

**DECISION NOTICE**

**Decision author and proposer: Laura Mercer**

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| <b>Subject:</b>                                   |
| <b>Funding LGBT Foundation Hate Crime Support</b> |

|                                |          |                                 |  |
|--------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of decision:</b>       |          |                                 |  |
| <b>Deputy Mayor's decision</b> | <b>X</b> | <b>Chief Officer's decision</b> |  |

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

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| <b>The decision is that:</b>   |
| It is recommended that the Deputy Mayor should continue to fund the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans) Foundation to support victims of hate crime, at a cost of £29,580 for the period 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019. This will be funded from the Ministry of Justice Victims Fund. |

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| <b>The reasons for the decision are:</b>   |
| <p>Key research highlights LGBT people often struggle to access mainstream services for a variety of reasons. Victims of all types of hate crime, are over twice as likely to be emotionally impacted by the crime as people who experience other types of crime. In addition, there is recognition nationally that hate crime is underreported.</p> <p>The LGBT Foundation funding provides a helpline and other support services to increase the reporting of hate crime from the Greater Manchester LGBT Community. Victims are supported via different methods including; the helpline, "pop in" crisis support and counselling and talking therapies. There is no other organisation within the conurbation that offers bespoke support for LGBT victims of hate crime.</p> <p>This grant is a continuation of existing funding, which has been monitored for impact against the Ministry of Justice outcomes. The monitoring has highlighted that the service enables victims to talk about what has happened, leaves them feeling more confident and aware of how to access further support and information. The counselling service provided in 2017/18 by funding from GMCA was accessed by 61 victims from Greater Manchester,</p> |

who attended 429 counselling sessions. 90% of these clients demonstrated seeing an improvement in their own well-being and resilience.

The funding also enabled the LGBT Foundation to deliver 12 police surgeries and 24 legal surgeries, which provided victims with support and information relating to the criminal justice process and legal issues.

By funding the project, the needs of some of Greater Manchester's most vulnerable victims will continue to be met. The LGBT Foundation will continue to collect monitoring information regarding number and content of individual assessments, support plans, progression and outcomes of victims supported during the project term. This information will be measured against the Ministry Of Justice outcomes framework.

**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:**

The funding for 2018/19 will come from the MOJ Victims Fund and there are sufficient funds within the budget.

**Legal comments:**

Funding will be provided for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

**Risk Assessment:**

Failure to provide the service would mean that the large number of victims offered specialist support by the LGBT Foundation would be left at risk.

In addition,if the funding were to cease, it is likely that those individuals who are currently accessing support, in particular the counselling service, would be referred back into mainstream services, where there is currently a backlog in relation to accessing counselling.

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

The organisation is asked to share their safeguarding policy and procedures for children and young people with GMCA where relevant, to ensure that safeguarding practices are robust and up to date.

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

The organisation is asked to share their safeguarding policy and procedures for vulnerable adults with GMCA where relevant, to ensure that safeguarding practices are robust and up to date.

**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: Laura Mercer (Principal-Victims and Vulnerability)**

