



MOPAC

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

Accommodating the Uplift to the Directorate of Professional Standards

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting December 2023

Report by Jonathan Boulton on behalf of the Chief People and Resources Officer

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2023 the Directorate of Professional Standards received an uplift of 150 officers as part of the Commissioner's New Met for London Plan. Due to the urgent need to accommodate the uplift in a central London location Cobalt Square, Vauxhall was identified as a suitable location and a plan put in place to create appropriate secure office space. The Central Estates Team (Transformation Programme 10) has been able to provide 100 desks on the 13th floor at Empress State Building (ESB) for DPS as a temporary measure until autumn 2023 pending the creation of the space at Cobalt Square.

A detailed plan has been formulated to provide temporary space for DPS on the 3rd Floor Prussian Block at Cobalt Square, for those decanting from ESB, until June 2024. This enables dedicated space to be created for the DPS uplift on the Ground Floor Prussian Block for use from June 2024.

A decision is required in order to proceed with the proposed building works at Cobalt Square at a cost £1.93m.

Recommendations

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

1. Approve the capital funding required of £1.93m. Budget has been included in the PSD Capital Plan & Forecast, subject to approval of the overall MPS Capital Plan.
2. To provide delegated authority to the Director of Commercial Services to initiate procurement action via the compliant MOPAC or third party framework, and to enter into contract with the successful contractor.

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by 31/12/2023 before building work is due to commence at Cobalt Square.

Introduction and background

As part of the New Met for London Plan the Directorate of Professional Standards has received an uplift of 150 officers. These uplifted numbers need to be accommodated within the estate from spring 2023 whilst, if possible, retaining existing teams within close proximity of one another.

The Central Estates Team (Programme 10) has been able to provide 100 desks on the 13th floor at Empress State Building (ESB) for DPS as a temporary measure until autumn 2023.

A detailed plan has been formulated to provide temporary space for DPS on the 3rd Floor Prussian Block at Cobalt Square, for those decanting from ESB, from October 2023 until June 2024. This enables dedicated space to be created for the DPS uplift on the Ground Floor Prussian Block from June 2024.

It is imperative that ESB decant from the 13th floor, temporary space, by autumn 2023 to avoid any delay to the wider CTOC programme. To facilitate DPS moving to Cobalt Square, CTP swing moves have been accelerated.

Issues for consideration

1. The urgent need for the DPS uplift to be accommodated.
2. The dependencies and timelines in DPS decanting ESB into Cobalt Square so as not to cause delay and introduce additional cost/disruption to the complex CTOC programme.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2022-25¹

In line with the MPS mission of More Trust, Less Crime & High Standards accommodating the DPS uplift in secure bespoke accommodation will contribute to more trust and fixing our foundations as articulated through the New Met for London Plan.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

Contractual arrangements are already in place for delivery of the Cobalt Square refurbishment project and the additional requirements will be treated as a change to the existing scope and brief of these, in line with the contractual terms and conditions of the relevant appointments. It would not be viable from an economic or interoperability perspective to procure an alternative contractor on this site for the further refurbishment given that the current contractor is into a year 2 of a 4 year major refurbishment. The uplift would not exceed 50% of the original contract value.

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

The actual spend and forecast has been included in the Programme 10 Capital Plan submitted October 2023. Therefore, if agreed budget is available.

The indicative total capital cost of the project is £1.93m which includes:

- Preparation of the 13th floor temporary space at ESB and the move of DPS from Jubilee House and other locations.
- Preparation of the 3rd floor temporary space at Cobalt Square and the move of DPS from ESB.
- Acceleration of the CTP moves from Cobalt Square to CTOC/ESB and/or swing moves into NSY to make way for DPS.
- Refurbishment of the Ground Floor Prussian Block for DPS with c.110 desks, storage, meeting and welfare facilities.
- The spend to date and projected spends for the project are as follows:

Spend to date (Sept 23)	£336k
Forecast 23/24	£752k (includes spend to date)
Forecast 24/25	£1.178m

Legal Comments

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 contracts for goods and/or services valued at £213,477 (inc. VAT) or above shall be procured in accordance with the Regulations. This report confirms the value of the proposed contract exceeds this threshold.

Purchasing through a compliant Framework Agreement will comply with the Regulations where the proposed award is within the scope of the Framework Agreement. This report confirms the proposed contract awards in respect of ICT technology will be via a MOPAC or third party framework and therefore would compliant with the Regulations.

Regulation 72(1)(b) (i) and (ii) of the PCR 2015 allows for the modification of an existing contract because a change of supplier is not possible:

- for economic or technical reasons such as requirements of interchangeability or interoperability with existing equipment, services or installations procured under the initial procurement, and
- would cause significant inconvenience or substantial duplication of costs for the contracting authority.

provided that any increase in price does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract;

The refurbishment requirements of Cobalt Square will be a modification of the existing construction contract procured via a framework. The report confirms that this modification is compliant with Regulation 72(1)(b) (i) and (ii) and therefore lawful.

The MOPAC Scheme of Delegation and Consent provides the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (“DMPC”) has delegated authority to approve:

1. Business cases for revenue or capital expenditure of £500,000 and above (paragraph 4.8); and
2. All requests to go out to tender for contracts of £500,000 or above, or where there is a particular public interest (paragraph 4.13).

Paragraph 7.23 of the Scheme provides that the Director of Strategic Procurement has consent for the approval of the award of all contracts, with the exception of those called in through the agreed call in procedure. Paragraph 4.14 of the Scheme provides the DMPC reserves the right to call in any MPS proposal to award a contract for £500,000 or above.

Equality Comments

A site specific Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken as part of the HR process and Detailed Design process.

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.

The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the project 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

The key estate implications and benefits are as follows;

Accommodates the DPS uplift and enables the DPS Intelligence Bureau to be located at a single Central London site (from ESB and Jubilee House)

Co-locates DPS with key MO2 teams at Cobalt Square

Provides 577m2 of accommodation with c.110 desks, storage, meeting room facilities and sufficient car parking for DPS operational vehicles

Provides a Central London location with good public transport links to other DPS bases such as Jubilee House and Newlands Park

Meets the direction set by the Deputy Commissioner to identify a central London base for DPS.

Environmental Implications

In accordance with the MOPAC initiative to be carbon neutral by 2030, consideration has been given to the best method to achieve this. Whilst the works to Cobalt Square will not result in an immediate impact, making more intensive use of an existing MPS property mitigates the carbon impact from options which would necessitate acquiring a new property.

Background/supporting papers

Business Justification paper – Accommodating the Uplift to Directorate of Professional Standards

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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 DPS Uplift Accommodation 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).
- The relevant sections under the FOIA that would exempt this information from disclosure, for example:
 - Commercial Interest Section 43

For advice, please contact the FoIA team.

The paper will cease to be exempt at completion of the contract in January 25..