

DMPC Decision – PCD 911**Title: Grant Funding Acceptance – Pilot for Multi Agency Response to Drug Trafficking****Executive Summary:**

This paper requests the acceptance of £135,000 grant funding from the Home Office to enable a closer examination of the individuals who facilitate the 'middle market' between drug importers in the UK, violent gang members and those involved in the establishment and control of County Lines drug dealing. The funding is available until 31 March 2021. The funding will be used to fund overtime for police officers and law enforcement agents in order to give them the capacity to conduct fuller enquiries against subjects concerned in the 'middle market' of drugs.

Recommendation:

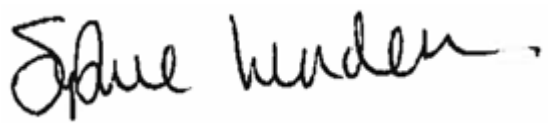
The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to:

1. Approve the acceptance of £135,000 of Serious Organised Crime SOC Grant funding to support additional police officer overtime, and via cross charging to other Law Enforcement in other forces or agencies, through the provision of overtime, and will be requested and tasked by the MPS Detective Inspector (DI) who controls the funds.

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****1/2/2021**

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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. This paper seeks the authority to accept Home Office funding to enable the closer examination of the individuals who facilitate the 'middle market' between drug importers in the UK, violent gang members and those involved in the establishment and control of County Lines drug dealing.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. The grant will be used to fund overtime for police officers and law enforcement agents in order to give them the capacity to conduct fuller enquiries against subjects concerned in the 'middle market' of drugs.
- 2.2. The MPS state that the acceptance of the grant contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan priorities as the pilot will develop the national and London SOC threat picture and, in doing so, enable better informed and more effective policing responses to the individuals and groups causing the greatest amount of harm. In addition, the pilot will give greater collective agility to capitalise on intelligence opportunities and dividends. This pilot will also help lever greater support from the National SOC capabilities to better mitigate priority threats in London. This includes targeting organised crime groups engaged in serious violence and criminally exploiting children through their recruitment in County Lines.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. The proposal is for the acceptance of grant funding of £135,000 for 2020/21.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. The grant is accepted 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);
- 4.2. Paragraph 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation and Consent provides that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) has delegated authority to approve all bids for grant funding.

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. The MPS state that “The project does not use currently personally identifiable data of members of the public, beyond that used in standard investigation, so there are no current GDPR issues to be considered. The screening questions for a DPIA have been completed, and this project does not trigger a DPIA.”

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. The MPS state that they have reviewed the proposal for an Equality Impact Assessment and has determined that it does “ not trigger any adverse impact as there are believed to be no apparent changes to the existing process in the roleholders duties that would demonstrate otherwise and that the grant would be used to increase capacity of that already existing function”
- 6.3. At the end of the project, the results will be reviewed and analysed to determine the extent of any positive or negative impacts on any particular community.

7. Background/supporting papers

- Appendix 1 MPS Report Grant Funding for Piloting an Enhanced Multi-Agency Response to Drug Trafficking

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:

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 interim Chief Finance Officer 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 20/01/2021



MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

Piloting an Enhanced Multi-Agency Response to Drug Trafficking

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting 15 January 2021

Report by DI Robin Peel 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 Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) has been offered grant funding from the Home Office (HO) to enable a closer examination of the individuals who facilitate the 'middle market' between drug importers in the UK, violent gang members and those involved in the establishment and control of County Lines drug dealing.

This funding is further intended as a pilot to test the contention that with additional capacity policing can make a significant contribution to tackling upstream drug supply, complementing and enhancing the work of the NCA.

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is asked to approve this funding by the HO for the period to 31/03/2021.

Recommendations

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

1. **MOPAC to approve the acceptance of £135,000 of SOC Grant funding to support additional police officer overtime, and via cross charging to other Law Enforcement in other forces or agencies, through the provision of overtime, and will be requested and tasked by the MPS Detective Inspector (DI) who controls the funds.**

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor as soon as practicable. This is because the funding is only available for a limited time (the current financial year) and must be spent before 31st March 2021.

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

Introduction and background

1. The MPS has undergone an extensive change program over the past decade,

rightly refocussing efforts to ensure that the service is able to support local policing and targeting the highest harm offenders in order to keep Londoners safe.

2. In order to target the highest harm offenders, a risk assessment process has been put in place, using the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) risk assessment scoring system. Investigating teams are kept focussed on the highest harm jobs, and are restricted from developing lower-scoring work.
3. This has ensured that efforts remain focussed on high harm individuals, but occasionally leaves 'gaps' in intelligence pictures which may represent key individuals who act as facilitators.
4. Targeting these individuals may allow us to significantly disrupt organised crime networks. However because they are not, directly, high contributors of harm they will not attract a sufficiently high score for further investigation.
5. This pattern is also apparent in other police services and law enforcement Agencies.
6. Where a potential disruption opportunity emerges, it is difficult to direct resource against it if the need to prioritise it is not derived from the traditional indicators of risk from the MoRiLE risk assessment chart.
7. This pilot would test the ability of extra funding to assist the police and other UK law enforcement agencies to temporarily focus on an emerging problem, to allow them to either disrupt it, or do sufficient investigation to determine that it has elements which would contribute to a sufficiently significant MoRiLE score.

Issues for consideration

8. This information is contained in the restricted section of the report.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021¹

9. This pilot will develop the national and London SOC threat picture and, in doing so, enable better informed and more effective policing responses to the individuals and groups causing the greatest amount of harm. This pilot will help develop capacity towards potentially hidden threats through improved focus and coordination. It will give greater collective agility to capitalise on intelligence opportunities and dividends. This pilot will also help lever greater support from the National SOC capabilities to better mitigate priority threats in London. This includes targeting organised crime groups engaged in serious violence and criminally exploiting children through their recruitment in County Lines.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

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

10. There are no costs to MOPAC or the MPS. The pilot is a £135,000 grant offered by the HO which will be formalised through the completion of a Grant Agreement, as supplied by the Home Office and will require the signatures of both the Project Manager and MOPAC Chief Finance Officer.
11. The grant is designed to fund overtime for police officers and law enforcement agents in order to give them the capacity to conduct fuller enquiries against subjects concerned in the 'middle market' of drugs. Further details of the specifics are in section 2, but the budget is deliberately flexible to allow for a number of different overtime expenditure configurations. The tasking and expenditure from the budget will be allocated by the controlling DI.
12. There is nothing to procure for this project, nor should there be any other commercial implications.

Legal Comments

1. This Grant may be accepted by MOPAC under Schedule 3, paragraph 7 (1) Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) where MOPAC has 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. We consider that these powers are sufficiently broad to permit MOPAC to enter into the grant agreement.
2. This grant will be paid to MOPAC in exercise of the power conferred upon the Secretary of State for the Home Department. The legislative act used is derived from the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) Serious Organised Crime (SOC) programme, and is catered for in **International Development Act 2002, Section 1**
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. The grant agreement will be published pursuant to The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) (Amendment) Order 2012.

Equality Comments

13. As this is an extension of an existing service this work does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity. An Equality Impact Assessment Form has been reviewed by the Crime Prevention, Inclusion & Engagement Team (CPIE), and has concluded that the activity has no impact requiring an EIA, the rationale being:
 - The function already exists and the roleholder already in post.

- The specific funding request does not trigger any adverse impact as there are believed to be no apparent changes to the existing process in the roleholders duties that would demonstrate otherwise and that the grant would be used to increase capacity of that already existing function.

14. Further information is contained in the restricted section of the report.

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 project meets its compliance requirements.

18. The project does not use currently personally identifiable data of members of the public, beyond that used in standard investigation, so there are no current GDPR issues to be considered. The screening questions for a DPIA have been completed, and this project does not trigger a DPIA.

19. Further information is contained in the restricted section of the report.

Real Estate Implications

20. There are no real estate implications.

Environmental Implications

21. There are no environmental implications.

Background/supporting papers

22. Further information is contained in the restricted section of the report.

Report author: DI Robin PEEL 0018763856700

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 [ORGANISATIONAL]

Part 2 of “Piloting an Enhanced Multi-Agency Response to Drug Trafficking” is exempt from publication for the following reasons:

- Data Protection Section 40, to be reviewed in June 2026.