

DECISION NOTICE

Subject:

Aftercare service for Greater Manchester Sexual Assault Referral Centre.

Type of decision:

**Commissioner's
decision**

x

Senior Officers Decision

The decision is that:

Upto £850k per annum for an initial period of three years be provided to fund the Greater Manchester Sexual Assault Referral Centre aftercare service.

The contract will be offered with an option to extend for two years.

The funding will come from the police budget and the GMCA SARC reserves.

The reasons for the decision are:

It is the responsibility of the Police and Crime Commissioner to provide support services for victims of rape and sexual assault. Currently, this is provided through an integrated forensic and aftercare service, however this will change from April 2019, when a North West forensic service will be commissioned separately by NHS England.

In the interim, Greater Manchester will continue to fund both elements of the service, but through separate contracts led by NHSE (forensic) and GMCA (aftercare). As such, GMCA has commenced a procurement process for the aftercare service, which is likely to result in a new contract commencing on 1st July 2018.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Given the value of the contract and the competitive nature of the SARC "aftercare" market, a full procurement exercise has been undertaken.

A new specification has been developed in partnership with a variety of stakeholders, including representation from GMP, the CPS, health and safeguarding colleagues. The document considers service user and provider

feedback, emerging national guidance and the independent GM SARC review that was completed in 2017.

Financial comments:

There is sufficient funding within the budget to cover the life of this contract (including the option to extend for 2 years).

Payments will be made quarterly on receipt of an invoice and approval by the OPCC contract manager.

Legal comments:

The procurement process has been overseen by GMP's procurement team and is fully compliant with the OJEU regulations.

Monitoring of the contract will be via quarterly contract monitoring meetings, chaired and convened by the Commissioner.

Risk Assessment:

The commissioning of this service will ensure that the priorities outlined in the Police and Crime plan continue to be addressed.

The development of a new specification will take into existing gaps in the service, namely;

- Lack of provision outside of Manchester centre
- Capacity issues due to the increase in reports of rape and sexual assault
- Limited integration into other areas of support
- Inconsistent exit process/onward referral for clients
- Support for victims who chose not to pursue a criminal justice outcome
- Bespoke options based on client needs

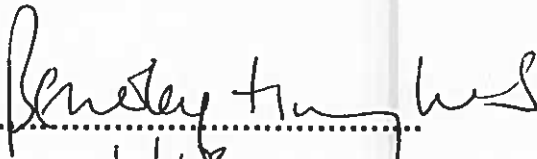
Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

The provision will be an all-age service, providing bespoke support to children and where appropriate their families. Safeguarding professionals have been involved in each stage of the development of the specification, to ensure that the service is both compliant and appropriate.

Agreed by Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

BEV HUGHES
DEPUTY
MAYOR OF
GREATER
MANCHESTER

GMCA **GREATER**
MANCHESTER
COMBINED
AUTHORITY

Signed: 

Date: 12/1/18

Contact Officer:
Laura Mercer
(Principal-Victims and Vulnerability-GMCA)

