

DECISION NOTICE

Decision author and proposer: Carol Judge-Campbell

Subject/ Title:
Domestic Abuse Crisis Worker Pilots – Salford and Bolton

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

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

<p>The decision is that: The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime approves funding for the continuation of two Domestic Abuse Crisis Worker Pilots in Bolton and Salford.</p> <p>The funding required to deliver the second year of the pilots is £75,000 to be distributed as follows:</p> <p>Fortalice (Bolton) £37,500 Salford Council (for Safe in Salford Partnership) £37,500</p> <p>Evaluation – In House Contribution</p> <p>The total funding required for the second year of this pilot is £75,000. It has been agreed that this funding can be sourced from the Victims Budget.</p>
<p>The reason for the decision is:</p> <p>The pilots have been running for a year and the evaluation of the project (which is attached to this decision notice) demonstrates the added value delivered by the DA Crisis worker pilot which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Victim/Survivor feedback • Better co-ordination of support to DA Victims/Survivors • Freeing police officers to respond more effectively to the crime • Assisting the triage process for IDVA teams <p>One of the crisis workers gave this insight on the project: “People aren’t always in a position to make a statement or to go ahead with a criminal conviction; either because they’re frightened of the process or it’s a family member or they’re in a position where they don’t want to prosecute the perpetrator. Being able to offer some alternatives when this situation arises, to talk about safety plans, or being able to offer some sort of intervention that doesn’t form part of that formal process has been really worthwhile. I think once you listen to them and you let them know their options, about how we can support them in court or provide some special</p>

measures to be put in place, I think the client really appreciates that they have been listened to and offered options that are not a one size fits all solution.”

The evaluation of the first year of the pilot project was presented to the GBV Board at its meeting in June this year and the GBV Board agreed to extend the life of the pilot by a further year to provide a useful cost-effective model for the future delivery of support services to Victims/Survivors of Domestic Abuse. It was felt that the DA crisis pilot approach could provide a beneficial adjunct to IDVA provision across GM.

A further evaluation of the second year of the pilot will be undertaken by the GMCA Principal Researcher for Police, Crime and Fire. Areas this evaluation will consider are the levels of victim satisfaction, the reduction in victim attrition, the ‘capture’ of victims that are overlooked if they choose not to proceed with a criminal justice solution or otherwise fall out of the system. This second evaluation will also consider the impact of the Crisis pilot project on the IDVA service – this stems from the Head of one of the IDVA services involved in the pilot stating - that if offered an additional IDVA or the provision of a crisis pilot worker which one she would opt for and her response was the crisis pilot worker without a doubt.

We anticipate key outcomes of the pilots being:

- Easier and more effective way of engaging victims with DAV services. Improved service for victims.
- Improved partnership working between police and support services.
- Improved immediate access to support services for victims.
- Reduced pressure on police time and resources.
- Smoother and more appropriate referral to other services.
- Reduction in demand on IDVA services

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

This will contribute to the following Police, Crime and Fire actions for the GMS Delivery Plan:

- Tackle gender-based violence and abuse in all its forms.
- Gender-based Violence Strategy.

This also contributes towards delivery of priorities within the Standing Together Plan:

- Keeping people safe and support victims, specifically improve services to victims of sexual and domestic violence.
- Theme for action 1: tackling inequality and injustice in all its forms including Gender Based Violence.

Procurement comments:

This is the second year of this pilot, and the view is that lessons learnt from this work will feed into IDVA provision in the future. The two partners are the original partners to the project and the grant agreements will remain in place.

Financial comments:

Funding will be allocated from CC3011 (MoJ Victims Grant Core Funding). This has been agreed by the GBV Board at its meeting in June 2024.

Legal comments:

Legal will be requested to draw up grant agreements for this funding. This will outline the monitoring requirements.

Risk Assessment:

The projects have been run for a year by the Safer in Salford Partnership and Fort Alice in Bolton – both organisations have fulfilled all the requirements outlined in the grant agreements. Both organisations have a good track record of delivering a variety of projects for GMCA and for their respective Local Authorities. The risk involved in the projects are minimal.

Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

Yes – relevant policies and procedures in place locally.

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

Yes – relevant policies and procedures in place locally.

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

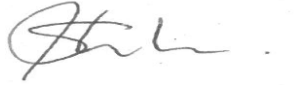
Signed



Date 22nd August 2024

Agreed by GMCA Treasurer

Signed



Date 22nd August 2024

Agreed by Deputy Mayor

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

Signed:



Date: 28th August 2024

Contact Officer: Carol Judge Campbell