

**DECISION NOTICE**

**Decision author and proposer: James Carrick, VRU Project & Policy Officer**

<b>Subject:</b> Funding Allocation for GM VRU Staffing 2024/25

<b>Type of decision: Budget/financial</b>
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<b>Deputy Mayor's decision</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Chief Officer's decision</b>	
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**In all case this will need to be approved by the Director Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire.**

**The decision is that:**

The GM VRU are seeking to award the following organisations to continue funding the VRU staff for financial year 2024-25:

**Internal Staff (GMCA)**

- ▼ Programme Support
- ▼ Victims Champion
- ▼ Communications Lead (Maternity Cover)
- ▼ Communications Lead (Maternity Costs)
- ▼ Research Officer (Lead Analyst)

**External Staff- Secondments from Other Organisations:**

- ▼ Youth Justice Operational Lead (0.2 FTE) to be awarded to Tameside Council
- ▼ Youth Justice Strategic Lead (0.1 FTE) to be awarded to Wigan Council
- ▼ Probation Lead (0.4 FTE) to be awarded to the National Probation Service
- ▼ Clinical Lead (0.2 FTE) To be awarded to the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

**Contracts for Professional Services:**

- ▼ Education Lead (0.4 FTE) - to be awarded to the College of Maths for provision from July 2022- July 2024 onwards and managed through a separate decision for consultancy. A further decision to extend provision of the Education Lead from July 2024 through to March 2025 will be submitted separately to approve this contract extension)

▼ Public Health Lead (0.2 FTE)- to be awarded to Helen Lowey Consultancy Ltd for provision from October 2022 to October 2024 and managed through a separate decision for consultancy. A further decision to extend provision of the Public Health Lead through to March 2025 will be submitted separately to approve this contract extension)

**Total: £450,000**

**The reasons for the decision are:**

Established in October 2019, the [Greater Manchester VRU](#) is a team of subject leads and experts from Greater Manchester Police (GMP), Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), Greater Manchester National Probation Service, Public Health, NHS, Education, Community Voluntary Sector, Victim’s Voice, Youth Justice and Local Authorities, addressing the underlying causes of violence and working together with communities to prevent it.

To date, the multi-agency partnership working approach has enabled the GM VRU to develop new and existing relationships with partners across a wide range of thematic areas to tackle serious violence in both GM and across the UK. The GM VRU is seeking to continue to fund its staff members to continue developing these programmes of work.

The partners will report to a VRU director and Partnership lead who are employed by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

**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 priorities in the [Standing Together plan](#)
- All priorities of the [Greater Than Violence Strategy](#).
- The [GM Integrated Health And Justice Strategy](#)

**Financial comments:**

The above spending lines will be funded out of the 2024/25. Serious Violence Funding, “VRU Staffing Budget” lines. Core GMCA colleagues will be paid via GMCA payroll as per existing arrangements.

The frequency of the payments will vary depending on the agreements made with the individual organisations. These include.

- ▼ Education Lead - Payment term/frequency as per the consultancy decision already agreed and published, as well as the new decision submitted for approval to extend arrangements through March 2025.
- ▼ Public Health Lead - Payment term/frequency as per the consultancy decision already agreed and published, as well as the new decision submitted for approval to extend arrangements through March 2025.
- ▼ Youth Justice Operational Lead – Monthly payment to be made on receipt of an invoice.
- ▼ Youth Justice Strategic Lead – Monthly payment to be made on receipt of an invoice.
- ▼ Probation Lead - Monthly payment to be made upon receipt of an invoice.
- ▼ Clinical Lead - Monthly payment to be made upon receipt of an invoice.

**Legal comments:**

Any services or products procured through this programme will adhere to GMCA commissioning policy and the relevant procurement regulations. Seconded staff will be subject to the GMCA's rules governing conduct and behaviour of staff. Secondment agreements will be developed with each organisation individually. Seconded staff will be subject to the GMCA's rules governing conduct and behaviour of staff. Employee liability will remain with the employing organisation.

**Procurement comments:**

Whilst these monies have been approved, the GM VRU are still required to adhere to all the terms and conditions laid out by GMCA Procurement. As noted above, the GM VRU will seek the support of the GMCA Procurement and Manchester City Council Legal Teams for any services commissioned through Serious Violence Funding.

GMCA Commercial Services function have provided specific Procurement advice on the relevant individual Decision Notices for the Public Health & Education Leads, both on the original & extension Decisions.

Beyond that, as contracts of employment are exempt from the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations (2015), no other Procurement concerns arise.

**Risk Assessment:**

The GMCA have carried out the appropriate vetting prior to the appointment of the GMVRU staff (internal and external)

Working arrangements have been agreed with the seconded staff's employers prior to commencement of their posts.

During their placement days, the external GMVRU partners will report to the Director of the GMVRU and Partnership lead, who are both employed by the GMCA.

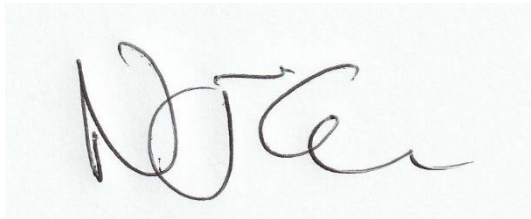
**Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:**

Safeguarding of children is paramount to the violence reduction work, both as potential victims and perpetrators of serious violence. Many of the strands of work delivered by the GM VRU leads directly address this, particularly those included in CSP plans, and work related to health and education.

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

This programme of work is closely aligned to relevant programmes such as Challenger (Greater Manchester's partnership approach to tackling all forms of serious and organised crime) and as such the safeguarding of vulnerable adults is central to these plans, particularly in relation to violence through organised crime, gangs and criminal exploitation.

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



**Signed:**

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**Agreed by GMCA Treasurer**



**Signed:**

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Agreed by Deputy Mayor

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

Signed: 

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Contact Officer:

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