

DMPC Decision – PCD 660**Title: Provision Of Veterinary Care For Operational Police Dogs****Executive Summary:**

This paper is for the authority to extend the value of the current Police Dog Veterinary Contract to provide care for operational Police dogs until 31 May 2020 and to approve the initiation of a new procurement exercise for future veterinary care from 1 June 2020 for a period of up to four years.

Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended:

1. Approve an unforeseen extension to the value of £0.32m to ensure service continuation for the provision of Veterinary care for Police Dogs until 31 May 2020. The increased value of £0.32m will be funded from the Dogs revenue budget.
2. Approve the initiation of a new procurement exercise for Police Dog Veterinary Care from 1 June 2020 for a period of up to four years with a contract value of up to £1.2m.

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

13/11/2019

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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 Veterinary Care for all Police dogs is currently outsourced to a single provider who were awarded a 3 year plus 1 year extension contract with a total value of £0.8m, commencing on 1st June 2017.
- 1.2 The contract value has been reached early ahead of time and no further value remains. This is due to:
- More complex procedures and diagnostics within the industry.
 - An increasing number of dogs within the Dog Support Unit which has led to an inability to reduce the veterinary spend to match the contract value.
 - In addition, the referral expenditure under the contract for specialist procedures are unpredictable because referral costs are dependent on the extent of any subsequent treatment considered necessary to be undertaken and this has added an additional budgetary pressure.
- 1.3 This extension and subsequent approval for initiation will allow for a new procurement exercise to be conducted with a revised requirement to target procedures and medications commonly used to achieve best value through competition.

2. Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 Police Dogs provide a wide range of support to frontline Policing across general purpose and specialist search disciplines. This includes searching for persons or property at the scene of a crime, dogs deployed on public order operations or protecting lives of Officers during firearms operations. Targeting serious and organised crime networks through drugs, firearms and currency detection dogs and supporting forensic recovery with cadaver, blood and semen detection dogs at scenes of violent serious sexual offences. Police dogs are deployed routinely on protective security operations searching for explosives and the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) new digital media detection capability is assisting in the recovery of digital media in the fight against on-line sexual exploitation and high tech cyber-crime offences.
- 2.2 Police dogs are deployed to over 50,000 incidents per year and perform a unique role that cannot be done by other assets.
- 2.3 Part of ensuring the effectiveness of the Dog Support Unit is by ensuring that the animals are properly cared for whilst at work and at rest. The working lives of dogs are dependent on them being physically and mentally fit.
- 2.4 Providing sound veterinary care is not only essential in order to maintain this service it is a legal requirement for the owner (or person with temporary care) of any animal to prevent suffering or cruelty and to comply with good practice guidelines set by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
- 2.5 There are 320 dogs in service across the MPS which includes those in active service, puppies in training and breeding stock who supply the next generation of Police dogs for service. In 2017-2018 the MPS bred 15x litters delivering 85x new dogs for Frontline Policing.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1 The MPS recently used delegated powers to increase the contract value by 10% to £880k in order to meet immediate veterinary payments. This paper seeks an additional £0.32m increase in contract value to meet further costs upto 31st May 2020, bringing the total cost over the 3 year contract period to £1.2m (from the original contract value of £800,000).
- 3.2 The extension will be funded from the revenue budget currently held within Taskforce who will be responsible for managing ongoing expenditure through the Dog Training Establishment.
- 3.3 A new procurement exercise will be initiated at the end of the initial contract term with a new revised requirement which aims to securing best value with improved governance.
- 3.4 The costs of a new framework from 1st June 2020 is expected to be £1.2m million for the length of the contact of 2+1+1. The contract is a framework so will be provided by a number of suppliers.
- 3.5 Due to a desire to have multiple providers, for both capacity and contingency considerations, it is proposed that the new procurement is for a framework agreement which will be for a period of four years.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1 The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) is a contracting authority as defined in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the Regulations). All awards of public of contracts for good and or services valued at £181,302 or above must be procured in accordance with the Regulations. This report confirms the estimated value of the proposed framework agreement will exceed the above threshold. Accordingly, the Regulations will be engaged.
- 4.2 Paragraph 4.13 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation and Consent provides that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has delegated authority to approve all requests to go out to tender for contracts valued at £500,000 or above.
- 4.3 The Public Contract Regulations 2015 allow extension of a contract under Article 72(1) (c) by up to 50%. This would provide a clear compliant route to extend where the increase could not have been foreseen. Modification to the contract would be permitted on the basis that the MPS (as the contracting authority) could not have foreseen the increase in spend where demand has fluctuated causing an increase in expenditure prior to the contract end date.

5. GDPR and Data Privacy

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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.

- 5.3 The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the project meets its compliance requirements.
- 5.4 The project does not use personally identifiable data of members of the public, so it is considered that it is unlikely that there will be any GDPR issues to be considered.

6. Equality Comments

- 6.1 The business case has undergone 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.
- 6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment was last completed in relation to the MPS Policing Guide in relation to "Dogs Coming to Police Notice" which was updated in 2016 following a change in primary and secondary legislation along with the Sentencing Guidelines. As this is an extension of an existing service this work does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity.

7. Background/supporting papers

None.

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

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.

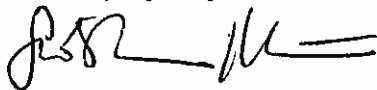
Is there a Part 2 form – YES

Originating Officer Declaration	<i>Tick to confirm statement (✓)</i>
Financial Advice: The Strategic Finance and Resource Management Team has been consulted on this proposal.	✓
Legal Advice: Legal information is contained within this report.	✓
Equalities Advice: Equality and diversity are contained within this report.	✓
GDPR and Data Privacy GDPR compliance issues are covered in the body of the report and the GDPR Data Protection Officer has been consulted on the GDPR issues within this report. A DPIA is not required.	✓
Head of Unit: The CFO 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

13/11/2019





MOPAC

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

PROVISION OF VETERINARY CARE FOR OPERATIONAL POLICE DOGS

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting 24th October 2019

Report by Inspector Patrick OHara 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

This paper is for the authority to extend the value of the current Police Dog Veterinary Contract (SS3/15/73B) to provide for care for operational Police dogs until 31st May 2020 and to approve the initiation of a new procurement exercise for future veterinary care from 1st June 2020 for a period of up to four years.

Recommendations

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

1. ***Approve an unforeseen extension by value only to the value of £320,000 to ensure service continuation for the provision of Veterinary care for Police Dogs (DSU & DTE) until 31st May 2020. The value £320,000 will be used to uplift the contract value against SS3/15/73B (Lot 2) will be funded from the Dogs revenue budget.***
2. ***Approve the initiation of a new procurement exercise for Police Dog Veterinary Care from 1st June 2020 for a period of up to four years (2+2) with a contract value of up to £1,200,000.***

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by 7th November 2019 as the current contract value was exceeded at the end of June 2019 and a separate temporary uplift via an extension of 10% authorised by the Director of Commercial Services will only provide sufficient funding until the end of September 2019.

The additional extension will provide for immediate relief to ensure business continuity until the expiry of the current contract on 31st May 2020 to allow for Commercial Services to initiate a new procurement exercise against a revised requirement from 1st June 2020.

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

Introduction and background

1. Veterinary Care for all Police dogs is currently outsourced to a single provider who were awarded a contract which commenced on 1st June 2017. The contract was for a fixed sum of £800,000 and an initial period of 3x years and subject to an extension for a further 1x year.
2. The contract value has been reached early ahead of time and no further value remains. This is due to an increase demand for canine veterinary care, which was not foreseen through the previous tender activity.
3. Increased demand has come about due to changing circumstances including recent increases in veterinary costs, a need for more complex procedures and diagnostics within the industry as well as an increasing number of dogs within the Dog Support Unit which has led to an inability to reduce the veterinary spend to match the contract value. In addition the referral expenditure under the contract for specialist procedures are unpredictable because referral costs are dependent on the extent of any subsequent treatment considered necessary to be undertaken and this has added an additional budgetary pressure.
4. This paper seeks this approval from the DMPC as the value of the extension is 40% of the of the original contract value which equates to a monetary value of £320,000. An approved uplift of £320,000 will increase the total contract value to £1,200,000 (from the original contract value of £800,000). Furthermore, the approved uplift will support the contract up until 31st May 2020 with an average forecast monthly spend of £33,000 funded from current revenue budgets.
5. This extension and subsequent approval for initiation will allow for a new procurement exercise to be conducted with a revised requirement to target procedures and medications commonly used to achieve best value through competition.

Issues for consideration

1. N/A

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021¹

1. Police Dogs provide a wide range of support to frontline Policing across general purpose and specialist search disciplines. This includes searching for persons or property at the scene of a crime, dogs deployed on public order

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

operations or protecting lives of Officers during firearms operations. Targeting serious and organised crime networks through drugs, firearms and currency detection dogs and supporting forensic recovery at with our cadaver, blood and semen detection dogs at scenes of violent serious sexual offences. Police dogs are deployed routinely on protective security operations searching for explosives and our new digital media detection capability is assisting in the recovery of digital media in the fight against on-line sexual exploitation and high tech cyber-crime offences.

2. Police dogs are deployed to over 50,000 incidents per year and perform a unique role that cannot be done by other assets.
3. Part of ensuring the effectiveness of the Dog Support Unit is by ensuring that the animals are properly cared for whilst at work and at rest. The working lives of dogs are dependent on them being physically and mentally fit.
4. Providing sound veterinary care is not only essential in order to maintain this service it is a legal requirement for the owner (or person with temporary care) of any animal to prevent suffering or cruelty and to comply with good practice guidelines set by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
5. There are 320 dogs in service across the MPS which includes those in active service, puppies in training and breeding stock who supply the next generation of Police dogs for service. In 2017-2018 the MPS bred 15x litters delivering 85x new dogs for Frontline Policing.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

1. Veterinary Care for all Police dogs is currently outsourced to a single provider who were awarded contract which commenced on 1st June 2017. The contract was for a fixed sum of £800,000 and an initial period of 3x years and subject to an extension for a further 1x year.
2. The contract value has been reached early ahead of time and no further value remains. This is due to an increase demand for canine veterinary care, which was not foreseen through the previous tender activity.
3. As an immediate contingency HQ Commercial Services approved an extension (for value only) within their delegated authority of 10% of the original contract value. This variation provided an immediate uplift in contract value of £80,000 which will be used to support ongoing vet payments to the supplier.
4. This paper seeks this approval from the DMPC as the value of the extension is 40% of the of the original contract value which equates to a monetary value of £320,000. An approved uplift of £320,000 will increase the total contract value to £1,200,000 (from the original contract value of £800,000).

5. The extension will be funded from the revenue budget currently held within Taskforce who will be responsible for managing ongoing expenditure through the Dog Training Establishment.
6. A new procurement exercise will be initiated at the end of the initial contract term with a new revised requirement which aims to securing best value with improved governance.
7. The costs of a new framework from 1st June 2020 is expected to be £1.2m million for the length of the contact of 2+1+1. The contract is a framework so will be provided by a number of suppliers.
8. Due to a desire to have multiple providers, for both capacity and contingency considerations, it is proposed that the new procurement is for a framework agreement which will be for a period of four (4) years.

Legal Comments

1. The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) is a contracting authority as defined in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the Regulations). All awards of public of contracts for good and or services valued at £181,302 or above must be procured in accordance with the Regulations. This report confirms the estimated value of the proposed framework agreement will exceed the above threshold. Accordingly, the Regulations will be engaged.
2. Paragraph 4.13 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation and Consent provides that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has delegated authority to approve all requests to go out to tender for contracts valued at £500,000 or above.
3. The Public Contract Regulations 2015 allow extension of a contract under Article 72(1) (c) by up to 50%. This would provide a clear compliant route to extend where the increase could not have been foreseen. Modification to the contract would be permitted on the basis that the MPS (as the contracting authority) could not have foreseen the increase in spend where demand has fluctuated causing an increase in expenditure prior to the contract end date.

Equality Comments

1. This business case has undergone 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.

2. An Equality Impact Assessment was last completed in relation to the MPS Policing Guide in relation to "Dogs Coming to Police Notice" which was updated in 2016 following a change in primary and secondary legislation along with the Sentencing Guidelines. As this is an extension of an existing service 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. The project does not use personally identifiable data of members of the public, so it is considered that it is unlikely that there will be any GDPR issues to be considered.

Real Estate Implications

1. There are no real estate implications to this proposal

Environmental Implications

1. There is no environmental impact to this proposal.

Background/supporting papers

1. N/A



Report author: Patrick OHara / Inspector / Status Dogs & Dog Training / 821189

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]

Part 2 of Police Dog Veterinary Care paper is exempt from publication for the following reasons:

- Exempt under Article 2(2)(a) of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011 (Data Protection Section 43 – Commercial Interests).
- Commercial Interest Section 43
- Legal Professional Privilege Section 42

The paper will cease to be exempt until 1st June 2024 at the end of the contract term.