delegation which provides the DMPC with delegated power to approve all offers made of grant funding

Equality Comments

1. There are no equality or diversity issues identified, this is an extension of an existing MPS service to the wider law enforcement (LE) network and this work does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity'.

Privacy Comments

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the project meets its compliance requirements.
4. A DPIA has been completed for project Dorothy. This currently sits with the Directorate of Legal Service/ Information Sharing Support Unit (ISSU) for approval. The project will ensure a privacy by design approach, which will allow the MPS to find and fix problems at the early stages of any project, ensuring compliance with GDPR. DPIAs support the accountability principle, as they will ensure the MPS complies with the requirements of GDPR and they demonstrate that appropriate measures have been taken to ensure compliance.

Real Estate Implications

1. Project Dorothy has the potential to reduce the real estate requirement previously required for this activity as it allows for and formalises remote working whilst assuring the correct level of security.

Environmental Implications

1. Project Dorothy has the potential to contribute to delivering the Mayor's London Environment Strategy as it is designed to transfer sensitive digital material/data without the requirement of having to physically travel around London and the rest of the country therefore helping to reduce congestion, traffic noise, improve air quality and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Background/supporting papers

Please see part 2 - BJP

Report author: Ann Dubois, Detective Inspector MO3

Part 2 – This section refers to the details of the Part 2 business case which is NOT SUITABLE for MOPAC Publication.

Please see the attached BJP

The Government Security Classification marking for Part 2 is:
OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Part 2 of Project Dorothy is exempt from publication for the following reasons:

- Article 2(2)(a) of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011
- FoIA - Section 43 – Commercial Interests
- FoIA – section 30 – Investigations and proceeding conducted by public authorities
- FoIA – Section 31 – Law enforcement

The paper will cease to be exempt from 6 years after the completion of the project. Any request for information under FoIA after this time would need to be assessed on a case by case basis, no matter what or when the original decision was made, as the circumstances may have changed eg information no longer commercially sensitive.