

DECISION NUMBER: PCCG-2019-045	
<u>OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER</u>	
LEAD CHIEF OFFICER:	Assistant Chief Officer, Resources
TITLE:	1247 - Provision of Victim Assessment, Referral and Non-specialist Support
DATE:	15/08/2019
TIMING:	Urgent
PURPOSE:	For decision
1.	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
1.1	<p>To award the contract to Victim Support (current incumbent) via The Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales Framework Agreement (Reference Number NWP/32682) .</p> <p>This is in accordance with paragraph 20-24 of the Manual Of Corporate Governance Part 3e Standing Orders relating to contracts.</p>
2.	<u>INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND</u>
2.1	Gwent Police (GWP) originally awarded a contract to the supplier Victim Support for the Provision of Victim Assessment, referral & non-specialist support via a national framework agreement let by Surrey Police. Gwent Police's contract ran in parallel with the framework. The initial term of the framework was 01/04/2015 until the 31/03/2018 with an option to extend for a further two twelve month periods.
2.2	Surrey Police extended the framework for a twelve month period to 31 st March 2019 and Gwent Police followed suit by <u>extended</u> their call off for a further twelve month period. Surrey Police decided not to take up the last available twelve months extension but GWP have continued to use Victim Support for the provision of the services.
2.3	<p>The Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales conducted a compliant open OJEU tender, naming Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent as a party allowed to use the contract. This contract was awarded to the supplier Victim Support.</p> <p>The contract commenced on the 01/04/2019 for an initial period of three years until 31/03/2021, with the option to extend for a further three (3) years on an annual twelve (12) month basis.</p>
3.	<u>ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION</u>
3.1	GWP currently provide support for victims of crime within a hub called Connect Gwent, which is located at Blackwood Police Station. Connect Gwent is made up of third sector agencies, Police Services and other Criminal Justice Departments.

	<p>The current Connect Gwent provision is based on an estimate of 24,000 referrals per annum into the general victim service (Figures from the 2017/18 financial year). From the 24,000 referrals, it is estimated that just over 25% receive an enhanced or 1-2-1 service based on a mix of crime type and their level of vulnerability and that just under 10% have a vulnerability marker on the referral.</p>
3.2	<p>Although the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales Contract was awarded to a single supplier, clarifications and due diligence checks were completed by Gwent Procurement and the Head of Custody Service on Victim Supports tender submission. The user department are satisfied and no issues were highlighted.</p>
3.3	<p>The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent (PCC) receives a Victim Services Grant from the MOJ to provide Victims Services in Gwent. The terms of the Ministry of Justice Victims Services grant require the PCC to provide or commission support services for victims of crime (as defined in Article 2 (1) (a) of the Victims Directive). The services must include referral services with which contact can be made by referring organisation or victims, through which needs of the victims can be assessed and by which victims can be provided with relevant information and/or suitable support services, in accordance with their needs. Ensuring that people who have been victims of crime can receive a consistent and quality service that is able to assess their needs and supports them to cope and recover from the impact of what they have experienced is essential to being able to deliver on the PCC's priority 'Supporting Victims', as outlined in the Police and Crime Plan. It also ensures that the PCC is compliant with terms and conditions of the annual Victims Support Services grant provided by the MOJ and the corresponding section of the Victims Directive. Without this service in place the PCC will be in breach of these terms and victims in Gwent will not be offered a service after experiencing a crime.</p>
4.	<p><u>NEXT STEPS</u></p>
4.1	<p>Upon approval, a contract document shall be sent to the supplier for signing, followed by the need of a countersignature from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent. A copy of the fully signed contract document will be sent to the supplier and a copy of the contract document shall be retained by Gwent procurement.</p>
4.2	<p>The Blue Light Procurement Database (BLPD) will be updated to confirm that Gwent Police are using the contract.</p>
5.	<p><u>FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS</u></p>
5.1	<p>The initial total 2 year contract period cost is £799,956</p> <p>The following projected extension costs are as follows, they will be formally agreed prior to the start of each year:</p> <p>Year 3 cost - £411,042</p>

	Year 4 cost – £418,386 Year 5 cost - £425,877
5.2	Some of the costs proposed by Victim Support may not be incurred as they have provided a worst case scenario. This will be monitored and managed by GWP Connect Gwent Victim's Hub Coordinator to ensure compliance and correct funds are spent.
6.	<u>PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS</u>
6.1	There are no additional personnel considerations because of this report.
7.	<u>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</u>
7.1	No risk was identified with conducting the Call Off contract via the North Wales Police arrangement.
8.	<u>EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS</u>
8.1	This proposal has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Strategic Equality Plan and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.
8.2	In preparing this report, consideration has been given to requirements of the Articles contained in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998.
9.	<u>RISK</u>
9.1	There is no compliant contract in place at present. The service has continued and a quarterly invoice has been received for April-June 2019. Should no compliant contract be put in place we would be in breach of the Manual of Corporate Governance.
10.	<u>PUBLIC INTEREST</u>
10.1	This document is in the interest of the public and can be published.
11.	<u>CONTACT OFFICER</u>
11.1	Huw Pearce, Senior Procurement Officer
12.	<u>ANNEXES</u>
12.1	None.

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Office of the Chief Constable

I confirm that Provision of Victim Assessment, Referral and Non-specialist Support report has been discussed and approved at a formal Chief Officers' meeting.

It is now forwarded to the OPCC for approval purposes.

Signature:



Date: 16.08.2019

Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

I confirm that 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.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date:

21/8/19