

REQUEST FOR DMPC DECISION - DMPCD 2015 24

Title: Pan London Domestic Violence Service grant award

Executive Summary:

The Mayor committed in his 2012 Manifesto to commission and fund a pan London domestic violence service and maintain the number of Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs).

In November 2014 the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) approved decision DMPCD 2014 143 which funding of up to £5M over three financial years for a pan London Domestic Violence Service ("the Service").

The Service has been commissioned on a sub-regional basis via a competitive grant award process between December 2014 and February 2015.

Recommendation:

The DMPC is asked to approve the award of £4,999,001 over two years to Victim Support (Safer London Foundation, Metro Centre, Women's Aid Havering, Stay Safe East, Latin American Women's Aid, Co-op Legal Services and PayPlan¹) as a conditional grant for delivery of a Pan London Domestic Violence Service in the sub regions of North, West, East and South London.

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



Date

26/2/2018

¹ Victim Support will act as prime delivery organisation, but will sub-contract certain delivery elements to Safer London Foundation, Metro Centre and Latin American Women's Aid and agreed services will be supplied by Co-op Legal Services and PayPlan.

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

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The Mayor committed in his 2012 Manifesto to commission and fund a pan London domestic violence service and maintain the number of Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs).
- 1.2. In November 2014 the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) approved funding of up to £5M over three financial years for a pan London Domestic Violence Service (“the Service”) until 2017 and agreed for an external commissioning process for this service to commence in December 2014 (DMPC decision 2014 143).

2. Commissioning Process

- 2.1. A competitive commissioning process to award a condition grant has been implemented to select providers for the service in 4 sub regions of London (North, East, West and South).
- 2.2. 9 bids were received. These were initially assessed against all mandatory essential criteria as outlined in the service specification. All bids received met the essential criteria. A multi-agency panel then independently scored each of the bids.
- 2.3. The bids were scored against a single set of quality criteria and the scores were then moderated, weighted and totalled. The overall criteria and weightings are set out below.

<p>The weightings of the quality criteria for Service Part 1 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Implementation of the proposed service – 25%○ Quality of the proposed service – 25%○ Relevant expertise and experience – 30%○ Value for money in relation to quality of service provided – 20%

<p>The weightings of the quality criteria for Service Part 2 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Quality of the proposed service – 50%○ Relevant expertise and experience – 30%○ Value for money in relation to quality of service provided – 20%
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The above quality criteria and weightings represent assessment based on 80% quality and 20% for value for money.

- 2.4. Victim Support (Safer London Foundation, Metro Centre, Women’s Aid Havering, Stay Safe East, Latin American Women’s Aid, Co-op Legal Services and PayPlan²) was selected as the provider for London, as they scored the highest in each sub region.
- 2.5. The service model outlined by Victim Support in each sub region differs appropriately according to local need; however the service model delivers fully for each sub region with regard to the following key elements of Service Part 1 and 2 as set out in DMPCD 2014 143:
 - 2.5.1. 40.5 IDVA posts across London (in varying levels per borough) to work with high risk victims/survivors of domestic abuse;
 - 2.5.2. 16 posts (0.5 of a post per borough) to support all victims/survivors of domestic abuse going through the criminal justice system;

² Victim Support will act as prime delivery organisation, but will sub-contract certain delivery elements to Safer London Foundation, Metro Centre and Latin American Women’s Aid and agreed services will be supplied by Co-op Legal Services and PayPlan.

- 2.5.3. Strategic co-ordination to maximise the value of all local provision and ensure victims access the right services; and
- 2.5.4. Innovation to improve the victim/survivor experience through and reduce attrition from the criminal justice system.

3. Issues for consideration

3.1. The Service links to the Police and Crime Plan and MOPAC priorities in the following ways:

- It is a Mayoral priority to improve services for victims of crime.
- The Pan London Domestic Violence Service is a key commitment in the Police and Crime Plan and the Mayor's revised VAWG strategy (2013-2017).

3.2 MOPAC officers conducted full consultation and engagement on the approach for the Service and the commissioning process. This is outlined in DMPCD 2014 143. A multi-agency panel assessed the bids for delivery of the Service to complete this process. The Panel included representatives from the Crown Prosecution Service, London's local authorities and NHS England London region.

3.3 Local integration has been a common thread throughout the commissioning process, with local authorities engaged prior to the commissioning process and local integration with existing services and structures being a key part of the assessment process under the implementation and quality of service criteria. This will continue during the three month mobilisation period and throughout delivery of the service. This is critical due to the need to maximise all provision for victims and maintain the investment that sits outside of this service.

4. Financial Comments

4.1. The cost of the Service is £4,999,001 over three financial years. This is within the previously approved budget of up to £5m that was agreed in DMPCD 2014 143. This cost will be met from Victims funding and Police Property Act Fund.

5. Legal Comments

5.1. MOPAC's general powers are set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). Section 3(6) of the 2011 Act provides that MOPAC must "secure the maintenance of the metropolitan police service and secure that the metropolitan police service is efficient and effective." Under Schedule 3, paragraph 7 MOPAC has wide incidental powers to "do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of the Office." Paragraph 7(2) (a) provides that this includes entering into contracts and other agreements.

5.2. Section 143 (1) (b) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 provides an express power for MOPAC, as a local policing body, to provide or commission services "intended by the local policing body to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, offences and anti-social behaviour." Section 143(3) specifically allows MOPAC to make grants in connection with such arrangements and any grant may be made subject to any conditions that MOPAC thinks appropriate.

5.3. Under MOPAC's Scheme of Delegation, approval of the strategy for the award of individual grants and the award of all individual grants (for crime reduction or other purposes) is a matter generally reserved to the DMPC (paragraph 4.8). The release of funding in accordance with the proposals set out in this decision form is accordingly to be approved by the DMPC.

5.4. An open and competitive process has taken place for the determination of the provider to receive the grant for the Service. This minimises the likelihood of any dispute about the allocation of grants. If there is any change in grant recipient, consideration will need to be given to the application of the

Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (“TUPE”). Legal advice should be sought in respect of the drafting and conclusion of any grants awarded.

5.5. In formulating the proposals in respect of which DMPC’s decision is sought, officers must consider the duty set out in section 149 Equality Act 2010 (the Equality Act) referred to in more detail below. Due regard to equalities impacts must be had at the time a particular decision is being considered and the duty is non-delegable and must be exercised with an open mind. The decision must take account of relevant evidence as to any impact on groups with protected characteristics within the scope of the Equality Act.

6. Equality Comments

6.1. As decision-maker for a public authority, the DMPC must comply with the public sector equality duty set out in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010. This requires the DMPC to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations by reference to people with protected characteristics. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

6.2. The Service has been commissioned on the basis of meeting the needs of London’s diverse communities, including those with specialist needs and those that are harder to reach. DMPC Decision 2014 143 outlines the equality considerations that have been made throughout the commissioning process. The chosen provider is fully compliant with the expectations set out in the earlier decision form.

7. Background/supporting papers

DMPC Decision 2014 143

Public access to information
 Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the MOPAC website within 1 working day of approval. Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form. Deferment is only applicable where release before that date would compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.

Is the publication of **this** form to be deferred? YES
 If yes, for what reason: Planned press release for launch of the Service
 Until what date (if known): 4 February 2015

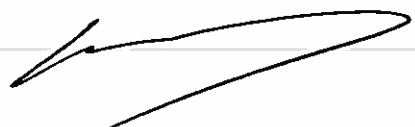
Is there a **part 2** form – Yes
 If yes, for what reason: Commercial

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

	<i>Tick to confirm statement (✓)</i>
Head of Unit: Samantha Cunningham has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the MOPAC's plans and priorities.	✓
Legal Advice: The TfL legal team has been consulted on the proposal.	✓
Financial Advice: The Head of Strategic Finance and Resource Management has been consulted on this proposal.	✓
Equalities Advice: Equality and diversity issues are covered in the body of the report.	✓

OFFICER APPROVAL

Chief Operating 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 26/02/2015.

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