

DECISION NOTICE

Decision author and proposer: Philip Leigh, Substance Misuse Strategy and Partnership Officer

Subject/ Title:
Greater Manchester Emerging Drug Trends and Drug Testing (GM TRENDS)

Type of decision:			
Deputy Mayor's decision		Chief Officer's decision	x

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

<p>The decision is that: The terminal date of the current agreement with Manchester Metropolitan University for the delivery of the GM TRENDS research and laboratory testing will be extended to 31st May 2024 with no additional funds allocated to the project.</p>
<p>The reasons for the decision are: The agreement with Manchester Metropolitan University provides for drug use monitoring to keep professionals and the public well-informed and respond to the threat of new, potent, or adulterated drugs.</p> <p>The agreement includes a research project to identify changes and emerging issues in the use of substances by Greater Manchester residents and for 120 laboratory tests on samples obtained across Greater Manchester.</p> <p>The 2023 research project has overrun the projected completion date of 31st August 2023 due to delays in drug samples being provided by GMP to enable laboratory analysis. The terminal date of this agreement is therefore proposed to be extended to 31st May 2024 by which time the young people's element of the research will be published. There will be no additional funding required for the extension of the agreement.</p>
<p>This decision will contribute to priorities of the Greater Manchester strategy in the following ways: This aligns with the GMS priority around building safer and stronger communities.</p>

The decision also contributes to various elements of the Greater Manchester Combatting Drugs Partnership Strategic Delivery Plan

Procurement comments:

No significant Procurement concerns. Extension to terminal date of the contract without additional funding required.

For the establishment of a new contract period please revert to Commercial Services for further advice.

Commercial Services file ref: **GMCA 1133**

Financial comments:

No additional funding will be required for the extended period.

Legal comments:

No Legal issues as such. The possibility of modifying and making variations to existing contracts has been codified into the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, such that variations/extensions to a contract will fall into one of two categories: 'substantial' changes and 'not substantial' changes. Any changes deemed to be 'substantial' will require a tender process for a new contract; changes which are not 'substantial' will not. The nature of this extension and the fact that there is no additional spend means that it falls into the latter category hence any risk of challenge is extremely low.

Risk Assessment:

Delivery risks are managed via Manchester Metropolitan University polices, procedures, and ethics.

Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

Covered by Manchester Metropolitan University polices, procedures, and ethics.

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

Covered by Manchester Metropolitan University polices, procedures, and ethics.

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

Signed 

Date 20th 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: