

**DECISION NOTICE**

**Decision author and proposer: Matt Berry – Senior Partnership Officer / Alison Connelly – Criminal Justice and Victims Principal**

<b>Subject/ Title:</b>
Extension of the Victim Service Coordinator service for a further 6 months from 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024

<b>Type of decision:</b>			
<b>Deputy Mayor’s decision</b>	x	<b>Chief Officer’s decision</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>To extend the funding of the GMP Victim Services Transformation Lead role and 11 Victim Services Coordinators posts, for a further 3 months from 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.</p> <p>Total funding to be approved is for the Victim Services Transformation Lead role and the 11 Victim Services Coordinators is £291,000. The cost of extending the Victim Services Coordinators and Lead role from 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Victim Services Coordinators x 11 = £260,000</b></li> <li>• <b>Victim Services Lead - £ 31,000</b></li> </ul> <p><b>TOTAL: £291,00 (6 months)</b></p> <p>The extension of the posts will be funded via the annual MOJ Victims Budget allocation for 23/24.</p>
<p><b>The reasons for the decision are:</b></p> <p>The Victim Service Coordinators and Lead role were introduced in Sept 2017, as a pivotal element of the victims of crime assessment and referral Model. They are employed by GMP and fully funded by GMCA. The team are led by the GMP Victim Services Strategic Lead and are responsible for the leadership and oversight of the victim services work at a divisional level, to improve partnership working and align services more effectively to improve pathways for victims.</p>

Following the ongoing review of victim services across Greater Manchester which commenced in 2019/2020, a number of key successes and key challenges / opportunities for the Victims Service Coordinators were identified. This is currently being used to scope options for a redesign of the service, which can be worked into a practical delivery model. Whilst this work is undertaken, an extension of the current service is required to continue key support.

The continuation of the Victim Services Coordinators service over this 6-month duration will also allow consistency of support whilst the newly commissioned co-located victims multi-crime service is mobilised over late 2023 and into 2024.

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

The Victim Service Coordinators and Lead role play a significant and instrumental role in delivery the priorities of the Greater Manchester Strategy at a divisional and regional level. Key priorities include:

- **Safer and Stronger Communities** – the team support the delivery of the police and crime plan at a district level.
- **Young people** – ensuring young victims of crime have access to support to help the cope, recover and move on from the crimes committed.
- **Healthy lives** – improving pathways to health for those who have been a victim of crime.

**Financial comments:**

The funding for the above posts will be provided via the annual MOJ victims budget (cost code 3011), GMCA have had confirmation of core grant from the MoJ for 2023/24, there is sufficient funds to cover this.

**Procurement comments:**

Procurement have been consulted on the extension of the service, and have advised that this arrangement falls outside of scope of procurement regulations.

**Legal comments:**

Legal consultation not required.

**Risk Assessment:**

- The current funding for the above posts ends in October 2023; a delay to the extension of the team will result in GMP serving notice to their employees. Any such temporary interruption in the continuity of the posts may result in a degree of uncertainty for individuals and significantly disrupt ongoing activity and projects.
- Given that the funding is currently for a 6-month period, there is a risk that there is still a degree of uncertainty for individuals which could disrupt ongoing activity and projects, however this will be managed via regular engagement and communication with GMP via GMCA.
- It is also intended that we will notify the Victim Services Coordinator Team and Lead once any further decisions around extension of funding is agreed to reduce the risk of uncertainty.
- There is limited risk involved in delivery, as all the 11 Victim Services Coordinators and Transformation Lead are already in post.
- A journal transfer is between GMCA and GMP takes place to release the funds and is monitored in line with the MOJ requirements.

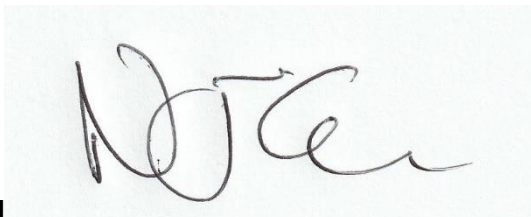
**Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:**

Safeguarding is a core aspect of the Victim Service Coordinator and Lead role and will continue to be so, as a result of the extension of funding

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

Safeguarding is a core aspect of the Victim Service Coordinator and Lead role and will continue to be so, as a result of the extension of funding

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



**Signed**

**Date 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Agreed by GMCA Treasurer**

Signed: 

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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

Signed: 

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Contact Officer:

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