

DMPC Decision – PCD 1258

Title: Grant Funding for Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) Hub

Executive Summary:

This paper seeks approval to accept funding from the Ministry of Justice to enable the continued operation of the Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) Hub. The hub is a Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) led multi-agency project to tackle Serious Organised Crime in prisons. The funding for the period from 1 January 2022 to December 2023 is £405,608.

Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to:

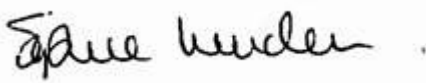
1. Approve the acceptance of an offer of funding from the Ministry of Justice of £405,608 of SOC Grant funding to enable the maintenance of the London MARSOC hub for 2021-2023.

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

13-9-22

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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. An early adopter phase for this project ran from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021. This paper seeks the authority to accept Ministry of Justice funding to continue the Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) Hub.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. The MPS state that “Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) in our prisons impacts the justice system as a whole. When organised criminals are able to continue running their networks from custody offenders’ rehabilitation is undermined, public confidence in prison and law enforcement is eroded, drug-trade in prisons impacts the ability of staff to carry out their duties and the wider public are at put at risk.”
- 2.2. The purpose of the funding is to address “Lifetime Offender Management (LOM) is a multi-agency process that systematically assesses the threat from priority Serious Organised Crime offenders before, during and after custody and uses all available tools, powers and disruptions to prevent and disrupt offending. LOM enables better coordination between policing, HMPPS and other key partners; integrating the sharing of information and intelligence and bringing together skills and capability at the national, regional and local levels. Implementing LOM is part of the government’s SOC Strategy and is being achieved through an HMPPS-led multiagency project team now known as the Multi-Agency Response to SOC (MARSOC)”
- 2.3. The funding will support the Police and Crime Plan objective of “reducing and preventing violence” in particular “Reducing reoffending by the most violent and high-risk groups.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. The proposal is for the acceptance of grant funding of £405,608 for the 2 year period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2023.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. MOPAC acceptance of this Grant is permitted under Schedule 3 Paragraph 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, whereby MOPAC may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of the Office which includes entering into contracts and other agreements (whether legally binding or not).
- 4.2. 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 made and all offers made of grant funding.

5. GDPR and Data Privacy

- 5.1. 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.
- 5.2. The MPS assure that processes governing the lawful exchange of information between the key partners, police and HMPPS, are well established, have been subject to rigorous judicial scrutiny and subject to IPCO inspection. A signed MOU was obtained as part of the early adopter phase. HMPPS through their Operational Partnerships Team are finalising an information sharing MoU between HMPPS and law enforcement, to be signed off by NPCC. The MPS DPIA has been initiated.

6. **Equality Comments**

- 6.1. 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.
- 6.2. The MPS assure that No negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and to those who are not.

7. **Background/supporting papers**

- Appendix 1 MPS Report - Grant Funding for Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) Hub

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	<i>Tick to confirm statement (✓)</i>
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 not applicable to this paper.	✓
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 interim 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

Samuel Ford.

Date 9-9-22

Grant Funding for Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) Hub

MOPAC Investment Advisory & Monitoring meeting 18 August 2022

Report by DS Emma Collins 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 Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), on behalf of Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS), has been offered grant funding from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to establish a Multi-Agency Response to Serious Organised Crime (MARSOC) hub in London.

MARSOC is an HMPPS-led multi-agency project managed by a National team with 10 Regional hubs. The Early Adopter phase ran between 1/1/21 – 31/12/21 and the MoJ has agreed to continue the funding for a further two years commencing 1st January 2022 and ending on 31st December 2023. The proposed funds for the London hub will secure continuation of the three additional posts which were created under the Early Adopter Phase.

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is asked to approve this funding from the MoJ.

Recommendations

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

Approve the acceptance of an offer of funding from the Ministry of Justice of £405,608 of SOC Grant funding to enable the maintenance of the London MARSOC hub for 2021-2023.

Time sensitivity

A decision is required from the Deputy Mayor by 1 September 2022. This is because the early adopter phase has now been successfully completed and further funding for the MARSOC project has been allocated until December 2023.

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

Introduction and background

1. Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) in our prisons impacts the justice system as a whole. When organised criminals are able to continue running their networks from custody offenders' rehabilitation is undermined, public confidence in prison and law enforcement is eroded, drug-trade in prisons impacts the ability of staff to carry out their duties and the wider public are at put at risk. With changes in technology, pressures on ageing prisons and an anticipated increase in the prison population, without continued investment and development, we risk the ability to continue to combat SOC.

2. Effective implementation of a multi-agency model to tackle SOC in prisons provides much needed support to the criminal justice system and beyond. Lifetime Offender Management (LOM) is a multi-agency process that systematically assesses the threat from priority Serious Organised Crime offenders before, during and after custody and uses all available tools, powers and disruptions to prevent and disrupt offending. LOM enables better coordination between policing, HMPPS and other key partners; integrating the sharing of information and intelligence and

bringing together skills and capability at the national, regional and local levels. Implementing LOM is part of the government's SOC Strategy and is being achieved through an HMPPS-led multi-agency project team now known as the Multi-Agency Response to SOC (MARSOC) Project to distinguish it from existing LOM projects in law enforcement.

3. MARSOC Aim – To Pro-actively disrupt the highest-harm SOC individuals, using the most effective combination of our collective capabilities, information and intelligence, to deliver a 'whole-system' response'.

4. MARSOC Objectives:

I. Develop and maintain a list of the highest-harm SOC individuals for lifetime offender management using a single, consistent approach to assessment and prioritisation

II. Co-ordinate activities across multiple agencies to deliver disruptions which make the most of each agency's tools, powers and interventions, based on jointly agreed plans for each individual.

III. Share information and intelligence relating to the MARSOC cohort more effectively between partners to deliver a more joined up response.

Issues for consideration

5. The MARSOC Model established a hub in each ROCU staffed by HMPPS, police officers and police staff.

6. The HMPPS-led multi-agency project team has successfully overseen the Early Adopter Phase in year one, with the central MARSOC team managing the 10 regional hubs. The MARSOC Project Delivery Board, which has senior representation from the Home Office, HMPPS and policing, manages the strategic governance. MARSOC oversight will continue to be managed nationally by HMPPS throughout the transition into the business as usual phase including funding, strategic governance and the management of the MARSOC operating model's framework.

Contributes to the MOPAC Police & Crime Plan 2022-25¹

7. The MARSOC team will manage the London SOC threat in our prisons and, in doing so, enable better informed and more effective policing responses to the individuals and groups causing the greatest amount of harm. MARSOC will help provide greater collective capacity across threats and across capabilities through improved focus and coordination. It will give greater collective agility to capitalise on intelligence opportunities and dividends. MARSOC will also help lever greater support from the National SOC capabilities to better mitigate priority threats in London. This includes targeting organised crime groups engaged in serious violence, grooming and criminally exploiting children, and trafficking women for prostitution.

Financial, Commercial and Procurement Comments

8. As part of the recent £100 million investment in prison security, the Home Office and HMPPS received funding to resource the national rollout of the Multi-Agency Response to Serious and Organised Crime (MARSOC) project during the Early Adopter Phase. This phase is now complete and further funding was secured for the period 2022 and 2023. Should funding cease, the officers in the funded posts would either be redeployed within the Prison Intelligence Unit or to other roles within the Operational Command Unit (OCU).

9. The MARSOC funding is a continuing grant and the MoJ confirm they intend to make payment in arrears on receipt of a quarterly invoice from the MPS.

10. The eligible expenditure will be recovered from the MoJ supported by a Memorandum of Understanding between MoJ and MOPAC.

11. The budget for staff moved across to MARSOC will be retained within the LRPIU in order to backfill vacated core roles. Select list candidate are in place for this contingency and we do not expect any adverse operational impact.

12. Summary of salaries and associated overheads for the three funded roles:

Role	Salary 2021-2022	Overhead costs
ROCU MARSOC Manager (DS)	£75,639	£8,723
ROCU MARSOC Officer (DC)	£63,320	£8,723
Band E Researcher	£41,047	£4,878
Total	£180,006	£22,324
	Grand Total	£202,329
	Quarterly payment total	£50,582
Role	Salary 2022-2023	Overhead costs
ROCU MARSOC Manager (DS)	£75,073	£9,680
ROCU MARSOC Officer (DC)	£61,923	£9,680
Band E Researcher	£41,077	£5,847
Total	£178,073	£25,207
	Grand Total	£203,279
	Quarterly payment total	£50,820

13. The MARSOC project is a national project and pre-dates the creation of the London Anchor Institutions Charter, and so does not specifically address the five objectives of the Charter.

Professionalism

14. The MPS **vision** is to make London the safest global city by being best crime-fighters, by any measure, earning the trust and confidence of every community and having pride in the quality and efficiency of our service so people love, respect and are proud of London's Met. In order to achieve this we have our MET **values**, they're what we, through consultation in and outside the organisation, have judged are most important to us and reflect the special nature and demands of policing London. One of these is **Professionalism**. Supported by a Code of Ethics that provides the foundation for the standards and behaviours expected across all police forces in England and Wales. We are responsible for making sure that all Met officers and staff adhere to professional standards. We are also responsible for adopting a transparent approach to professional standards to give the public confidence that we respond to their complaints and effectively deal with poor behaviour by our officers and staff. This is a time of great change in the MPS with a focus on improving our culture and confidence within our communities. The MARSOC team will be fully immersed in this journey, they will never be remote, isolated or distanced from this critical work. The MARSOC team work within an MPS building and remain fully under MPS line management. The team will complete all mandatory training, relevant briefing and discussion regards professional standards. Working closely with a wide and diverse range of organisations/agencies is always challenging. However the team are aware that our duty to maintain professional standards, to report wrongdoing and challenge inappropriate behaviour is universal. Making these interventions and taking positive action demonstrate our commitment to the other core Met Values of Integrity and Courage.

Legal Comments

1. MOPAC acceptance of this Grant is permitted under Schedule 3 Paragraph 7 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, whereby MOPAC may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of the Office which includes entering into contracts and other agreements (whether legally binding or not).

2. 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 made and all offers made of grant funding.

3. MOPAC has an obligation to publish all agreements valued at £10,000 or more pursuant to Schedule 1, Paragraph 3(g) of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) (Amendment) Order 2011.

Equality Comments

15. The initial funding for the London MARSOC team provided two police officer posts (Detective Sergeant and Detective Constable), both of which were filled from existing staffing within the MPS Prison Intelligence Unit and a Band E, Intelligence Development Officer post which was filled once the funding for 2021-22 and 2022-23 were confirmed.

16. Building the London MARSOC hub and associated protocols is intended as a long-term investment. An Equality Impact Assessment has been conducted and will be further developed as and when parameters change. No negative impact has been identified to any individual and/or group safeguarded by a protected characteristic and to those who are not.

17. As previously stated at paragraph 13, MARSOC was implemented prior to the establishment of the London Anchor Institutions Charter and this project has no direct implications towards the Charter.

Privacy Comments

18. 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.

19. 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.

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

21. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) – The formal agreements for data sharing within the MARSOC project are still to be completed. An Information Sharing agreement has been drawn up but has still not been signed off by all partner agencies. The processes governing the lawful exchange of information between the key partners, police and HMPPS, are well established, have been subject to rigorous judicial scrutiny and subject to IPCO inspection. HMPPS through their Operational Partnerships Team are finalising an information sharing MoU between HMPPS and law enforcement, to be signed off by NPCC. A Met DPIA has been initiated but is still to be completed.

Real Estate Implications

22. Cobalt Square is subject to a five-year refurbishment plan and the multiagency nature of MARSOC increases the importance of careful advanced planning to accommodate this. Temporary office moves maybe required to facilitate these works.

23. The PIU has lost unrelated HMPPS embeds and can accommodate this uplift within the current footprint at Cobalt Square. PSD are aware of this plan and reviewing any license requirements.

Environmental Implications

24. There are no environmental implications

Background/supporting papers

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