

DMPC Decision – PCD 788

Title: Summer / Autumn 2020 Activity for Children & Young People

Executive Summary:

This paper requests approval for the allocation of £500k of VRU funding towards the GLA's programme of Summer/Autumn 2020 activity for children and young people as part of Covid-19 recovery plans. The majority of investment will be made via Wave 3 of the London Community Response Fund (LCRF). There will be two types of grants available, small (up to £10k) and large (up to £50k), aimed at civil society organisations to apply for the fund (local authorities or schools are not eligible to apply for the LCRF) within a specified 4 week time period.

The VRU funded element of summer/autumn activity grants will be concentrated towards offering diversion and prevention opportunities to supporting vulnerable young people through offering genuine diversion and prevention opportunities for young people in need, in particular to support:

- detached youth work and community youth work interventions working in hyper local areas affected by violence, particularly for young people who are those unsafe at home, affected by county lines, and those young people living in poverty whose mental health has been impacted on through lockdown

This will be funded from existing 2020/21 VRU commissioning budget.

Recommendation:

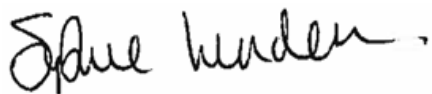
The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime is recommended to approve the entering into a Service Level Agreement with the GLA, allocating £0.5m of VRU funding towards the GLA-led London Community Response Fund (LCRF) wave three round. The VRU contribution of £0.5m will be funded from existing 2020/21 VRU commissioning budget.

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

06/07/2020

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

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The impact of the coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown on children and young people in London has been profound. From research and stakeholder engagement across the GLA and VRU, it is known that lockdown has had significant effects on young people's mental health, wellbeing, loneliness, activity levels and future opportunities (e.g. education and employment). It is also having a disproportionate impact on vulnerable young people.
- 1.2. Teams within the GLA and the Violence Reduction Unit have identified existing available 2020-21 budgets that they can bring together to boost positive activities for young people.
- 1.3. The funding will add capacity to existing work taking place across the voluntary community sector in London working to divert people away from violence, making an intervention at an early stage and working to address the root causes of violence by providing some of the most disadvantaged young Londoners who have been exposed to violence with positive life opportunities.

2. Issues for consideration

- 2.1. A UK Youth report on the impact of Covid-19 on the youth sector and young people found: increased mental health or wellbeing concerns, increased loneliness and isolation, lack of safe spaces, challenging family relationships lack of trusted relationships or someone to turn to, increased social media or online pressure, higher risk for engaging in gangs, substance misuse, carrying weapons or other harmful practices and higher risk for sexual exploitation or grooming. The ongoing City Hall London Community Response Survey consistently shows mental health, anxiety and the needs of young people as key concerns.
- 2.2. VRU funded summer/autumn activity grants will be concentrated towards offering diversion and prevention opportunities to supporting vulnerable young people through offering genuine diversion and prevention opportunities for young people in need.

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1. The VRU will be contributing £500,000 towards the GLA's Summer/Autumn 2020 Activities Programme, which will be funded from existing VRU commissioning budget (20/21). This funding will be transferred to the GLA for a more consistent approach and management of the wider LCRF.

4. Legal Comments

4.1. Transfers of funding between the GLA and MOPAC are governed by Section 120 of the GLA Act 1999. The Act provides that transfers require mayoral approval (also being sought via a GLA Mayoral Decision) and the only limitation that may be placed upon the use of such transferred funds is that the capital funding may be used only for capital expenditure.

4.2. Paragraph 4.8 of the MOPAC Scheme of Delegation and Consent provides that the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC) has delegated authority to approve:

1.1. Business cases for revenue or capital expenditure of £500,000 and above.

5. Commercial Issues

5.1. The VRU will be entering into an SLA with the GLA, allocating £0.5m of VRU funding towards the London Community Response Fund (LCRF) wave three round.

6. Public Health Approach

6.1. London's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) is taking a public health approach to violence reduction, that is contextual; looking at the context and influences that impact on individuals at significant points in their life.

6.2. This spend 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 impacted by CV-19.

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. The impact assessment recognises the importance of ethnicity, sex, age and socio-economic background as equality characteristics that the VRU programme will impact in positive ways through commissioning a programme that works with young people who are most affected by violence, with a focus on those who are disproportionately represented as victims and perpetrators (BAME groups). The assessment also highlights the need to recognise the distinct experiences of male and female young people.

9. Background/supporting papers

- 9.1. None.

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:

Until what date: N/A

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

Tick to confirm statement (✓)

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

This is an extension to the original Agreement – due to nature of reason for request no challenge from the marketplace is anticipated.

✓

GDPR/Data Privacy

- A DPIA is not required.

✓

Director/Head of Service

The Assistant Director of VRU has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the MOPAC's plans and priorities.

✓

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 06/07/2020

Alan Mitchell