

DECISION NOTICE

Decision author and proposer:

Subject:
City Hearts' Integrated Support Programme for survivors of trafficking and modern slavery.

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

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

The decision is that:
Funding of £40,000 is provided to City Hearts to contribute towards the 2018/19 cost of supporting survivors of trafficking and modern slavery after the 45 day statutory period of support has ended.

The reasons for the decision are:
<p>Individuals who are recognised as a potential victim of modern slavery through the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) have access to specialist tailored support for a period of at least 45 days while their case is considered. This may include access to relevant legal advice, accommodation, protection and independent emotional and practical help. Support in England and Wales is currently delivered by the Salvation Army and a number of subcontractors, including City Hearts. However, it has been recognised that there is currently no coherent support for people once they move on from the NRM.</p> <p>In Greater Manchester, City Hearts has been working with post NRM survivors through its Integration Support Programme (ISP) for over 4 years. The purpose of the ISP is to reduce the risk of vulnerability to re-trafficking post NRM by providing ongoing advice, support and guidance to survivors. A 6 month review of the ISP was undertaken between January and June 2017 which demonstrated that the ISP model is a cost effective and scalable model delivering tangible outcomes for survivors of trafficking and modern slavery.</p> <p>The ISP comprises regular phone contact between City Hearts professionals and the survivor, along with regular drop-in facilities for face-to-face support where this is needed. Telephone interpreting is available and travel is reimbursed for survivors attending the drop-in. Currently there is a male and female drop-in in the</p>

Salford area of Greater Manchester, as well as a female only drop-in in the Bury area. The drop-in services have proven to be an effective method of providing support on a range of issues, particularly in relation to benefits, housing, healthcare, asylum support and mental health. The ISP is currently supporting 60 survivors living across the Greater Manchester region, comprising 46 women and 14 men.

Without this additional funding from GMCA, it is possible that the ISP will cease during 2018/19 and survivors will no longer be able to access additional support at the end of their 45 day period of statutory support. This will result in an already vulnerable cohort of people susceptible to further trafficking and abuse as uncertainty in relation to their housing, financial or legal status would leave them vulnerable to further trafficking and exploitation.

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

The GMCA Greater Manchester Strategy vision is: to make Greater Manchester one of the best places in the world "to grow up, get on and grow old". A key element for delivering the vision is that every community and person in Greater Manchester feels safe and secure in their daily lives. Supporting victims of crime and protecting vulnerable people is a key way in which this is achieved.

Financial comments:

The funding will be provided from the MOJ Victims Budget 2018/19 which has been subject to a budget planning process and there are sufficient funds within the budget to meet these requirements.

Legal comments:

Funding will be provided for 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

Risk Assessment:

By choosing to fund the above services, the needs of some of Greater Manchester's most vulnerable victims and survivors of modern slavery will be met. Failure to provide the services would mean that victims may not be supported post NRM and that the likelihood of them becoming victims again is significantly higher.

Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

City Hearts has policies and procedures in place for safeguarding children.

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

City Hearts has policies and procedures in place for safeguarding vulnerable adults.

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

Signed.....

Date.....12/7/18

Agreed by Deputy Mayor

Signed.....

Date.....12/7/18

Contact Officer:

