

**DECISION NOTICE**

**Decision author and proposer:**

Oliver Collins, Senior Policy & Partnerships Officer - Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire Team

<b>Subject/ Title:</b>
Home Office Safer Streets Fund Round 5 – Transport for Greater Manchester

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

<p><b>The decision is that:</b></p> <p>The Deputy Mayor receives the Home Office Safer Streets Fund for the programme being led and delivered by the GMCA across 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years.</p> <p>The total budget for this programme is £175,000 2023/24 = £175,000 2024/25 = £0</p> <p>Transport for Greater Manchester are to be provided with £25,000 of this funding for the procurement of a drone and associated training to TfGM to deploy the drone.</p>
<p><b>The reasons for the decision are:</b></p> <p>The Home Office require all Safer Street Fund bids and financials matters to be processed through the Deputy Mayors office.</p> <p>The three Greater Manchester Home Office Safer Streets Fund Round 5 have a total combined budget of £847,969</p> <p>2023/24 = £463,181 2024/25 = £384,788</p> <p>A grant agreement is in place between the GMCA and the Home Office for the 2023/24 funding and we are awaiting the signed 2024/25 grant agreement to be provided.</p>

The GMCA led programme has three primary interventions that will target the following crimes:

- Neighbourhood crimes of Robbery, Theft from a Person, Vehicle Crime,
- Anti-social Behaviour including drunk and disorderly behaviour, public transport vandalism, drug and substance misuse, intimidating behaviour
- Violence Against Women and Girls including sexual assault, indecent assault, street harassment, drink spiking

The proposed interventions are

- Delivery of Op Safer Streets by Greater Manchester Police in Manchester City Centre.
- TfGM Drone to support operations to reduce ASB and VAWG incidents on the nighttime transport network.
- TfGM and Foundation 92 led hub to be deployed across the Transport network to address incidents of ASB.

The deployment of a drone will act as both as a deterrent to ASB but also provide safety and monitoring enhancing capabilities when required by TfGM control room operators. Drones offer a versatile and efficient means of monitoring, inspecting and responding to various safety issues on the transport network.

Oversight of the programme is provided by Oliver Collins in the Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire Team at the GMCA.

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

The provision of the above interventions contributes to the aims and ambitions of the Standing Together plan and Gender Based Violence Strategy, and more widely the achievement of one of the key priorities within the GM Strategy (Safer and Stronger communities).

**Procurement comments:**

The funding must comply with the Subsidy Control Act 2023.

**Financial comments:**

The total cost for the work to be delivered by Transport for Greater Manchester through the Safer Streets Fund is £25,000

This is to be funded by the Home Office Safer Streets Fund.

**Risk Assessment:**

There is low risk associated with this funding provision.

When considering the Safer Streets Fund toolkit, a systematic review based on forty-one studies found that CCTV surveillance caused a 16% decrease in crime in the areas studied. Drone surveillance has several advantages over traditional CCTV surveillance with the most prominent being as it can be considered 'eyes in the sky', the drones coverage area is much larger and therefore is more likely to increase an offender's perception and likelihood of being caught.

Parts of the Metrolink network are very remote and can feel isolated to passengers. Having the ability to deploy a drone to these areas would help deter unwanted behaviour, increase passenger perception of safety (through communication campaigns 'eye in the sky' nowhere to hide etc) and facilitate investigation which is something referenced as a concern in the feedback.

Various other organisations (e.g. British Transport Police, Transport for West Midland, Greater Manchester Police) utilise their own drones for similar purposes. Included in this is an example from a round four Safer Streets bid, in which BTP procured two drones for usage on the railway.

The programme is being delivered by Kate Green at TfGM who reports directly into Oliver Collins at the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

TfGM are a key delivery partner of this Home Office Safer Streets Fund and are working with the GMCA to deliver the proposed outcomes of the fund.

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

All Drone deployment and footage will be managed in line with TfGM and BeeNetwork Privacy notice - <https://tfgm.com/privacy-policy> and <https://tfgm.com/privacy-policy/cctv>

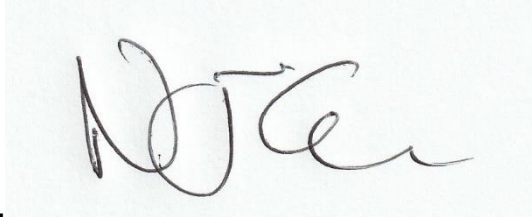
Should any issues be raised, all questions will be diverted to the TfGM Data protection team at [data.protection@tfgm.com](mailto:data.protection@tfgm.com)

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

All Drone deployment and footage will be managed in line with TfGM and BeeNetwork Privacy notice - <https://tfgm.com/privacy-policy> and <https://tfgm.com/privacy-policy/cctv>

Should any issues be raised, all questions will be diverted to the TfGM Data protection team at [data.protection@tfgm.com](mailto:data.protection@tfgm.com)

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

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'O.C.' followed by a flourish.

**Signed...**  
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**Date** 3rd April 2024.....

**Agreed by GMCA Treasurer**

**Signed**.....

**Date**.....

**Contact Officer:**

Oliver Collins, Senior Policy & Partnerships Officer - Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire Team