


DECISION NOTICE

Decision author and proposer: Bethan Dearden

Subject/ Title:
Home Office allocation – Serious Violence Funding Spending Lines- Learning Disabilities & Autism Children & Young People

Type of decision:			
Deputy Mayor’s decision	X	Chief Officer’s decision	

In all cases this will need to be approved by the Director Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire.

<p>The decision is that:</p> <p>The GM VRU/GMCA to award the National Autistic Society £50,000 to extend their ongoing contract by a further 12 months (via a contract extension) to continue the development for professionals who work with people who are learning disabled or have an autistic spectrum disorder and have been or are at risk of becoming involved in the criminal justice system across Greater Manchester, specifically those between the ages of 13 and 25, the main aim being that children and young people are supported to make the right choices and that this prevents them from entering the criminal justice system (Further information about the extension of the service delivery attached below)</p> <p>The GM VRU/GMCA previously contracted NAS from January to July 2021, with the value totalling £64,793.30 (Total value of the contract over 2 years will be worth £114,793.30). The contract extension will enable NAS to continue the delivery of their services until July 2022.</p> <p> VRU EXTENSION NAS.docx</p>
<p>The reasons for the decision are:</p> <p>The GM serious violence action plan recognises that children with learning disabilities and difficulties and special educational needs are particularly vulnerable in respect to violent crime and for grooming and exploitation. This cohort of children also often require a more bespoke and specialist form of intervention to engage them and reduce the risk to them.</p>

The Deputy Mayor has allocated £50,000 for interventions targeted at this particularly vulnerable cohort of young people with the intention of building on the £100,000 from the previous year's investment in this area of need (decision notice attached).



Decision Notice
21-22 Serious Violent

An extension to the work already undertaken in GM, the National Autistic Society (NAS) will continue to look at child sexual exploitation, but also sexually harmful behaviour, violent and aggressive behaviour and other behaviours of concern. This would involve working with the Complex Safeguarding Teams, the Youth Justice Services, Early Help and the Probation Service (working with young people under 25) across GM providing training, reflective practice sessions and a telephone/email consultation service, this is a gap identified through the training and development work undertaken in the previous year.

This decision will contribute to priorities of the the Greater Manchester strategy in the following ways:

This programme of work will impact all four priorities in the Standing Together plan and all seven priorities of the Greater Manchester Serious Violence Action Plan.

Procurement comments:

This is an extension to the GMCA's existing contract with the National Autistic Society which was allowed for in the original contract. The scope of the contract is unchanged, therefore there are no Procurement concerns.

Financial comments:

NAS will invoice the GMCA/GM VRU by no later than 31st March 2022 to a total sum of £50,000. This will be funded out of the GM VRU's 2021-22 Serious Violence fund, Children with Special Educational Needs budget line (Signed decision notice for the allocation of the budget lines attached above)

Legal comments:

The GMCA entered into a contract with NAS on 8th January 2021 to deliver training to professionals who work with people aged 13-25 who are learning disabled or have an autistic spectrum disorder and have been or are at risk of becoming involved in the criminal justice system across Greater Manchester and support them to make the right choices and avoid entering the Criminal Justice systems.

The contract extension will award NAS a further £50,000 to continue the development of the programme across GM.



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-contract-for-the-su

The Authority reserves the right to extend the term of this Contract by up to twelve (12) months by giving written notice to the Supplier not less than one (1) month prior to the last day of the Contract Period.

Risk Assessment:

This is an expansion to the existing contract with NAS, which has been through due diligence and procurement process to ensure all risks are considered and mitigated. Any amount not spent under this funding allocation will be returned to the GM VRU.

Greater Manchester has seen an improvement in health outcomes for some of the region's most vulnerable citizens through engaging them with their local support service. However, there is more work to be done to further raise the access and support to address the health inequalities of our most vulnerable people. This has been recognised in the GM Health and Justice Strategy and ensuring the voice of service users in the design of service delivery is an area where further improvement can be made.

Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

Safeguarding of children is paramount to the violence reduction work, both as potential victims and perpetrators of serious violence. Many of the strands of work directly address this, particularly those included in CSP plans, and work related to health and education.

Is safeguarding of vulnerable adults relevant and has this been considered:

This programme of work is closely aligned to relevant programmes such as Challenger (Greater Manchester's partnership approach to tackling all forms of serious and organised crime) and as such the safeguarding of vulnerable adults is central to these plans, particularly in relation to violence through organised crime, gangs and criminal exploitation.

Agreed by Director – Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire

Signed.....

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Date...17th Feb 2022.....

Agreed by GMCA Treasurer



Signed

Date 03/03/2022

Agreed by Deputy Mayor

Only required for a Deputy Mayor Decision on amounts of £50,000+

Signed:

Date:

Contact Officer: