

DECISION NOTICE

Decision author and proposer: Dave Gilbride – project lead

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|---|--|---------------------------------|----------|
| Subject: Alison Cope – violence prevention presentations over 36 sessions in secondary schools across GM. – delivery Jan – May 2023. | | | |
| Type of decision: Budget/financial | | | |
| 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.

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| <p>The decision is that: The programme director agrees a 2022/23 budget allocation of £10,000 (£3200 from Education / £6800 from Health and Wellbeing). Both Education and H&W leads in agreement.</p> |
| <p>The reasons for the decision are: Alison Cope has lived experience of losing her son Josh when he was stabbed in 2013. Alison devotes her time to campaigning for violence reduction, much of which involves 2-3 hour presentations to secondary school audiences across the UK. Alison has recently presented at the Greater Manchester Hope Hack in Oct 2022, where her presentation was extremely engaging across an audience of over 100 young people. Alison’s message is one of awareness of the dangers of carrying a weapon, but also considering the impact of violence on individuals, family and friends, and looking out for signs amongst peer groups where early intervention may be required. Alison’s presentation has been endorsed by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. It is important that the VRU considers additional support to schools where the presentations take place in order that disclosures or concerns can be addressed beyond the presentations, so each school will be offered the services of GMP School Engagement Officers and Youth Navigators. (This support will not replace the existing statutory safeguarding arrangements in each school). Education lead Dr Antony Edkins is in the process of identifying the schools wishing to participate and commit to longer term approaches to violence prevention. Subject to the success of the presentations gathered via staff and pupil feedback, consideration may be given to widening the offer in 2023/24.</p> |

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

This programme of work will impact the following GM Strategies

- All four priorities in the [Standing Together plan](#)
- All priorities of the [Greater Manchester Serious Violence Action Plan](#).
- The [GM Integrated Health And Justice Strategy](#)

Financial comments:

Programme Director and Education / Health & Wellbeing have agreed this funding.

Legal comments:

No contract requirement, however the programme will be subject to a Service Level Agreement, and be monitored by the VRU.

Procurement comments:

An exemption has been approved and signed on the grounds of sole supplier. If it is decided to roll out the programme further following the pilot period then a procurement exercise must be undertaken.

Risk Assessment:

VRU has conducted due diligence to ensure the provider complies with high level safeguarding requirements. The schools involved have their own safeguarding policies. School engagement officers and / or Navigators will be present and provide ongoing support if required. Parents / Carers will be notified of the content of the presentation in advance, and will have the option of withdrawing their child.

Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

The programme engages with ages 11-16. VRU has conducted due diligence to ensure the provider complies with high level safeguarding requirements. (Documents provided by supplier). The schools involved have their own safeguarding policies in place. All activity takes place on school premises with teaching staff present.

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

Whilst this programme is aimed at 11-16, and it is not anticipated that vulnerable adults will engage with this project, we will ensure that Dr Antony Edkins advises the provider and those assisting on the protocols required as set out in [government guidance](#) about empowerment, prevention and protection.

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

Signed:



Date: 20th 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:

Contact Officer:

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