

DECISION NOTICE

Decision author and proposer: Dave Byrne

Subject:
Funding for the Crimestoppers Anonymous Helpline Service

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

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

<p>The decision is that: To provide funding of £104,500 in 2023/24 to allow the continuation of the Crimestoppers 24 hour call centre and online reporting facility for the public to anonymously provide information and intelligence for policing purposes.</p> <p>In addition, to agree in principle, to the same level of funding in 2024/25 and 2025/26 (totalling £313,500 over the three years), subject to funding availability and annual performance reviews.</p>
<p>The reasons for the decision are:</p> <p>In 2005 police forces in England and Wales agreed, through a Service Level Agreement, to each provide an annual payment for the operation of the national Crimestoppers call centre facility. This consists of a dedicated telephone line and online reporting facility, operating 24 hours a day. This agreement is now managed through an annual contract managed directly by Greater Manchester Police. The payment of £104,500 will be provided to Greater Manchester Police, to make payment directly as the Contracting Authority for the contract.</p> <p><u>About the service</u></p> <p>After receiving a call or a completed anonymous online form from a member of the public, a report is created that brings together all the information, ensuring that it doesn't contain any information that could identify the individual. The report is then sent to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to investigate crimes, make arrests and charge people in order to bring them to justice. This could be the local police force or an agency such as the UK Border Agency or HM Revenue & Customs.</p>

Crimestoppers also share advice on how the public can protect themselves from crime and develop local communication and awareness campaigns.

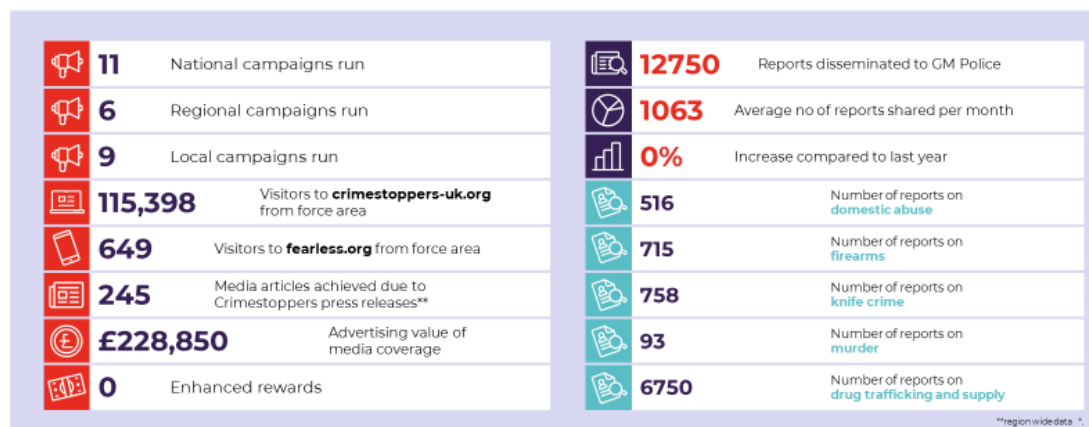
Discussions have been held with the Superintendent within the Force Intelligence Branch to confirm that the Crimestoppers service remains an important source of information for GMP. It provides an additional channel of communication for members of the public to report crime, raise concerns regarding safety or provide intelligence, independent of the police. The anonymity provided will appeal to those who do not wish to contact the police directly but do want to provide information. The service provides the police with intelligence it may otherwise have not received in the fight against crime.

A recent report provided by Crimestoppers indicates the following outcomes in Greater Manchester:

- Over the last three years community intelligence given to Crimstoppers in the North West has risen from 29,063 reports per year between 2018-2019 to 33,101 in 2021/2022. (12,750 reports, increased from 11,041 in Greater Manchester).
- The Crimestoppers website has been viewed over 200,000 times by GM residents in the last 12 months (up from 162,000 the previous year).

Greater Manchester

March 2021 – April 2022



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CrimeStoppers.

Comments have been sought from Greater Manchester Police who value to work of the crimestoppers service and see it as critical in enabling people to report crime and build intelligence.

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

The decision supports the Standing Together Police and Crime Plan and the Greater Manchester Strategy (specifically enabling resilient, safe, and vibrant communities) by reducing offending, tackling antisocial behaviour and dealing with organised crime.

Procurement comments:

No procurement concerns. Grant funding arrangement to provide funds to GMP, who then become the Contracting Authority for the purpose of the Public contracts Regulations (2015).

Financial comments:

The funding will be provided from the Community Safety budget for 2023/24 and there are sufficient funds to do so. The funding will be provided to GMP for onward payment to Treble 5 Treble 1 Ltd, who provide the Crimestoppers service.

Funding for 2024/25 and 2025/26 will be subject to funding availability and annual performance review at the end of the previous year.

Legal comments:

As GMCA will not handle any of the data involved with the provision of the service, it is advised that GMP should manage the contract and payment directly. This approach is supported by GMCA and GMP.

Risk Assessment:

Greater Manchester Police hold quarterly meetings with Crimestoppers representatives to discuss process and performance of the service. Any concerns are discussed and addressed at these meetings.

GMCA will continue to receive quarterly reports regarding the Crimestoppers service and will undertake an annual review of the benefit of the service with GMP ahead of future payments.

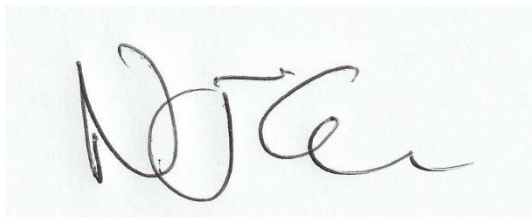
Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

N/A

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

N/A

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



Signed

Date 17th March 2023

Agreed by Treasurer, Greater Manchester Combined Authority



Signed:

Date: 21/03/2023

Agreed by Deputy Mayor



Signed:

Date: 21st March 2023