



MOPAC

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

Pyxis Communications

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting 06/03/2024

Report by Darren Scates 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 project concerns maintenance and upgrades to the MPS's Secret IT Platform, known as Pyxis. The upgrades replace obsolete IT solutions and deliver operational efficiencies for Covert and Professionalism Command users. Technical details are highly sensitive.

Funding is from the MOPAC-approved Digital Data & Technology (DDAT) Capital Plan 24-25. Procurement is through existing reseller frameworks.

MOPAC approval to spend £1.9m capital is requested and. This project supports the Commissioner's commitment of High Standards, aiding Professionalism officers to fulfil their role in investigating complaints of misconduct against MPS officers and staff.

Recommendations

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

- 1. Approve project capital of £1.98m from the MOPAC-approved Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) Capital Budget.**
- 2. Approve additional BAU revenue spend of £225k per annum from FY 2027/28, managed in the MTFP**
- 3. Approve direct awards via Value Added Resellers with total contract values totaling up to £1.63m and contract terms up to five years including extension options.**

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by 31/03/2024. This is to enable contract award and spend in the 2024-25 FY and that the existing IT solution is obsolete and should be replaced as soon as possible.

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

Introduction and background

1. This business case concerns maintenance and upgrades to the MPS Secret IT Platform. This IT platform is used by officers and staff in specialist commands for the most sensitive investigations and operations. All data on the platform is classified as Secret under the Government Marking Scheme.

Issues for consideration

2. The MPS IT Secret Platform must be maintained with up to date functional and cyber security capabilities. At the same time, users in Covert and Professionalism Commands require greater flexibility and more streamlined processes to meet increased demands on their workloads.
3. The upgrades in this business case will reduce pressure on ‘secure’ areas and enable users to work more flexibly, whilst also maintaining high levels of information security.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2022-25¹

4. This business case primarily support the Mayor’s priority of Increasing Trust and Confidence. Professionalism Command is tasked with investigating allegations of misconduct against officers and staff, and helping to remove those found guilty of gross misconduct. The IT solutions contained in this business case are used by Professionalism Command.
5. The MPS Secret Platform is also the only accredited IT platform for sensitive major inquiries, such as historic Anti-Corruption Inquiry and the Undercover Policing Inquiry. The new technology will support those investigations to work more efficiently.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

6. Capital comes from the MOPAC-approved DDAT capital budget. No additional funding is requested. The project will complete in 2024/25 FY.

Capital (£k)	2024/2025	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Budget	1,980					1,980
Hardware	1470					1470
Professional Services	160					160
MPS Architecture	40					40
DDaT Project costs	90					90
Contingency 12.5%	220					220
Total capital	1,980					1,980
Variance to budget	0					0

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

7. Revenue costs from 2027/28 increase² by £225k pa. This cost will be managed by DDAT in the MTFP.
8. The MPS will achieve value for money by competitively tendering via the Health Trust Europe framework using the existing Value Added Resellers, SoftCat and Computacenter. The contract includes up to five years' support, maintenance, licencing and/or subscription services for some items including all extension options.
9. Due to the nature of this business case, upgrading key IT processes at Secret level, there is no direct contribution to the London Anchor Institutions' Charter.

Legal Comments

10. There are no legal issues arising from this business case outside of those pertaining to the commercial route to market.

Equality Comments

11. No negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and to those who are not, thereby negating the requirement to document any mitigation. As this is an upgrade of an existing service this work does not change any aspects relating to equality or diversity.

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 project meets its compliance requirements.

The screening questions have been completed and a DPIA is not required because 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. The project will reduce the need for officers to use Secure areas of the MPS estate. There is no requirement for investment in the estate as a result of this project.

Environmental Implications

14. The obsolete electrical equipment will be recovered from all sites as leaving it in situ poses a security risk. All such equipment is shredded to ensure no leakage of Secret information. The shredded hardware is recycled in accordance with The Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations 2013 and the waste duty of care imposed under section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
15. The project supports the London Anchor Institutions Charter to accelerate a cleaner, greener London through the environmentally friendly means of recycling obsolete IT.

Background/supporting papers

16. There are no further supporting papers for this project

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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 [OPERATIONAL]

Part 2 of Pyxis Communications is exempt from publication under Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act. Specifically subsections 1(a) and (b) whereby disclosure of this document would be prejudicial to the prevention and detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

Furthermore the document is exempt from publication under Commercial Interest Section 43, whereby disclosure of the hardware and software involved would enable a threat actor to understand a key aspect of the MPS Secret Platform.

The paper will be exempt until the new IT solution reaches end of life and DDAT Secure Services team confirm that to the Authority, expected to be in 2029.