

**DECISION NOTICE**

**Decision author and proposer: Alison Connelly, Principal Offenders and Criminal Justice**

<b>Subject/ Title:</b>
<b>YCTCS Ltd – to provide support for GM Youth Justice Transformation Programme and development of Home Office Perpetrator Bid</b>

<b>Type of decision:</b>			
<b>Deputy Mayor’s decision</b>		<b>Chief Officer’s decision</b>	<b>X</b>

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

<p><b>The decision is that:</b></p> <p>A maximum envelope of £5,000 will be allocated to YCTCS Ltd for 22/23 to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance the Youth Justice event on 26<sup>th</sup> January and keynote presentation with a focus on inter-familial / generational trauma. This includes a charge for 3 hours attendance at the event (3 hours), as well as presentation preparation time and travel / accommodation.</li> <li>• Independent advice for the review of the Youth Justice Transformation Action Plan.</li> <li>• Contribute to the development of the Home Office Perpetrator bid with a particular focus on supporting the strand focused on effective evaluation for interventions for children and young people which will be submitted by 17<sup>th</sup> February.</li> </ul> <p>Fees are charged at £900 per day or pro-rata at £129 per hour (plus expenses and VAT) and invoices will be submitted for all aspects of the work with a breakdown of associated costs included in the invoice.</p>
<p><b>The reason for the decision is:</b></p> <p>Dr Alex Chard is the author of the Punishing Abuse report, which was commissioned by the West Midlands Combined Authority and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.</p>

Dr Alex Chard, Director YCTCS Ltd is a systemic organisational consultant, independent academic and professional author. He has a Professional Doctorate in Systemic Practice and is a member of the Society of Authors and the Institute of Directors. is recognised as a national expert in this field and has extensive experience including undertaking reviews into 2 London boroughs and reporting to a Home Office Minister.

Punishing Abuse was a detailed study of eighty children from across eleven local authorities who were known to youth offending teams and wider services including education, health and social care.

The report argues that a number of children in the youth justice system are being punished as a consequence of the impact on their behaviours of their early abuse and loss. It also highlights the abuse and adversity that these children suffered. Of the 80 children in the criminal justice system studied:

- nine in ten children are known or suspected to have been abused;
- eight in ten children are known or suspected to have a health issue;
- eight in ten were subject to school exclusion or attendance at multiple secondary schools;
- seven in ten are known or suspected to have lived with domestic violence whilst growing up;
- seven in ten children are known or suspected to be a victim of violence;
- seven in ten children lived in poverty;
- there was only one child with no recorded abuse or childhood adversity.

The findings of this work are extremely relevant to us in GM and having Dr Chard speak at an event being attended by Youth Justice colleagues from across Greater Manchester will be beneficial in drawing attention to the findings of the report and using these in the delivery of our GM Youth Justice Transformation programme.

The findings also highlight the inter-familial and generational violence children experience and this insight and research will be essential in developing a bid for Home Office Perpetrator Funding, for interventions for children and young people, who commit violence against family members. Dr Chard's knowledge will contribute greatly to the development of this bid and should ensure that GMCA are in a good position to secure funding for much needed perpetrator programmes working with children and adolescents.

Dr Chard's work with the West Midlands Youth Justice Services and PCC will enabled shared learning from endeavours such as training package development including Webinars, which will be invaluable for the ambition in

Greater Manchester to embed a 'Community Of Practice' approach for youth justice services.

The approach is supported by the GM Youth Justice Lead Director of Children's Services, Paul Marshall, Manchester City Council.

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

This will contribute to the following Police, Crime and Fire actions for the GMS Delivery Plan:

- Tackle gender-based violence and abuse in all its forms.

This also contributes towards delivery of priorities within the Standing Together Plan:

- Reducing harm and offending – particular for delivery of the GM Youth Justice Transformation programme.

**Procurement comments:**

Procurement have confirmed that there are no issues, and the funding is in line with CA Scheme of Delegation requirements.

**Financial comments:**

Funding will be allocated from underspend within the Youth Justice budgets (CC3006)

**Legal comments:**

N/A

**Risk Assessment:**

Minimal risk – the funding is being used to procure expert knowledge and insight in developing key work strands.

**Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:**

Yes – there is no direct involvement, but Dr Chard brings strategic safeguarding expertise to both the development of a Home Office bid and the wider GM Youth Justice Transformation Programme. His area of specialist knowledge is safeguarding older children and developing services to reduce the risks they may pose to others.

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

N/A

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



Signed... ..

Date...20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023.....

**Agreed by GMCA Treasurer**

Signed.....

Date.....

**Agreed by Deputy Mayor**

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

Signed: .....

Date: .....

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