

**DMPC Decision – PCD 1092**

**Title:** Home Office Grant Funding - Roads Policing Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) 2021/22

**Executive Summary:**

This paper seeks approval for the acceptance of £1,360,000 of Home Office (HO) grant funding for Roads Policing Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) function in support of Operation Orochi and County Lines activity. The funding is time limited to be spent within 2021/22. The funding will be used in the main for officer pay and overtime, equipment and training.

**Recommendation:**

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to:

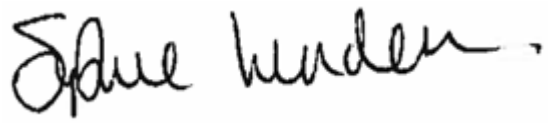
1. Approve acceptance of the Home Office funding grant of £1,360,000 to enhance the MPS Road Policing (ANPR) response to County Lines and Violence & undertake a range of activities to combat Violence and Exploitation associated with County Lines drugs supply.

**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 10/12/2021**

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

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

- 1.1. MOPAC approved receipt of Home Office grant funding of £6.6m for 2021/22 for the continuance of the then existing Operation Orochi County Lines activity in June 2021 [PCD990].
- 1.2. The Home Office has now identified additional funding of £1.36m for investment in Roads Policing Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) activity in support of Operation Orochi and County Lines.

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

- 2.1. The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) states that accepting this grant funding contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021 as the intelligence & operational delivery stemming from enhanced ANPR capability will directly support the MPS capability to tackle serious youth violence linked to urban street gangs and Organised Crime Groups, impacting upon our London Communities.
- 2.2. The grant will be used to fund 2 police officer posts and 2 police staff (ANPR engineer) posts within Met Intelligence, the purchase of additional ANPR camera equipment (both static and fixed deployable), mobile car-kits, training/courses & equipment and fund overtime to for existing teams to act upon additional intelligence generated.
- 2.3. In addition to this £1.36m grant funding the Home Office has also allocated a further £4.7m funding to the wider Operation Orochi function in support of County Lines activity. This £4.7m will provide the capacity for elements of the work funded by this £1.36m grant to be continued into 2022/23.

### **3. Financial Comments**

- 3.1. The acceptance of the HO funding of £1,360,000 does not require any match funding by MOPAC.
- 3.2. If HO funding for this stream of work is not available after 31 March 2022 the posts created will be funded by the £4.7m wider Operation Orochi grant. None of the other proposed spend will create any significant liability. County Lines remains referenced in all recent communications as a key pillar of the UK's drug strategy and future investment.
- 3.3. The Met have assured that the acquisition of equipment is by way of existing compliant procurement procedures.

### **4. Legal Comments**

- 4.1. Under Schedule 3, paragraph 7 (1) Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) 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. The Met assure that these powers are sufficiently broad to permit MOPAC to enter into the grant agreement.

- 4.2. Para 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Consent and Delegation provides the DMPC with delegated power to approve all offers made of 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. Operational deployment of ANPR cameras in support of this project will be subject to the existing DPIA and Community impact assessments to ensure compliance with the DPA 2018 the ICO and Camera Surveillance guidelines.

## **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 Met assure that following an equality screening no positive or negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and those who are not.

## **7. Background/supporting papers**

- Appendix 1 MPS Paper Road Policing/ANPR - Serious Violence & County Lines (£1.36m Grant)

**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.

✓

**Drafting Officer**

Alex Anderson has drafted this report in accordance with MOPAC procedures.

✓

**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 9/12/2021**



MAYOR OF LONDON  
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

## **Road Policing/ANPR - Serious Violence & County Lines (£1.36m Grant)**

### **MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting – Extremis Submission**

**Report by Det. Supt. Rick SEWART 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 purpose of this document is to seek approval to draw down funding of £1.36m from a Home Office Grant to enhance the MPS Road Policing Response (ANPR) to County Lines and Serious Violence for FY 21/22.

The grant will be utilised to fund an additional two police constables and two police staff (ANPR engineers) to establish a dedicated County Lines cell within MO2 ANPR Unit, serviced by existing operational teams across Operation Orochi, Violent Crime Taskforce, Specialist Crime and BCUs. The grant will be utilized to fund overtime for these existing teams to act upon additional intelligence generated. Notably, the grant expires on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and has been authorized very late in the FY (Oct 21). Therefore, the additional four posts (two officers and two staff) outlined above are catered for in a separate submission pursuant to a £4.7m unconditional grant to enhance County Lines which spans the two financial years 21/22 and 22/23. This will mean the posts can exist until 31 March 2023 minimum, pending further Home Office funding.

In addition to staffing, the grant will be utilized to significantly augment the MPS ANPR capability to tackle County Lines and Serious Violence through purchase of additional ANPR camera equipment, both static/fixed deployable both within the MPS and within County Line Hotspots, and mobile car-kits for use by the operational teams. Additional training/courses & equipment will be purchased to uplift operational teams' capabilities across SC, VCTF and BCU including Drugs Expert Witness, XRY, CSAS.

The core aims are:

1. To reduce serious violence associated with County Line Drug Supply
2. To bring offenders to justice for violence, drug supply and exploitation offences
3. To safeguard vulnerable people at risk of exploitation via County Lines

### **Recommendations**

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

- Acceptance of the Home Office funding grant of £1.36m to enhance the MPS Road Policing (ANPR) response to County Lines and Violence & undertake a range of activities to combat Violence and Exploitation associated with County Lines drugs supply.

### **Time sensitivity**

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by 06/12/2021. This is because the operational delivery needs to start as soon as practicable to ensure desired outcomes are reached.

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

### **Introduction and background**

County Lines is a drug supply business model, predominately of Class A, and is an industry believed to be worth in excess of £800m UK wide. This in turn stimulates the activity within the middle market drugs supply linked to organised crime.

The scale of the current complex threat posed by county lines in relation to the exploitation of children and other vulnerable persons to facilitate drug dealing is extensive and affects every police force area.

The NCA and National County Lines Co-Ordination Centre 2019 assessments provide evidence that London is the biggest exporter of county lines, with 50% of all lines with a known origin coming from the MPS.

### **Issues for consideration**

- This funding is in addition to a £6.6m Home Office Grant approved for FY 21/22, and a further £4.7m Unconditional Home Office Grant (pending approval in concert with this present submission).
- The scale of the current complex threat posed by county lines in relation to the exploitation of children and other vulnerable persons to facilitate drug dealing is extensive and affects every ROCU area and police force area.
- The exploitation of children and vulnerable people is a fundamental factor in how the business model works. An increase in serious violence linked to young persons and the drugs market has been noted across the country and the increase is significantly impacted by the county lines 'business model'.
- This grant funding is to enhance the MPS Road Policing ANPR capability to tackle violent offenders, urban street gangs and Organised Crime Groups utilizing the UK Road Network to export weapons, drugs and human-beings from London to Counties to facilitate the unlawful supply of Class A drugs via County Lines.

### **Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021<sup>1</sup>**

The intelligence & operational delivery stemming from enhanced ANPR capability will directly support the MPS capability to tackle serious youth violence linked to urban street gangs and Organised Crime Groups, impacting upon our London Communities.

### **Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments**

Uplifting the MPS County Lines ANPR Capability is a key pillar of the Home Office and MPS strategy to disrupt County Lines. This will be achieved through funding of 2 police officer posts and 2 police staff (ANPR engineer) posts within MO2 Met Intelligence. This supports continuance of this capability, which will initially be created/established utilising the £1.36m Road Policing Grant, but then funded via the Op Orochi £4.7m Grant from 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023 (as the £1.36m Grant ends on 31st March 22). All the proposed costs are met by the grant and any future liabilities arising from the spend is funded. The acquisition of equipment and fleet is by way of existing compliant procurement procedures.

### **Legal Comments**

No significant legal issues have been identified but will be kept under review.

This grant will be paid to MOPAC by the Home Office in the exercise of power conferred upon the Secretary of State pursuant to section 169 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 and section 48 of the Police Act 1996 to make awards of grant funding.

The proposed acceptance by MOPAC of the grant funding is permitted under Schedule 3, Paragraph 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

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 made and all offers made of grant funding.

### **Equality Comments**

This business case has undergone an initial equality screening. Due regard has been taken to the Equality Act's Public Sector Equality Duty. Real consideration has been taken to assess equality impact caused by the proposed business changes. As a result no positive or negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and those who are not.

### **Privacy Comments**

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.

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.

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

---

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

compliance. This will remain under constant review and any new activity within Operation Orochi will be considered against the DPIA principles.

Operational deployment of ANPR cameras in support of this project will be subject to the existing DPIA and Community impact assessments to ensure compliance with the DPA 2018 the ICO and Camera Surveillance guidelines.

### **Real Estate Implications**

The uplift in staffing has been acknowledged by Property Services, Shared Support Services & Met Transformation who are working with Specialist Crime and Central Specialist Crime Chief Officers regarding the ongoing & future SC/CSC Estates Strategy. In the short term it has been agreed that any estates pressures can be managed locally at SC Hubs by implementation of blended working agreements in accordance with the MPS Estates Strategy.

### **Environmental Implications**

There are no additional Environmental implications in relation to this operational PIB.

### **Background/supporting papers**

Enclosed with submission.

Report author: **Det. Supt Rick SEWART**

### **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 [OPERATIONAL]

Part 2 of MPS County Lines – Operation Orochi is exempt from publication for the following reasons:

- Contains police tactics and other issues for consideration of an operational nature that if published would hinder the criminal justice process and effectiveness of the unit.

Part 2 will be exempt from the Freedom of Information Act under;

Sec 31 Law enforcement

(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice:

- (a) the prevention or detection of crime,
- (b) the apprehension or prosecution of offenders,
- (c) the administration of justice.

Part 2 will be reviewed on 06/12/2022 with a view to consideration regarding publication. For the reasons outlined above, publication is not currently appropriate.