

DMPC Decision – PCD 673

Title: VRU Work Programme: Community

Executive Summary:

Keeping Londoners safe is a top Mayoral priority and the newly established Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) was established to adopt a public health approach towards tackling violence in the capital.

The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) has a budget of £14.8 million which includes £7 million awarded by the Home Office for 2019/20. The 15 projects described below will be allocated £2.4m of the overall budget in line with VRU objectives.

The 15 projects are closely linked to community-based projects including specific projects for young people, youth practitioners, support to communities and Local Authorities in response to critical incidents; as well as other pilot community and parent group programmes. Annex 1 details the proposals and funding profiles of the programmes.

Recommendation:

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to:

- In line with the VRU Strategy and work programme, approve the award of £1.8m in 2019/20 and £0.6m in 2020/21 of direct grants and uplifts of existing arrangements to selected organisations for the delivery of a community-based programme of work as described in this report.
- Approve allocation of £0.6m in 2019/20 and £0.7m in 2020/21 towards a competitive grant process for delivery of community-based programmes and, following this process, delegate to the Director of the Violence Reduction Unit finalisation of grants and contracts.
- Approve authority for a single tender process for a low value piece of expert research referred to in 4.3.

Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct. Any such interests are recorded below.

The above request has my approval.

Signature

Julie Hender

Date

11/12/2019

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE DMPC

1. Introduction and background

1.1. The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) was created in September 2018 by the Mayor of London. The strategic aims of the VRU are:

- To stabilise and reduce violence
- To increase feelings of safety
- To place community at the heart of our work – only by doing so do we have a sustainable long-term approach towards reducing violence.

1.2. Adopting the contextual framework and aligning that with the journey of a child our work programme encompasses the following core objectives:

- Supporting individuals to be more resilient
- Supporting stronger families
- Young people leading change
- Enabling communities to be strong, safe and resilient
- Prioritising wellbeing and achievement in schools
- Giving young people every chance to succeed
- Making London a more compassionate and safer city
- Increasing confidence in public institutions and changing the message around violence'

1.3. The VRU will take a public health approach to tackling violence, which means looking at violence not as isolated incidents or solely a police enforcement problem. Instead, this approach looks at violence as a preventable consequence of a range of factors, such as adverse early-life experiences, or harmful social or community experiences and influences. This decision specifically relates to the VRU's work in relation to communities.

2. Issues for consideration

2.1. The VRU has a budget of £14.8 million which includes £7 million awarded by the Home Office for 2019/20.

2.2.

2.3. The Home Office sent confirmation of award of funding of £7m in August 2019, with the grant agreement being signed September 2019. The Home Office funding is to be spent on activity delivered in 2019/20 only and is subject to quarterly grant returns.

2.4.

2.5. The VRU has developed 15 schemes, which are closely linked to community-based projects including specific projects for young people, youth practitioners, support to communities and Local Authorities in response to critical incidents; as well as other pilot community and parent group programmes. Annex 1 details the proposals; a brief summary of each proposal is below:

- 1) Community based crisis intervention: Grant to Camden Local Authority to support existing work in relation to crisis intervention and community support following an incident of serious violence.
- 2) Provision of a community and voluntary sector led programme of work on leadership.
- 3) Knife Crime Community Seed Fund: extension to existing contract to fund all selected programmes.
- 4) Expansion of seed funding programme to enable other grassroots organisations to bid for funding and be part of the existing seed funding network.
- 5) Allocation of budget to enable local authorities to access and request a grant of up to £5k following a critical incident involving violence.
- 6) Building on existing pan-London gang exit provision, the VRU will enable the current provider to review how services can support violence interruption and tension reduction.
- 7) A toolkit was developed on responding in the aftermath of a serious violent incident. A community safety partnerships version will now be developed following feedback received from stakeholders.
- 8) Parenting support: Development and delivery of a new or scaled-up model of community-based parenting support by borough(s)/localities identified by the VRU in partnership community organisations, with outcomes focussed on the broader social risk factors for violence.
- 9) Google funded Social Switch project: Enhancing the three core delivery areas: training for frontline professionals; training, mentoring and work placements for young people; and a grant programme to support organisations and individuals to support community engagement.
- 10) Youth workers: Development of a leadership programme which supports and encourages talented youth professionals to develop their career paths and to support the next generation of youth sector leaders.
- 11) After school provision: The VRU previously allocated £800k to expand and promote after-school provision, especially activity for young people during the times of 4-7pm on weekdays. A further £400k will be allocated towards this.
- 12) Funding will be provided to local authorities to undertake risk management surveys of local authority premises in order to mitigate the risks around violence, within a community safety arena.
- 13) Research: to fund the evaluation of the current sports programmes within a London Borough to evidence the impact of sports programmes on violence and identify and assess key indicators to improve and magnify the local effect of sport interventions focused on tackling violent crime in the capital.

- 14) Research: To explore attitudes towards the sharing of personal data for crime prevention, among Londoners most at-risk of being victims and/or perpetrators of violent crime; this work will be undertaken by the GLA Intelligence team.
- 15) Whole School Approach: The VRU had previously requested approval to award £395k to Tender to deliver the whole school approach in 10 boroughs. Inclusive Schools will target 13 boroughs, requiring an additional allocation of £65k.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. Annex 1 details the schemes and funding profiles of the proposed programmes. Funding for the schemes in 2019/20 is set aside within the VRU budget.
- 3.2. Several of the programmes require extension into 2020/21 and future years to ensure the programme delivers impact and can be evaluated effectively. The financial implications of this will be dealt with through the 2020/21 budget process, but in the interim will be underpinned by MOPAC reserves pending the availability of other funding sources.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1. MOPAC has powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (formerly under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011) to award grants to secure the reduction of crime and disorder in London.
- 4.2. Paragraph 4.8 of the MOPAC's Scheme of Consent and Delegation provides the DMPC with delegated power to
- approve bids for grant funding made and all offers made of grant funding; and/or where appropriate a strategy for grant giving.
 - The strategy for the award of individual grants and/ or the award of all individual grants whether to secure or contribute to securing crime reduction in London or for other purposes.
- 4.3 Within the decisions, there is a single tender authority which we are seeking for project number 13. This relates to an evaluation of sport programme interventions to help tackling violent crime across the capital; assessing their effectiveness. This would be supplied by Loughborough University due to the unique expertise in this area of research and evaluation; being the only university to operate in this field, led by an international leading professor. Authority is therefore sought for a single tender process for this low value piece of expert research.

5. Commercial Issues

- 5.1. The approach for Phase 2 of the VRU total spend includes a combination of awarding direct grants and enhancing existing grant arrangements which support the public health approach to violence reduction. This enables delivery of activity in line with Home

Office spend conditions, where spend and delivery of activity must take place by March 2020. It is also proposed to allocate £1.1m via a competitive grants process. Where it has been possible, we have competed the grant agreements to remain within the parameters of a transparent and effective procurement process.

- 5.2. This approach will also allow the VRU to begin effecting change at a rapid pace and further build the evidence base to enable continuous improvement of the VRU approach.

6. Public Health Approach

- 6.1. The spend plan takes a public health approach to tackling violence, which means looking at violence not as isolated incidents or solely a police enforcement problem. Instead, this approach looks at violence as a preventable consequence of a range of factors, such as adverse early-life experiences, or harmful social or community experiences and influences.

7. GDPR and Data Privacy

- 7.1. A full Data Protection Impact Assessment will be completed by all providers if required as part of the mobilisation for the services, to ensure that all delivery is fully compliant with the requirements of the GDPR.
- 7.2. All contracts and grant agreements will include clear provisions relating to compliance in this area, and in relation to the processing of personal data. These terms have been drafted following consultation with MOPAC's GDPR Project Manager.

8. Equality Comments

- 8.1. Under s149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the Equality Act), as a public authority the Deputy Mayor/MOPAC must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and any conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. Protected characteristics under the Equality Act are age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, and marriage or civil partnership status (the duty in respect of this last characteristic is to eliminate unlawful discrimination only).
- 8.2. The Violence Reduction Unit has commissioned an Equality Impact Assessment which will be published in due course; and reflect our work programme. Regarding the specific programmes included within this proposal, initial screening has assessed that there is neutral impact on cohort of individuals included or not included in the programmes.

9. Background/supporting papers

- 9.1. Annex 1.

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and will be made available on the MOPAC website following approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary.

Part 1 Deferral:

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

If yes, for what reason: to enable time to

Until what date:

Part 2 Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice considered as likely to be exempt from disclosure under the FOIA should be in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a Part 2 form – NO

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION	<i>Tick to confirm statement (✓)</i>
Financial Advice The Strategic Finance and Resource Management Team has been consulted on this proposal.	✓
Legal Advice Legal advice is not required.	✓
Equalities Advice: Equality and diversity issues are covered in the body of the report.	✓
Public Health Approach Due diligence has been given to determine whether the programme sits within the Violence Reduction Unit's public approach to reducing violence.	✓
Commercial Issues The Contract Management Team has been consulted on the commercial issues within this report. The proposal is in keeping with the GLA Group Responsible Procurement Policy.	✓
GDPR/Data Privacy A DPIA is not required at this stage.	✓
Director/Head of Service The Director of VRU has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the MOPAC's plans and priorities.	✓

Interim Chief Executive Officer

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime.

Signature 

Date 9/12/2019

Annex 1: Part 1		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
Objectives	Commissioning Route			
Enabling communities to be strong, safe and resilient Enabling and empowering communities to lead from within to build sustainable futures	Direct Grant to London Borough of Camden- approved CEOD 04-2019 Camden has had several recent street based homicides that have impacted on communities. Communities and local partners have developed support networks which provide a strong opportunity to support a crisis intervention and community support project, which may then have the potential for role out further across London	50		
	Proposal			
	The VRU wish to give a direct grant of £50,000 to Camden Local Authority to support existing work in relation to crisis intervention and community support following an incident of serious violence. The Unit is keen to develop share learning across London to inform the development of community based trauma support for families, friendship groups and for professionals who work with affected communities and who may be vulnerable to direct or secondary trauma as a result of a serious violent incident, e.g. youth practitioners.			
		50	300	
	This project is for the provision of a community and voluntary sector led programme of work directly supporting the London public health approach and VRU objectives. The Invitation to Apply has been written and is ready to be opened for applications, once the DMPC decision has been confirmed.			

Annex 1: Part 1

Objectives	Proposal	Commissioning Route	2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
	<p>Knife Crime Community Seed Fund: extension to existing contract The funding was confirmed in PCD 587 for £1.4m. In awarding contracts, it was identified that an additional £61k was required to fund all the programmes which were selected.</p>	<p>Uplift to existing grant arrangements with LCF, providing a consistent process for awarding funding to grass roots organisations and also utilising the capacity support programmes through the existing programme (such as training in future funding applications, safeguarding, trauma support)</p>	61		
	<p>The VRU seeks to expand seed funding project to enable other grassroots organisations to bid for funding and be part of the existing seed funding network.</p>	<p>Uplift with existing providers, which the contract allows</p>	400		
	<p>The VRU now has an allocated budget for 2019/20 and 2020/2021 which Local Authorities can access and request a grant of up to up to £5k following a critical incident involving violence. Following a critical incident, which may have involved a homicide or serious violent incident, there are a number of pressures which impact the Local Authority and local communities. This is due to the required response for the affected families, peer group, local community, and in most situations the wider community.</p>	<p>Direct grant to local authorities following application process. This direct grant is available to all 32 London Boroughs.</p>	150	227	

Annex 1: Part 1

Objectives	Proposal	Commissioning Route	2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
	<p>Building on existing pan-London gang exit provision, the VRU will enable the current provider Safer London to review how services can support violence interruption and tension reduction.</p>	<p>Direct grant to Safer London, as the only provider of London Gangs Exit across all 32 boroughs. Creates the feasibility of utilising tension reduction or violence reduction methodologies across London, within any future commissioned London Gangs Exit projects can be assessed.</p>	50		
	<p>Bounce developed a toolkit that could be used by a range of stakeholders (community safety partnerships, schools, voluntary organisations and individuals) when responding in the aftermath of a serious incident of violence.</p> <p>The final toolkit has been tested with these groups. The feedback received was that community safety partnerships would benefit from an edited version of the toolkit. This proposal is to now develop the CSP version.</p>	<p>Direct Award to Bounce. Bounce are in a unique position to undertake this work as the commissioned provider who delivered the Serious Violence Toolkit. This award provides funding to edit the toolkit to provide a bespoke version for Community Safety Partnerships.</p>	7		

Annex 1: Part 1		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
Objectives	Proposal	Commissioning Route		
Supporting stronger families Supporting parent and carers to nurture and protect	<p>Commissioning the development and delivery of a new or scaled-up model of community-based parenting support by borough(s)/ localities identified by the VRU in partnership community organisations, with outcomes focussed on the broader social risk factors for violence.</p> <p>Delivers outcomes focussed on the broader social risk factors for violence: financial capability, education, employment and training, social inclusion and community participation and advocacy skills relating to child's education.</p>	Direct grant to local authorities, based upon commonalities between governance, service structure, data mapping and opportunity to test a best practise model to disseminate. Assurance has been gained that funds can be deployed by the authorities in 2019/20	100	300
Giving young people every chance to succeed Institutions providing responsible leadership; London partners having a mutual accountability to invest in what works	<p>Social Innovation Fund - programme of intervention to support the GOOGLE fund can be increased to uplift the 3 core delivery areas; teacher training, mentoring and work placements. Direct grant to Catch 22/redthread as a part funder of the programme.</p> <p>The VRU values the critical work the youth sector and youth professionals bring in supporting young people exposed to risk and have plans to develop a training and professional development programme for frontline youth professionals in London. The aim is to develop a leadership programme which supports and encourages talented youth professionals to develop their career paths and to support the next generation of youth sector leaders.</p> <p>This specification is seeking an organisation or partnership with experience in delivering training and development programmes for youth practitioners. The pilot leadership programme will be designed to complement and add value to existing youth sector training by focusing primarily on supporting practitioners who will be working within a community affected by violence and drawing on specific professional learning needs.</p>	Direct grant that uplifts existing delivery; will be spent in 2019/20	200	-
		Competitive grants process; assurance gained that funds will be spent in 2019/20	150	350

Annex 1: Part 1		2019/20 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
Objectives	Proposal	Commissioning Route		
Prioritising wellbeing and achievement in schools. Institutions providing responsible leadership; London partners having a mutual accountability to invest in what works	After school provision - The VRU previously allocated £800k towards after school provision to expand and promote after-school provision, especially activity for young people during the times of 4-7pm during the weekdays. We seek to allocate a further £400k towards this.	Competitive grants process; assurance gained that funds will be spent in 2019/20	400	
Making London a more compassionate and safer city Building a London that is safe, united and inclusive.	Direct grant of £20k to offer opportunity of undertaking risk management survey of local authority premises in order to mitigate the risks around violence, within a community safety arena.	Direct grant to all 32 local authorities; assurance gained that funds will be spent in 2019/20	640	
Research	This pilot study aims to evaluate the current sports programmes within a London Borough, as part of a wider international evaluation funded by the Impact Partnership Fund. This research will evidence the impact of sports programmes on violence and identify and assess key indicators to improve and magnify the local effect of sport interventions focused on tackling violent crime in the capital. This research will be conducted by Dr Holly Collison of Loughborough University London, who is internationally recognised in this unique field of research.	Direct contract to University of Loughborough, which has unique expertise in this area of research and evaluation, hence this is a single tender award process for which permission is sought.	10	
	This research will explore attitudes towards the sharing of personal data for crime prevention, among Londoners most at-risk of being victims and/or perpetrators of violent crime. This research will explore their experiences of violence and their views towards their personal data being shared with public sector authorities to support crime prevention and reduce violence. The work will be undertaken by the GLA Intelligence Team, in order to maintain the integrity of GLA datasets and better support datasharing by and with partners including the NPS, police, health and local authorities	Direct funding to GLA, that supports City Hall's data sharing capability to support violence reduction.	20	
	The VRU had previously requested approval to award approx. £395k to Tender to deliver the whole school approach in 10 boroughs. Inclusive Schools will target 13 boroughs so Tender have requested an additional £20K approx. per borough (60K) bringing the actual total to £459,916.	Uplift to Tender grant agreement in line with terms of original agreement.	65	
			2,353	1,177

