

**DECISION NOTICE**

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

<b>Subject: Bolton CVS Support for VRU Action Network</b>

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

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

<p><b>The decision is that:</b></p> <p>The GM VRU are seeking to fund <a href="#">Bolton Community Voluntary Sector (CVS)</a> the amount of £2,580 to support development of a VRU Action Network, costed at 10 weeks of support provided by x2 colleagues at Bolton CVS to be paid via standard GMCA purchase order procedure (not grant funding).</p> <p><i>To date, the GM VRU have awarded Bolton CVS a total of £3,655,000 from the 2020/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25 Serious Violence Funding (and Deputy Mayor Investment Fund) to support the Community-Led Programme. This award will bring the total funding amount to £3,657,580.</i></p> <p><b>The reasons for the decision are:</b></p> <p>The key focus of the VRU's Community Led Programmes is ensuring that young people and stakeholders in a specific locality or place come together, focussing on a strength based approach in the pilot sites to identify what work is already taking place, what gaps may exist and what the opportunities might be to address these gaps. Key to this approach is harnessing and building on existing strengths and capacity from within the community to develop projects and activities.</p> <p>The programme is co-ordinated by a VCSE Sector Strategic Lead (Michael Phipps) who is working with Public Sector and VCSE sector partners to deliver the programme and is based within the GM VRU. This programme is about working with communities to find solutions to problems that exist in their area. Investment is important and there is funding available to develop and deliver solutions that communities define and collectively agree on. The key priority is about building trust with communities and acting upon their challenges and ideas through prioritising</p>
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a range of shared actions. To date, the CLP is operating in all 10 areas of GM.

As part of the recently approved implementation plan for the Greater Than Violence strategy, the previous Community Led Delivery group (having met monthly virtually) will now be replaced by a quarterly, in person 'action network'. The network will transform the VRU's approach to working with and for communities. Given the objectives of the Greater Than Violence Strategy, broad representation is a pre-requisite, including substantial VCSE voices. This would be known as the VRU Action Network. The learning from this will be fed into the governance board and back into the programme as a whole. The recommendations from the 2023 'Experts by Experience' programme are ultimately achieved via this project.

**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:**

This will be funded from the PCC's commissioning reserves.

**Legal comments:**

Any services or products procured through this programme will adhere to GMCA commissioning policy and UK rules on procurement with the support of the GMCA Procurement and Manchester City Council Legal Teams.

The GM VRU/GMCA will need to seek further Legal and Procurement advice for any future funding to Bolton CVS.

**Procurement comments:**

No procurement concerns due to low funding amount. Commercial Services have reviewed this award and determined it is new funding unrelated to the previous grant funding awarded to Bolton CVS.

**Risk Assessment:**

The commissioning and funding process will be undertaken according to existing procurement rules, with support from legal and Information Governance. There are no known wider risks identified. The funding will be coordinated by the VCSE Lead for the GM VRU who is employed by Bolton CVS and overseen by the VRU Community-Led Delivery Group.

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

Safeguarding of children is paramount to violence reduction work, both as potential victims and perpetrators of serious violence. Many of the strands of work the Action Network will bring together directly address this,

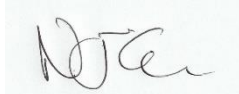
particularly those included in CSP plans, and work related to health and education.

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

As above. Bolton CVS has a Modern Slavery Statement.

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

**Signed:**



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

**Agreed by GMCA Treasurer**

**Signed:**



**Date:** 16/09/2024

**Agreed by Deputy Mayor**

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

**Signed:**



**Date:** 17 September 2024

**Contact Officer:** James Carrick – [James.carrick@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:James.carrick@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)