

DMPC Decision – PCD 591

Title: Video Doorbell Burglary Initiative

Executive Summary:

The MPS Designing Out Crime Officers propose to utilise new and emerging technologies to assist us in the prevention of crime and achieve evidenced reduction in crime. This initiative will utilise smart video doorbells, and similar devices, and place in burglary hotspot areas identified by harm and volume.

The aim is to reduce the volume of Burglary offences, a reduction in risk and fear factors with a particular focus on harm and vulnerability. The roll out will be for 1,000 devices in four BCU areas, which amounts to £243k worth of devices, with evidenced results of what the deployment has achieved. This will be at zero cost to the MPS, via a sponsorship arrangement with the company Ring. Ring are the only Secured by Design member company with a video doorbell on the police preferred specification list. As such there are no other companies that the MPS is able to work with.

Evidenced results of the benefits of this type of activity will be achieved by working with University College London and the Jill Dando institute. They will be producing an academic primary evaluation of this initiative in the form an academic research paper.

Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to approve:

1. Authority to enter into a sponsorship agreement, pursuant to section 93 of the Police Act 1996, with Ring and accept an investment of £243,000 for the deployment of one thousand (1000) video doorbells, or similar devices.

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

Eyadur Kunder

Date

19/6/19

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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. A video or 'smart' doorbell is an internet-connected doorbell that notifies the smartphone or other electronic device of the homeowner when a guest arrives to the entrance of the door. It activates when the guest presses the button of the doorbell, or alternatively, when the doorbell senses a guest with its built-in motion sensors. The smart doorbell allows the home owner using the smartphone app to watch and talk with the guest by using the doorbell's built-in high-definition infrared camera and microphone
- 1.2. Working with an academic institution will effectively highlight the success of such devices but also such initiatives. The MPS will be employing the services of the Director of the Centre for Future Crime at the Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, part of University College London. They will be producing an academic primary evaluation of this initiative in the form an academic research paper.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. Video doorbells roll out would be focused on victims at a high risk of being repeat victims and from a pre-defined victim type, supporting some of the most vulnerable households in London from a particularly impactful crime. The preventative nature of the project helps to reduce demand and allow resources to tackle other issues of high risk and high harm across London.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. The roll out is at zero cost, with no financial impact on the MPS, not taking into account MPS staff/officer time on the project. The financial sponsorship includes any installation costs paid for by Ring as part of this agreement.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. Clause 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation requires the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime to approve all inward donations and sponsorship £50k and above in value. This initiative will exceed this £50k threshold.
- 4.2. The arrangement will be formalised by the documented approval of a S.93 sponsorship agreement. Publication of the agreement will be under the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011.
- 4.3. Based on previous advice to the MET third party contracts team, DLS have approved the legal position.

5. Commercial Issues

- 5.1. Ring is an approved member of Police CPI 'Secured by Design' Scheme and would be suitable to work with the MPS on this project. Ring are currently the only Secured by Design (SBD) member company with a video doorbell on the police preferred specification list. There are other Secured by Design member companies who manufacturer video

doorbells but they do not currently have a video doorbell on the approved police preferred specification of Secured by Design.

- 5.2. The 'MPS Ethical Considerations for Revenue Generation' approach was applied to this agreement and MPS Commercial have confirmed that it covers this proposal. The impact on the market of accepting these goods was considered during the 'commercial assessment' and MPS Commercial have judged that this non-exclusive arrangement would not distort the market nor provide the supplier with any significant benefit above that of being approved by Police CPI Ltd.

6. Public Health Approach

- 6.1. This proposal focuses on crime prevention and improving safety. The video doorbells roll out would be focused on victims at a high risk of being repeat victims and from a pre-defined victim type, supporting some of the most vulnerable households in London from a particularly impactful crime. The preventative nature of the project helps to reduce demand and allow resources to tackle other issues of high risk and high harm across London.

7. GDPR and Data Privacy

- 7.1. 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.
- 7.2. 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.
- 7.3. The Information Assurance and Information Rights units within MPS will be consulted at all stages to ensure the project meets its compliance requirements.
- 7.4. The supplier will hold the householder registration data, not the MPS. Householders may opt into updates on local policing issues. Opting in will allow householder details to be added to the MPS Airspace database. The continuation of a regular database review will ensure their details remain correct and confirm they consent to continue to 'opt in' for further contact.
- 7.5. The MPS will not have access, nor the facility to access, any recorded images or video from the ring devices without the resident's specific consent. Nor will the MPS have access to any live footage from the devices. If the MPS wished to obtain any footage for policing purposes, this will be dealt with in the same way as obtaining footage from any private CCTV system, i.e. during the course of a criminal investigation.
- 7.6. The design out crime team and supplier will record and review anonymous statistical data. This would be to confirm if the device is on and working and being used.

- 7.7. The project therefore does not use currently personally identifiable data of members of the public, so there are no current GDPR issues to be considered. If the project uses personally identifiable data of members of the public at a later date DPIAs will be completed as needed.

8. Equality Comments

- 8.1. Selection of individual households will be by use of victim and burglary risk analytical data. The households selected would be part of a randomized sample from a list of those with identified risk factors. The risk factors being based on long term burglary 'hotspot' data, identified by Met Intelligence team. The nature of the randomized sample would be decided by the academic institution to ensure impartiality, fairness and maintain the integrity of the end product research piece.
- 8.2. The provided device does have some functionality linked to a smart phone. It could be said that certain persons, with protected characteristics, are more likely than others, not to own a smart phone. The device will however still provide the necessary benefits to those provided with it, without a smartphone device. No person will be discriminated against, due to the fact that they do not own a smartphone and they will still be offered a device. Selection of residential properties, to have a device installed, will be from a variety of intelligence information and so not discriminating against protected characteristics'.

9. Background/supporting papers

- 9.1. MPS Paper

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:

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 – NO

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 within the report.

✓

GDPR/Data Privacy

GDPR compliance issues are covered in the body of the report

✓

Director/Head of Service

The MOPAC CFO 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

R. Lawrence

Date

18/6/19

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MOPAC

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

Video Doorbell Burglary Initiative

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting.

Report by Sergeant David Lucy on behalf of the Deputy Commissioner v6

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The MPS Designing Out Crime Officers propose to utilise new and emerging technologies to assist us in the prevention of crime and achieve evidenced reduction in crime. This initiative will utilise smart video doorbells, and similar devices, and place in burglary hotspot areas identified by harm and volume.

The aim is to reduce the volume of Burglary offences, a reduction in risk and fear factors with a particular focus on harm and vulnerability. The roll out will be for a 1,000 devices in four BCU areas, which amounts to £243k worth of devices, with evidenced results of what the deployment has achieved. This will be at zero cost to the MPS. Evidenced results of the benefits of this type of activity will be achieved by working with University College London and the Jill Dando institute.

Recommendations

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

1. **Authority to enter into a sponsorship agreement, pursuant to section 93 of the Police Act 1996, with Ring and accept an investment of £243,000 for the deployment of one thousand (1000) video doorbells, or similar devices.**

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by **as soon as practicable**. Although there are no legal requirements or deadlines to fulfil, the MPS designing out crime officers wish to take maximum advantage of the funding.

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

Introduction and background

1. A video or 'smart' doorbell is an internet-connected doorbell that notifies the smartphone or other electronic device of the homeowner when a guest arrives to the entrance of the door. It activates when the guest presses the button of the doorbell, or alternatively, when the doorbell senses a guest with its built-in motion sensors. The smart doorbell allows the home owner using the smartphone app to watch and talk with the guest by using the doorbell's built-in high-definition infrared camera and microphone
2. Purpose of this initiative is to reduce the volume of Burglary offences, a reduction in risk and fear factors, with a particular focus on harm reduction and protecting the vulnerable. Predictive mapping and scanning will identify relevant areas for installation.
3. MPS Designing out Crime officers are the subject matter experts in crime prevention and help to keep London safe. The Met's Direction: Our Strategy 2018-2025 has a strong focus on crime prevention, as well as mobilising partners and the public and this initiative will help the Met achieve this.
4. The MPS needs to work creatively and constructively with partners and the public. With the availability of 'affordable' technology solutions, it is important that the MPS maximises opportunity from this potential, as it did with the Met Trace Project. Where traditional effective CCTV and alarm systems would be unaffordable to many, these relatively low cost devices offer comparative solutions. It also empowers and encourages members of the public to take proactive action affording them an opportunity to protect themselves and deter burglary. Ring has approached the MPS and are willing to provide smart devices to the MPS, as part of an academic research piece, to establish the effectiveness of such a scheme.
5. The MPS mission is to focus on crime that matters to Londoners and take a more preventative stance. This initiative is an exploratory response to a crime trend that has a significant impact on Londoners. As we will focus on those individuals identified as vulnerable and likely to become repeat victims, this is in line with MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan. When the initiative is identified as successful, it will help increase public confidence in the MPS and its combination of strategies to combat burglary. It will send a clear message to criminals that the MPS is being proactive to deter offences.
6. Four areas of London will be selected, in consultation with Met Intelligence and the Jill Dando institute at UCL. The use of crime data, overlaid with considerations for harm and vulnerability, with attention to the built environment and its vulnerability to burglary will identify precise installation sites.
7. There has been an increase in burglary in London, and nationally, in recent years. In the last rolling 12 months, total burglary has increased by 3.6% (2796 extra crimes) along with a 1 ppt decrease in sanctioned detections. Taking the baseline rate back two years, this reflects a 16.6% increase in burglary. Through the targeted use of this technology and a focus on those individuals identified as vulnerable and likely to become repeat victims, the MPS can seek to reduce any

affect this has on these victim types.

8. Should this initiative be proven successful it is proposed that as part of any subsequent initiatives, in addition to residential burglary will also focus on supporting the Sanctuary scheme project, protecting vulnerable victims of domestic abuse and allowing them to stay safe in their own homes. This could be with any other similar company, as this agreement is non exclusive and the MPS is willing to work with any other such company. The rollout of video doorbell or similar devices within the sanctuary Scheme project will raise confidence and satisfaction in the police response to this issue and has the potential to make a significant impact on crime reduction. This scheme will help to address demand reduction, safeguarding the most vulnerable and improve prevention and partnership work.

Issues for consideration

9. Working with an academic institution will effectively highlight the success of such devices but also such initiatives. The MPS will be employing the services of the Director of the Centre for Future Crime at the Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, part of University College London. They will be producing an academic primary evaluation of this initiative in the form an academic research paper.
10. Ring is an approved member of Police CPI 'Secured by Design' Scheme and would be suitable to work with the MPS on this project. Ring are currently the only Secured by Design (SBD) member company with a video doorbell on the police preferred specification list. There are other Secured by Design member companies who manufacturer video doorbells but they DO NOT currently have a video doorbell on the approved police preferred specification of Secured by Design.
11. The primary resources used to deliver and install the Ring Devices, during the trial, would be the device recipient or a Ring approved contractor where the house occupier was unable. The MPS would not take ownership of these devices.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2017-2021¹

12. Video doorbells roll out would be focused on victims at a high risk of being repeat victims and from a pre-defined victim type, supporting some of the most vulnerable households in London from a particularly impactful crime. The preventative nature of the project helps to reduce demand and allow resources to tackle other issues of high risk and high harm across London.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

13. The roll out is at zero cost, with no financial impact on the MPS, not taking into account MPS staff/officer time on the project. The financial sponsorship includes any installation costs paid for by Ring as part of this agreement.
14. The 'MPS Ethical Considerations for Revenue Generation' approach was applied

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

to this agreement and MPS Commercial have confirmed that it covers this proposal. The impact on the market of accepting these goods was considered during the 'commercial assessment' and we don't believe that this non-exclusive arrangement would distort the market nor provide the supplier with any significant benefit above that of being approved by Police CPI Ltd.

15. There are other competitors to Ring on the market. The names of two companies, were provided to the MPS by Police CPI Ltd (Secured by Design). Both companies were approached without prejudice and only Ring were prepared to offer the devices at zero cost to the MPS and also had the logistics in place to facilitate installation and administration for the scheme. Only Secured by Design member companies were approached as they are of 'police preferred specification' and due diligence conducted by Secured by Design, on behalf of the police service. **At the time of writing Ring are now the only Secured by Design member company with a video doorbell on the police preferred specification list. As such there are no other companies that the MPS is able to work with.**
16. This sponsorship deal is non-exclusive to Ring and should another provider (meeting the police preferred specification) meet the criteria and wish to work with the MPS on a similar crime prevention initiative, this offer would be considered.

Legal Comments

17. This proposal seeks approval to accept a contribution of £243k under S.93 of the Police Act 1996.
18. Clause 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation requires the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime to approve all inward donations and sponsorship £50k and above in value. This initiative will exceed this £50k threshold.
19. The arrangement will be formalised by the documented approval of a S.93 sponsorship agreement. Publication of the agreement will be under the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011.
20. Based on previous advice to the MET third party contracts team, DLS have approved the legal position.

Equality Comments

21. Ring will be assessed prior to entering into agreements to ensure they comply with relevant legislation and the procurement process will meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and the public sector equality duty.
22. Selection of individual households will be by use of victim and burglary risk analytical data. The households selected would be part of a randomized sample from a list of those with identified risk factors. The risk factors being based on long term burglary 'hotspot' data, identified by Met Intelligence team. The nature of the randomized sample would be decided by the academic institution to

ensure impartiality, fairness and maintain the integrity of the end product research piece.

23. The provided device does have some functionality linked to a smart phone. It could be said that certain persons, with protected characteristics, are more likely than others, not to own a smart phone. The device will however still provide the necessary benefits to those provided with it, without a smartphone device. No person will be discriminated against, due to the fact that they do not own a smartphone and they will still be offered a device. Selection of residential properties, to have a device installed, will be from a variety of intelligence information and so not discriminating against protected characteristics'.
24. Some people who hear about this initiative or become aware of the scheme and will want a device of their own. If this happens, householders would be advised about alternative ways to obtain a device i.e. through Neighbourhood Watch discounted arrangements or direct from the supplier. Neighbourhood watch arrangements' would also be a way to boost this area of community engagement and prevention.

Privacy Comments

25. 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.

26. The supplier will hold the householder registration data, not the MPS. Householders may opt into updates on local policing issues. Opting in will allow householder details to be added to the MPS Airspace database. The continuation of a regular database review will ensure their details remain correct and confirm they consent to continue to 'opt in' for further contact.
27. The MPS will NOT have access, nor the facility to access, any recorded images or video from the ring devices without the resident's specific consent. Nor will the MPS have access to any live footage from the devices. If the MPS wished to obtain any footage for policing purposes, this will be dealt with in the same way as obtaining footage from any private CCTV system, i.e. during the course of a criminal investigation.
28. The design out crime team and supplier will record and review anonymous statistical data. This would be to confirm if the device is on and working and

being used.

29. The project therefore does not use currently personally identifiable data of members of the public, so there are no current GDPR issues to be considered. If the project uses personally identifiable data of members of the public at a later date DPIAs will be completed as needed.

Real Estate Implications

30. There are no anticipated real estate implications. Doorbell devices would arrive on demand and large storage facilities are not required.

Environmental Implications

31. In order to reduce unnecessary single-use plastic during the rollout and in line with the Mayor's London Environment Strategy², potential suppliers will be asked to work closely with the MPS. We will also ensure use of recycled content and recyclable packaging where possible.

Background/supporting papers

32. The following attached academic paper outlines the proposed structure of the primary evaluation of this initiative. In this paper the focus was on its use in systematic reviews as opposed to primary evaluations. However, the same principles apply to primary evaluations and its author will be the research lead, at UCL, working on this initiative.

Introducing EMMIE: an evidence rating scale to encourage mixed-method crime prevention synthesis reviews

Report author: David Lucy, Police Sergeant, Designing Out Crime, 07500072564

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 would be:

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE [COMMERCIAL]

There is no sensitive information in relation to this proposal.

² <https://www.london.gov.uk/WHAT-WE-DO/environment/environment-publications/draft-london-environment-strategy>