

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – Application for Misuse of Drugs Act Funds

REQUEST FOR POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER DECISION - 018-2018

TITLE: Application for funding from Misuse of Drugs Act Fund

Requestor of funds: DCI Nick Coughlan – Force Intelligence

Description of items to be purchased (to include value and identification of any associated on going running costs and how these will be paid for):

Procurement and installation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) on transport routes used to facilitate county lines drug trafficking.

Capital/Revenue Purchase (to be completed by Finance): Capital Purchase of cameras £49,855 Revenue cost for camera 2 year maintenance and sim data costs £25,213

Reason for purchase and demonstration as to how this will assist the Constabulary in the fight against drug-related crime:

Introduction

This technology automatically reads vehicle registration marks (VRMs), allowing these details to be compared against database records. ANPR provides a tactical option to disrupt, deter and detect criminal activity, and by doing so helps to increase public confidence in the Police.

Cumbria Constabulary operates a network of fixed ANPR cameras at strategic locations across the county to manage threats from terrorism and crime. Over the last 2 years, external funding has supplemented the camera network, increasing coverage linked to the expanding Airport and nuclear industries.

Cumbria is by geography the second largest county in England, it has a limited public transport infrastructure, extensive rural road network and there is a heavy reliance on motor vehicles to transport people and goods around the county. The reliance on motor vehicles for lawful and legitimate purposes is replicated by persons engaged in all forms of criminality within the county.

Cumbria, like many rural counties is suffering from a county lines crime issue with criminal gangs travelling into the county to supply controlled drugs. These gangs bring with them heightened levels of violence, sexual risk and intimidation.

South Cumbria in particular has seen a clear increase in drug misuse leading to escalating violence, threats and drug related deaths.

Intelligence suggest that there are gaps in the counties ANPR coverage in South Cumbria, filling those gaps is considered a priority to understand and challenge county lines drugs gangs entering the county and south Cumbria in particular.

Risk

County lines groups brings risks to Cumbria that are damaging and corrosive to communities. Drug related crime is far from victimless; the supply of drugs brings with it the risk of overdose, threats, violence and intimidation as well as sexual violence very often linked to the recent phenomenon of cuckooing.

**Of note there have been 12 drugs related deaths in South Cumbria since December 2017*.

Since 2016 South Cumbria area has managed 19 incidents where intelligence indicated a real and immediate threat to life. Examination of these cases shows they are all linked directly or indirectly to county lines drug criminality.

Intelligence and analysis of key routes suggests that gaps in the current ANPR coverage are allowing OCG's to infiltrate the county without detection.

Four routes have been identified within South Cumbria that would benefit from the installation of ANPR sites

Summary of ANPR capability

- 24/7 all-weather read capability at deployed locations.
- Provides a passive data gathering capability for low collateral intrusion.
- Gives the Constabulary the ability to provide an intelligence led response to known county lines/OCG traveling in to Cumbria in motor vehicles.
- Provides a wide variety of search and analytical options to identify suspect vehicles – convoy analysis, Make Model Color etc.
- Provides for additional investigative capabilities for reactive and proactive investigations.
- All ANPR data gathered by Cumbria Constabulary is shared UK wide via the National ANPR Data Centre.

Recommendations

- The installation of 4 ANPR sites in South Cumbria at locations identified as being key routes used by County Lines groups to travel into the county.
- Fund the installation and 2 years revenue costs, the latter to allow for planning around the longer-term integration into the force ANPR maintenance contract.

- Total request from drugs fund is **£75,068** for capital and revenue costs.

Site	Installation cost	2 year maintenance cost	Est reads per day	Est data transfer/month	Current sim costs/month	Sim cost for 2 year period
Site 1	£10,240	£3,326.40	4000	3.6Gb	£36	£864
Site 2	£10,240	£3,326.40	2000	1.8Gb	£18	£432
Site 3	£10,240	£3,326.40	4000	3.6Gb	£36	£864
Site 4	£19,135	£6,594	30000	27Gb	£270	£6,480
Totals	£49,855	£16,573	40,000	36Gb	£360	£8,640

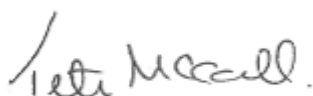
Balance of funds prior to approval (to be completed by Finance): £140,085.59

Balance of funds after approval (to be completed by Finance): £65,017.59

Police & Crime Commissioner

I hereby approve/~~do not approve~~ the application above

Police & Crime Commissioner



Signature:

Date: 10th May 2018