

## DECISION NOTICE

**Decision author and proposer: Melanie Garry, Communications Lead, GMVRU  
James Carrick, Project & Policy Officer, VRU GMCA**

<b>Subject: 1Message funding for Mero's World Youth Club</b>

<b>Type of decision:</b>			
<b>Deputy Mayor's decision</b>		<b>Chief Officer's decision</b>	<b>x</b>

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

<b>The decision is that:</b>
<p>We are seeking to award 1Message £4,000 for 12 weeks of provision for Mero's World youth club in Fallowfield. This will include group sessions and 1:1 mentoring provided by Matthew Norford from 1Message.</p> <p><i>To date, the VRU have awarded 1Message £3,200 in financial year 2022-23. The total awarded by the VRU to Media and Digital following this decision will be £7,200</i></p>
<b>The reasons for the decision are:</b>
<p>We have specifically commissioned these sessions via 1Message by way of delivering an intervention to young people who attend this youth club (Mero's World), following an incident recently where a young person pulled out a flick knife and threatened another young person during one of the youth club sessions. The youth club is run by one of the VRU's community alliance partners funded by the VRU's Community Led Pilots initiative, and Mero's World approached the VRU to ask what intervention we might be able to immediately deliver in light of this incident to young people who attend the youth club, both as a group, and a 1:1 basis when required. As a result, the VRU have identified that sessions provided by 1Message would be the most appropriate intervention, as the individual who set up 1Message and runs their sessions is an individual with lived experience of serious violence. 1Message will talk to young people at Mero's World about knife crime, exploitation, youth violence, and other relevant topics.</p> <p>This commissioned intervention will be evaluated within the wider Community Led Pilots evaluation being undertaken by the VRU's research partner, MMU.</p>
<b>This decision will contribute to priorities of the Greater Manchester strategy in the following ways:</b>
<p>This programme of work will impact the following GM Strategies</p>

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

**Financial comments:**

The contract will be funded out of the GM VRU's 2022-23 Serious Violence Funding (Education budget line).

**Legal comments:**

The funding will be allocated according to existing procurement rules. There are no known legal risks or concerns due to low funding amount.

**Procurement comments:**

No procurement concerns due to low funding amount. To date, the VRU have awarded 1Message £3,200 in financial year 2022-23. The total awarded by the VRU to 1Message following this decision will be £7,200. The VRU will be required to liaise with GMCA Procurement if they wish to award 1Message with any further funding

**Risk Assessment:**

The commissioning and funding process will be undertaken according to existing procurement rules, with support from legal and Information Governance. There are no known wider risks been identified.

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

1Message will seek to keep children and young people safe by using their safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.

- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through their procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers with 1Message. valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- Appointing a nominated Designated Safeguarding Lead for children and young people.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow their policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.
- Recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- Making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern.
- Using their procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- Ensuring that they have effective complaints measures in place.

- Building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people, and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

DBS details and photo ID will be shared prior to any work commencing

In the event of a disclosure, 1Message will:

- reassure young people that they are being taken seriously and that they will be supported and kept safe. A young person will never be given the impression that they are creating a problem by reporting abuse, sexual violence, peer on peer abuse or sexual harassment. Nor will a young person ever be made to feel ashamed for making a report.
- Record a factual account of the conversation immediately, using the person's actual words wherever possible. Sign, date and keep the record safe.
- Share the report with immediately with Michelle Gleeson. The disclosure will be shared with relevant agencies which may include children's services and the police. At all times young people will be kept informed regarding actions taken.

1Message will not:

- Tell the person that the disclosure can be kept a secret. It will always be explained that you may need to pass the information on to keep them or other people safe.
- Panic, overreact, be judgmental or make assumptions.
- Investigate, repeatedly question, or ask the individual to repeat the disclosure.
- Discuss the disclosure with people who do not need to know.

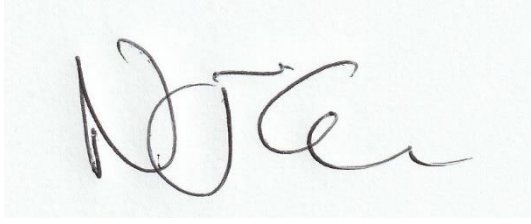
Mathew Norford has enhanced DBS clearance and has completed the following training:

FGM  
ACE Awareness  
PREVENT  
CHANNEL

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

As above; in addition, We will ensure that a safeguarding trained member of VRU staff advises the project staff 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: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 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:**

**Melanie Garry [melanie.garry@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:melanie.garry@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)**