

DMPC Decision – PCD 726**Title: National County Lines Co-ordination Centre and County Lines Funding for MPS****Executive Summary:**

The Home Office has announced additional spending for police forces and other law enforcement agencies to enhance the way they tackle County Lines criminality. The MPS has been allocated funding as the host force of the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre and separately for work to be carried out by the MPS for London. This decision outlines the two bids and how the money will be used over the time frame from 28 October 2019 to 31 March 2020.

Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is requested to:

1. approve the MPS to accept up to £1.2 million Home Office grant bid funding as the host force and appointed budget holder for national activities relating to the expansion of the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre (NCLCC). The grant funding is for expenditure during the period 28 October 2019 to 31 March 2020.
2. approve the MPS to accept up to £1.15 million Home Office grant bid funding for the MPS to tackle County Lines related threat against London. The grant funding is for expenditure during the period 28 October 2019 to 31 March 2020.
3. approve £570,000 expenditure for the purchase of additional analytical software licenses. The 12-month licenses will enable officers conducting County Lines investigations to access the Communications Data Analysis Tool. This will enable investigators to process more cases with greater accuracy and effectiveness. The full cost will be funded from the MPS £1.15 million Home Office allocation discussed in recommendation (2) above.

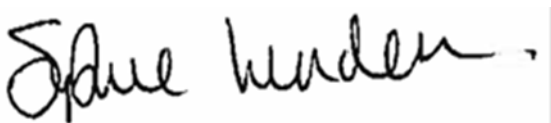
Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

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**

31/3/20



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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The funding and activity described in this paper is as a result of the funding the Home Office have allocated after the Home Secretary's announcement of £20m to combat County Lines was launched.
- 1.2. The National County Lines Co-ordination Centre (NCLCC) is funded by the Home Office and is focused around delivering an accurate analysis of the current threat posed by county lines, producing an effective operational response and developing and disseminating relevant strategy derived from best practice and SME's for national compliance.
- 1.3. The expansion of the NCLCC is reliant on additional funds to enhance output and give additional support for policing and wider law enforcement given the enhanced priority of County Lines in recent time.
- 1.4. The MPS is the largest exporter of County Lines. Additional funds to assist the MPS to tackle County Lines related criminality is linked to the Home Secretary's desire to "roll-up" County Lines with funding that the Home Office have allocated.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. County Lines is a business model used to deal drugs, predominately of Class A and is an industry believed to be worth in excess of £500m.
- 2.2. 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 Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU) area and police force area.
- 2.3. 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".
- 2.4. Since the inception of the NCLCC the understanding of the threat picture around County Lines has increased significantly. Operational activity has also increased and developed but it is a cross border, multi-threat crime methodology and so additional funds for forces and ROCU's to have more of an impact is needed significantly.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. The NCLCC costs are £1.2m for financial year 2019/2020. A break down of costs is in Annex A of the restricted part of the report.
- 3.2. The MPS costs are £1.15m. A breakdown of costs is in Annex B of the restricted part of the report.
- 3.3. The procurement of analytical software within the MPS bid of £1.15m is detailed in the restricted part of this report.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. 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.
- 4.2. There are no significant legal issues arising from the proposal, bid or development of the NCLCC.

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 projects meets its compliance requirements.
- 5.4. The project does not use personally identifiable data of members of the public, so there are no GDPR issues to be considered.

6. Equality Comments

- 6.1. This business case has undergone initial equality screening. Due regard has been taken to the Equality Act's Public Sector Equality Duty under Sec 149 of the Equality Act 2010. Real consideration has been taken to assess equality impact caused by the proposed business change including effective engagement and analysing relevant equality information. As a result no negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and to those who are not due to the utilisation of pre-existing staff members and the funding is for supplementary business continuity. Further reviews will be conducted, if necessary, and process monitoring completed. If as a result of the continual development of this strategic paper Equality Impact is identified, a full Equality Impact Assessment will be initiated.

7. Background/supporting papers

- 7.1. The supporting documents are in Part 2. Part 2 is not suitable for MOPAC publication. Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is exempt by section 43(2).

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.

✓

Commercial Issues

The Contract Management Team has been consulted on the commercial issues within this report.

✓

GDPR/Data Privacy

- GDPR compliance issues are covered in the body of the report

✓

Director/Head of Service

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 27/03/20



MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting 28th February 2020

Report by Brittany Clarke 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 announced additional spending for police forces and other law enforcement agencies to enhance the way they tackle County Lines criminality.

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) has been allocated funding as the host force of the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre and separately for work to be carried out by the MPS for London.

This paper outlines the two bids and how the money will be used over the timeframe from 28th October 2019 to 31 March 2020.

Recommendations

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

1. **To approve the MPS to accept £1.2m Home Office grant bid funding as the host force and appointed budget holder for national activities relating to the expansion of the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre. The grant funding is for expenditure during the period 28th October 2019 to 31 March 2020.**
2. **To approve the MPS to accept £1.15m Home Office grant bid funding for the MPS to tackle County Lines related threat against London. The grant funding is for expenditure during the period 28th October 2019 to 31 March 2020.**
3. **To approve £570k expenditure for the additional purchase of analytical software licenses. The 12 month licenses will enable officers conducting County Lines investigations to access the Communications Data Analysis Tool (CSAS). This will enable investigators to process more cases with greater accuracy and effectiveness. The full cost will be funded from the MPS £1.15m Home Office allocation discussed in recommendation 2 above.**

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by 28/02/2020. This is because the funding received is for this financial year and expectation of activity is already underway with agreement from the Home Office that money that has been allocated can be spent retrospectively on activity that commenced after 28th October 2019. This is the date of the announcement of funding allocation. The allocation of funding and then subsequent design of plans has led to the approval of the PIB and MOPAC in this month as the earliest opportunity to get the documents written and agreed by relevant parties.

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

Introduction and background

1. All of the funding and activity described in this paper is as a result of the funding that the Home Office have allocated after the Home Secretary's announcement of £20m to combat County Lines was launched.
2. The National County Lines Co-ordination Centre is funded by the Home Office and is focused around delivering an accurate analysis of the current threat posed by county lines, producing an effective operational response and developing and disseminating relevant strategy derived from best practice and SME's for national compliance.
3. The expansion of the NCLCC is reliant on additional funds to enhance output and give additional support for policing and wider law enforcement given the enhanced priority of County Lines in recent time. This will assist with the objective set by the Home Secretary to "roll up" County Lines.
4. The MPS is the largest exporter of County Lines. Additional funds to assist the MPS to tackle County Lines related criminality is linked to the Home Secretary's desire to "roll-up" County Lines with funding that the Home Office have allocated.

Issues for consideration

5. Information is contained in the restricted section of the report'.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021¹

6. The NCLCC will enable the MPS across all boroughs (and other forces) to have an enhanced response to keeping children and young people safe through safeguarding strategies and best practice. The NCLCC will also enable to MPS to benefit from national collaboration to tackle and combat organised criminality and its impact on serious violence, use of weapons, drugs and trafficking.

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

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

7. The NCLCC costs are £1.2m for financial year 2019/2020. A break down of costs is in Annex A of the restricted part of the report.
8. The MPS costs are £1.15m and a breakdown of costs is in Annex B of the restricted part of the report.
9. The procurement of analytical software within the MPS bid of £1.15m is detailed in the restricted part of this report.

Legal Comments

10. There has not been any legal issues that arise from the proposal, bid or development of the NCLCC.

Equality Comments

11. This business case has undergone initial equality screening. Due regard has been taken to the Equality Act's Public Sector Equality Duty under Sec 149 of the Equality Act 2010. Real consideration has been taken to assess equality impact caused by the proposed business change including effective engagement and analysing relevant equality information. As a result no negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and to those who are not due to the utilisation of pre-existing staff members and the funding is for supplementary business continuity. Further reviews will be conducted (if necessary) and process monitoring completed. If as a result of the continual development of this strategic paper Equality Impact is identified, a full Equality Impact Assessment will be initiated.

Privacy Comments

12. 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.

The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the projects meets its compliance requirements.

The project does not use personally identifiable data of members of the public, so there are no GDPR issues to be considered.

Real Estate Implications

13. There are no changes to real estate arrangements and therefore no issues arising from current assessments.

Environmental Implications

14. There will be no impact on the Mayor's Environment Strategy.

Background/supporting papers

15. Please see the supporting documents in Part 2.

Report author: (DCI Brittany Clarke, National County Lines Co-ordination Centre)

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:
SECRET

Part 2 of National County Lines and funding for MPS is exempt from publication for the following reasons:

- The paper overtly discusses methodology of law enforcement strategy and tactics in the response to organised criminality
- The methodology is sensitive and not in the public interest or interests of security for it to be disclosed publicly.
- It is exempt under Article 2(2)(a) (b) and (c) of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011
- It is also exempt from disclosure under the FOIA sections:
 - Commercial Interest Section 43
 - Legal Professional Privilege Section 42

The paper will cease to be exempt until the NCLCC has closed down and/or until such time that a release of any information or material related to the methodology could no longer compromise operational security and effectiveness.