

GM 11/0DECISION NOTICE

Decision author and proposer:

Subject/ Title:
GM Drugs Early Warning System

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

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

The decision is that:
Funding amounting to £9,529 is agreed to extend the current contract for six months (commencing 01.03.22).

This decision will contribute to priorities of the the Greater Manchester strategy in the following ways:
Safer Communities (Priority 8) & Improved Health (9)

Procurement comments:
It is now intended to launch a procurement exercise to let a contract with a substantive period of two years, plus two annual options to extend to a maximum of four year. An Invitation to Tender will be published on the Chest in early March 2022, with a closing date for bids around 25/04/2022. Allowing for a suitable mobilisation period for any potential new provider, a new contract period would commence 01/09/2022

Financial comments:
Funding is allocated in an earmarked reserve.

Legal comments:

An exemption has been agreed to extend the contract with Linnell Communications. We will be engaging Legal for the re-tender and the new contract period.

Risk Assessment:

The procurement process undertaken prior to the original decision to award this contract identified Linnell Communications as the only suitable organisation. Linnell Communications has since delivered consistently to the specification in developing a Drugs Early Warning System that is unique to Greater Manchester and considered an example of best practice by Public Health England.

It was not considered an appropriate use of organisational resources to test the market during the COVID-19 pandemic given the satisfaction with the current provider.

An alternative to extending the current contract would have been to decommission and abandon the established system. This would have presented considerable risk given the importance of the service being provided.

Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

As an information system, The GM Drugs Early Warning System does not work directly with children. However, the system works to prevent and reduce harms caused by drug use providing advice and information to professionals working with children.

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

As an information system, The GM Drugs Early Warning System does not work directly with vulnerable adults. However, the system works to prevent and reduce harms caused by drug use providing advice and information to professionals working with vulnerable adults.

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



Signed... ..

Date...11th 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:

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