

DECISION NOTICE

Decision author and proposer: Laura Mercer

Subject:
Training for Independent Sexual Violence Advisors

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

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

<p>The decision is that: LimeCultures be awarded a single payment grant to deliver a bespoke training course in Greater Manchester. Training will be offered to upto 12 individuals to become suitably qualified Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs). Funding of £31, 680 will be awarded from SARC Reserves.</p>
<p>The reasons for the decision are:</p> <p>ISVAs play a crucial role in ensuring that victims of rape and sexual assault are supported through their criminal justice journey. With the increase in demand, that has emerged in Greater Manchester over the course of the past few years and a subsequent anticipated rise in the need for the service, building a resilient ISVA workforce has been highlighted as a key priority.</p> <p>The ISVA role is specialist and the training will give existing staff from Greater Manchester's Victim and Assessment Referral Service an uplift in terms of their current capability. There is also the potential for any newly recruited staff to receive the training and the training provider is prepared to be flexible in order to accommodate the training needs of any newly appointed staff, over the course of the next six months. Of particular importance is that the training provided is gender neutral and considers the needs of both male and female victims and survivors of rape and sexual assault.</p> <p>The training will be undertaken over the course of a six month period and after one month, provides opportunities for on the job learning. The training will commence in September, for those staff already in post and working with Victim Support. For any new recruits, there is an option to start the</p>

training either in November, or January 2019-dependant upon individual need. This means by March 2019, there will be additional capacity in terms of our ISVA provision across Greater Manchester. Dependant on any decision to recruit additional staff, the training could provide further training for upto 12 staff in total.

The training will provide workforce resilience in terms of any increase in demand.

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

This work will support the following priorities within the Greater Manchester Strategy:

- Safer and stronger communities
- Healthy lives, with quality care available for those that need it

Financial comments: There is sufficient funds within the SARC Reserves.

As part of this training package, GMCA has been offered a complementary training input by a specialist provider, which will focus specifically on the needs of boys and men. This has meant that we have been able to reduce the overall cost of the training.

Legal comments: A grant agreement will be awarded and monitoring arrangements agreed to ensure that the provider adheres to any conditions imposed by the grant.

The training provider meets all relevant training requirements in relation to the ISVA role and has demonstrated that they are compliant with the Skills For Justice ISVA National Occupational standards for sexual violence.

Risk Assessment:

Workforce capacity and resilience: the number of rape and sexual assault cases being reported to the police has increased over the course of the past few years. If this trend continues and more individuals wish to pursue a criminal justice outcome, the system should be set up to enable that. This training provides a firm basis on which to develop that capacity. In addition, the increase in capacity will also provide some resilience for existing ISVA staff who, due to the intensity of the role, may be at risk of burn out/emotional overload.

Workforce capability and consistency: the training will ensure that individuals who opt to pursue a criminal justice outcome are offered consistent support. By offering an accredited training programme, we are providing victims with the best possible support in terms of the ISVA provision.

Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered: Limecultures has policies and procedures in place in relation to safeguarding children, which will be emphasised throughout the training.

Is safeguarding of vulnerable adults relevant and has this been considered: Limecultures has policies and procedures in place in relation to safeguarding vulnerable adults and this information will be emphasised throughout the training.

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

Signed.....

Date.....17/5/18

Agreed by Deputy Mayor

Signed:

Date:17/5/18

Contact Officer:

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