

DMPC Decision – PCD 1130

Title: Provision of Crimestoppers Trust Funding 2022/23-2024/25

Executive Summary:

Crimestoppers Trust provides a 24 hour anonymous service for the public as a means for them to report crime. This service is funded on a pro rata basis by all Police Forces in the country. This is a request to approve a 3 year funding agreement for the services provided by the Crimestoppers Bureau for the MPS. The funding being sought covers the financial years 2022/23 – 2024/25 and the amount being requested is £434,818 p.a.

Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to:

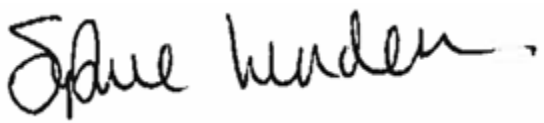
1. Approve a single tender action fixed contract award of £434,818 p.a. covering the 3 year period 2022/23 – 2024/25 to Crimestoppers Trust.

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

06/03/2022

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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. MOPAC approved a three year funding arrangement with Crimestoppers Trust for the period 2019-2022 [PCD517]. This agreement expires in March 2022. This paper seeks approval for a further three year funding arrangement with Crimestoppers.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) state that information provided by Crimestoppers supports the key priorities detailed in the Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 in relation to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons, tackling violence and hate related crime, and that Crimestoppers is the only organisation that provides a truly anonymous service for the public to provide information to the police and other agencies.
- 2.2. The anonymous nature of the Crimestopper facility can be particularly important for those who may not have full confidence in law enforcement agencies and those communities who may suffer disproportionately from the effects of crime.
- 2.3. There has been an increasing volume of reports from Crimestoppers to the MPS – from 9,476 in 2017/18 to 13,815 in 2020/21, with arrests and positive outcomes increasing from 1,598 to 4,378 over the same period.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. This is a fixed funding agreement to cover the period 2022/23-2024/25. The annual cost is £434,818 which will be funded from within the Metropolitan Police Service budget. The cost of the Integrity Line (which provides for reporting by police employees on professional issues) will continue to be provided at nil cost.

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). When awarding a public contract for goods and/or services valued at £181,302 or above all contracting authorities must do so in accordance with the Regulations. This report confirms the value of the proposed contract exceeds this threshold and, accordingly, the Regulations are engaged.
- 4.2. The MPS assure that the proposal is allowed under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
Further information is contained in the restricted section of the report.
- 4.3. Paragraph 4.13 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation and Consent provides that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) has delegated authority to approve all contract exemptions for £100,000 or above.

5. Commercial Issues

- 5.1. The service is for the provision of information which is provided on the basis of anonymity. Further commercial information is contained in the restricted section of the report'

6. GDPR and Data Privacy

- 6.1. 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.
- 6.2. The MPS assure that Crimestoppers anonymise anyone who uses their service either via telephony or online, and that the data is used appropriately.

7. Equality Comments

- 7.1. 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.
- 7.2. The Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has been reviewed by the MPS and they report that no protected characteristics are disadvantaged by this proposal. Any person can contact Crimestoppers using their Freephone number (there will be a charge for calls from mobiles which will be determined by the network provider) or via their free, online service.

8. Background/supporting papers

- Appendix 1 MPS Report - Provision of Crimestoppers Trust Funding

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

Commercial 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 25/02/2022



Provision of Crimestoppers Trust Funding

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting 03/02/2022

Report by Fiona Mallon on behalf of the MPS

Part 1 – This section of the report will be published by MOPAC. It is classified as OFFICIAL – PUBLIC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This concerns a request for a 3 year funding agreement for the services provided by the Crimestoppers Trust for the MPS. The funding being sought covers the financial years 2022 – 2025 and the amount being requested is £434,818.00 p.a. The reason this request is being made to PIB and IAB is because the contract award is a single tender action and above £100,000.00.

Recommendations

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

- 1. Approve a fixed contract award of £434,818.00 p.a. covering the 3 year period 2022 – 2025 to Crimestoppers Trust.**

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by 31/03/2022. This is because the current fixed funding agreement expires at the end of the financial year 2021/22. The new funding requirement will take effect from 1st April 2022.

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

Crimestoppers Trust provides a 24 hour anonymous service for the public as a means for them to report crime. This service is funded on a pro rata basis by all Police Forces in the country.

Introduction and background

1. On a pro-rata basis, agreed in accordance with a Crimestoppers/ACPO SLA signed in 2005/06, the MPS paid 18.7% of the £2.1m National police contributions to Crimestoppers and received 24% of all information. The £2.1m raised from the 43 National Police Forces via the 2005/6 ACPO agreement, covers the operating costs of the Crimestoppers Bureau (24/7 call handling -

receipt, evaluation and dissemination of anonymous information). All other Crimestoppers services are funded by alternative means with no financial implications for any Police Force.

2. The MPS remains outside of the NPCC service level agreement, which replicates the original ACPO agreement of 2005/6. This protects our exposure to increased costs and enables us to negotiate a settlement independently. Starting in F/Y 2019/20 we agreed a 3-year settlement of £399k p.a.
3. Crimestoppers are now proposing a three (3) year agreement, which would be a flat cash settlement of £435k p.a., with the provision of the Integrity Line continuing at no additional cost. This would equate to 17% of the overall National police service contribution to Crimestoppers operating costs and will also represent protection against increased operating costs, which Crimestoppers estimate to be in region of 3 to 4% increases annually. The net effect being absorption of costs equating to more than 20% over the three-year period.

Issues for consideration

Crimestoppers is the only organisation that provides a truly anonymous service for the public to provide information to the police and other agencies. MPS funding for the 24/7 Crimestoppers Contact Centre remains crucial for its success. It allows the operation of a 24/7 365 days service for London and other Forces across the UK. The fees provided make up a significant contribution of the overall cost of providing the service to all law enforcement across the UK.

The funding enables recruitment and training of increasing numbers of staff, to take calls and process on-line forms at all times. As crime types change, the funding enables education of staff on key priority areas in order to maximise every contact with the public. Changes in how the service is used by the public has seen a sharp increase in time critical and life-threatening contacts from Londoners. The funding provided ensures delivery of material in quick time at all times of the day and night.

Whilst MPS funding to Crimestoppers has remained static in the last three years, since 2005/06 actionable Crimestoppers intelligence has grown more than 7 times. (From 2005-2008 Crimestoppers actionable intelligence was on average 2,213 reports per annum; from 2015-2018 Crimestoppers actionable intelligence averaged 9,686 reports and in the last 3 years from 2018-2021, Crimestoppers actionable intelligence averaged 13,926 reports). Since 2005, the number of arrests and positive outcomes the MPS has achieved as a direct result of that intelligence, has increased by over 10.5 times.

During the 2020/21 period, the MPS received on average 1,151 reports per month from Crimestoppers, up 9% since 2017/18. These reports have led in the MPS to a total of 36 persons being arrested and a further 4,378 positive outcomes. At least 32% of Crimestoppers information led to a policing outcome for the MPS.

A percentage of these results have impacted on the tackling of the most violent crimes, which are key MOPAC and MPS priorities and results obtained from information provided by Crimestoppers have had positive outcomes in the MPS such

as:

- Violent Crimes – 1880 reports (two and a half times more than in 2017/2018) leading to 562 positive outcomes and 7 arrests.
- Possession of Weapons (Knives/Other) – 527 reports leading to 100 positive outcomes and 6 arrests.
- Rape and Sexual Offences – 400 reports leading to 124 positive outcomes and 1 arrest.
- Wanted Persons – 343 reports leading to 82 positive outcomes and 8 arrests.
- Threat to Life - 23 reports received, risk managed and investigated. (A murder is costed as £1.2 million to investigate as an average).

N.B. A positive outcome is defined by NPCC as, 'an action that addresses the need for some police activity to have occurred other than the recording or dissemination of intelligence'. Positive outcome can include, for example, negative warrants, negative stops in the street, increased patrols but that may not always lead to an arrest or commodity.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021¹

Information provided by Crimestoppers supports the key priorities detailed in the Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 in relation to the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons, Tackling violence and hate related crime.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

As an extension to an existing service this work does not change any aspects relating to responsible procurement. This is a fixed funding agreement which is sought to cover 2022-2025, the fixed rate per annum which is being requested is £434,818.00. This will be funded within existing Met Intelligence budgets.

Legal Comments

This report has been reviewed by MPS Department of Legal Services and there are no significant legal implications.

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) is a contracting authority as defined in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the Regulations). When awarding a public contract for goods and/or services valued at £181,302 or above all contracting authorities must do so in accordance with the Regulations. This report confirms the value of the proposed contract exceeds this threshold and, accordingly, the Regulations are engaged.

Regulation 32(2)(b)(iii) of the Regulations provides that a contracting authority may use the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice when for reasons connected with the protection of exclusive rights the public contract may be awarded only to a particular economic operator.

DLS are instructed that Treble 5 Treble 1 holds exclusive licensing to use the Crimestoppers brand and telephone number. Consequently, the Regulations permit the MOPAC to negotiate directly with Treble 5 Treble 1 for the provision of the service on the basis of their continued exclusive licensing rights.

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

The MOPAC may only compliantly rely on 32(2) (b) (iii) to negotiate directly with Treble 5 Treble 1 for as long as their exclusive licensing is maintained. It is therefore advised that periodic reviews of this exclusive licensing are undertaken in the event that a competitive procurement exercise is required in the future.

Paragraph 4.13 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation and Consent provides the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has delegated authority to approve all contracts exemptions valued at £100,000 or above.

Equality Comments

Having reviewed the Equality Impact Assessment there does not appear to be any protected characteristics who are disadvantaged by this proposal. Any person can contact Crimestoppers using their Freephone number (there will be a charge for calls from mobiles which will be determined by the network provider) or via their free, online service. It is entirely down to an individual whether they chose to contact the Police or Crimestoppers. There is no negative internal impact upon the MPS. The positive impact being, that the free service provided by Crimestoppers is available to all communities, regardless of an individual's 'protected characteristics.' The service provided by Crimestoppers is easily accessible and widely advertised.

Crimestoppers is a well-established charity and is supported by Police Forces around the country and the Home Office.

Privacy Comments

This information is contained in the restricted section of the report. Crimestoppers anonymise anyone who uses their service either via telephony or online. The information is: used fairly, lawfully and transparently; used for specified, explicit purposes; used in a way that is adequate, relevant and limited to only what is necessary; accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; kept for no longer than is necessary; handled in a way that ensures appropriate security, including protection against unlawful or unauthorised processing, access, loss, destruction or damage.

Real Estate Implications

There are no real estate implications in relation to this funding agreement for the MPS or MOPAC.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications in relation to this funding agreement for the MPS or MOPAC.

Background/supporting papers

All information and relevant documentation is contained in Part 2 of the Business Case.

Report author: Acting Inspector Ian Smart (MPS Crimestoppers SPOC)
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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 Provision of Crimestoppers Trust Funding 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).
- The relevant sections under the FOIA that would exempt this information from disclosure:
 - Data Protection Section 40,
 - Commercial Interest Section 43
 - Legal Professional Privilege Section 42

The paper will cease to be exempt until February 2028 as per MoPI guidance.