

**DECISION NOTICE**

**Decision author and proposer: Bethan Dearden**

<b>Subject/ Title:</b>
<b>Greater Manchester Equality Alliance (GM=EqAI) Improving Police Custody</b>

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

**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> GMCA will grant fund £25,000 to The Greater Manchester Equality Alliance (GM=EqAI) to contribute to the oversight and scrutiny of the Improving Police Custody programme.</p>
<p><b>The reasons for the decision are:</b></p> <p>The Greater Manchester Equality Alliance (GM=EqAI) was launched in September 2020 as a successor to the smaller Greater Manchester Inclusion and Wellbeing Partnership (IWP).</p> <p>Working in alliance with other VCSE, public and private sector individuals and organisations, GM=EqAI serves to connect communities to policy makers, and vice versa, to assist with strategic equality and diversity work in Greater Manchester (GM). GM=EqAI takes an intersectional approach, recognising that each individual experiences marginalisation in unique ways due to how multiple forms of inequality or disadvantage compound exclusion. By bringing together a diverse range of voices in a pan-equalities space, GM=EqAI channels multiple perspectives to develop solutions through dialogue.</p> <p>Greater Manchester Equality Alliance (GM=EqAI) is a coalition of organisations and individuals drawn from a wide range of communities of experience across Greater Manchester.</p> <p>GM=EqAI seeks to channel the expertise of grassroots groups, equality organisations and inclusion champions into decision making at the highest levels.</p>

GM=EqAI will provide targeted engagement with communities at a GM-level where appropriate, this could take the form of thematic workshops/ conversations, or potentially focussed on particular characteristics.

In addition, the work will also contribute to the oversight and scrutiny of the Improving Police Custody programme through participation with the steering group and other relevant forums.

It will also support the implementation of legislation by providing an analysis of directives with an 'inequalities' lens – helping partners in the criminal justice system consider how experiences of policing could differ between communities.

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

The vision for the Strategy is to make Greater Manchester one of the best places in the world 'to grow up, get on and grow old'. A key element of delivering this vision is that every community and person in Greater Manchester feels safe and secure in their daily lives.

As experts in the lived experience of marginalised communities, GM=EqAI members care deeply about how policing and the criminal justice system impact on those around them.

GM=EqAI includes members from all 10 districts of Greater Manchester, reflecting all protected characteristics recognised in the Equality Act 2010 and more (such as socio-economic deprivation).

They provided a strong emphasis on empowering communities to shape and influence the process.

**Links to Police and Crime Plan:**

Priority 1 – contributing to reducing victims of violence, increasing feelings of safety and increasing confidence in community safety.

Priority – Preventing violence, and the precursors to violence such as ASB. Intervening early to reduce the harm caused by violence.

Priority 3 – Supporting community resilience by investing in local services and people.

**Procurement comments:**

No Procurement concerns. Grant funding within the purview of the directorate. Not subject to Procurement regulations, however commissioners should ensure relevant Subsidy Control procedures are followed.

Should any proposals arise to extend the arrangements beyond those described in this document, please revert to Commercial Services for further advice and support.

Commercial Services file ref: **GMCA 1137.2**

**Financial comments:**

Allocated from The FIM, Improving Police Custody funds. CC3007

**Legal comments:**

The funding has been allocated according to existing GMCA procurement rules.

There are no known legal risks.

**Risk Assessment:**

Should the funds not be allocated for this piece of work, the important contribution from GM=EqAI would not be able to happen.

This work stream addresses issues highlighted through HMICFRS inspection and a lived experience view is critical to the work programme.

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

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is a priority of the improving police custody partnership work stream.

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

Signed



**Date 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**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:**