

DECISION NOTICE

Subject:

STRIVE – QES Contract Extension

Type of decision:

**Commissioner's
decision**

**Chief Officer's
decision**

The decision is that:

A total of **£10,000** is to be approved to extend the QES contract for a further 12 months. The QES case management system is utilised across each of the 10 Local Authority areas as part of the delivery of the STRIVE programme.

The reasons for the decision are:

The current contract with QES comes to an end at the end of Feb 18 therefore it is proposed that the QES contract is renewed for an additional year (until Feb 19).

The QES system was previously adopted to address inconsistency across each of the 10 districts when recording and capturing information around the delivery of STRIVE. Previously, districts relied heavily on spreadsheets stored on networks accessible by individual agencies only, which also created issues when analysing the effectiveness of the programme.

QES therefore currently provides GM with a web based data recording mechanism for local authority areas to consistently collate information to deliver the STRIVE Programme. The system can be accessed by any staff / volunteer members from a range of agencies (including third sector organisation), with a valid log on and password. The relevant information governance processes have been developed and adopted to ensure multi-agency access which has supported the volunteer led principles of STRIVE.

The creation of the QES system has allowed a robust evaluation process to take place and the findings of this work are helping to shape the future GM STRIVE model.

As part of the review and redesign of a GM STRIVE model, the data recording mechanism will be considered. Further discussions are also taking with GMP to determine whether the new iOPS system could provide a case management / record management solution which QES currently provides. GMP have informed GMCA that any changes to iOPS will not be likely for an additional 12 -18 month period hence

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Local authorities to revert to capturing and recording their own information to support the delivery of STRIVE. It is suggested that this option is rejected on the basis that this will result in a varied approach across Greater Manchester. This option does not support the GM principles we are intend to adopt and would result in limited access to information from multi-agency providers and volunteers.

Financial comments:

Funding will be awarded from the MoJ Victims Fund. There are sufficient funds within this grant within 17/18.

Monitoring Officer comments:

This funding is recommended to maintain and further develop the implementation of the STRIVE programme. The web-based system provides an effective solution to issues previously identified across each of the districts and has helped evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention.

Risk Assessment:

It is imperative that the investment in STRIVE continues to be monitored. Local Authority and GMP leadership in this area is key if the project is to be successful across the conurbation, as such a report outlining the options for the sustainability of STRIVE is being presented to the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board in Feb 2018.

This funding will help provide consistency in data recording and support the sustainability of STRIVE.

Is safeguarding of children relevant and has this been considered:

Local Authorities have safeguarding policies and procedures in place to ensure that safeguarding practices are robust and up to date.

Signed:
Deputy Mayor

Burton Hughes

Date:
12/1/18

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