Oldham Borough Council
Record of Decision

Key Decision	Work Programme Reference

1. **TITLE:** Delegated Officer Decision - Sex Worker Support Project (MASH) Extension

2. **SERVICE AREA:**

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To ensure that women who sex work and either live or work in Oldham have access to appropriate and accessible support for their sexual health and wellbeing, safety and, where necessary, substance misuse, in order to improve their health and wellbeing.

The purpose of the report is to request approval for a 12-month extension to the collaboration agreement under which Rochdale Council, on behalf of itself and Oldham Council, commissions Manchester Action on Street Health (MASH) to provide targeted support for women who sex work and live or work in Oldham or Rochdale with a key aim of improving their health and wellbeing.

4. **DECISION MADE BY:** Director of Public Health

5. **DECISION:**

RESOLVED - That:

Approve an exemption under clause 21.3 (c) of the contract procedure rule document and to delegate authority to Rochdale Council, as lead commissioning authority, to award the 12-month contract extension on behalf of Oldham Council.

6. **REASON FOR DECISION**

As detailed in the Purpose section.

Option 1 -
Do not continue to fund a targeted support offer for women who sex work and live or work in Oldham. This is not the recommended option as it does not align with Oldham's priorities of tackling health inequalities for vulnerable, priority or at-risk groups and is not consistent with the commitment within the Oldham Plan to take a person and community centred approach, that places prevention at the heart of our emerging new model of

delivery.

There is an evidenced need for this provision and no longer funding it would mean that we lose the significant opportunities to support and improve outcomes for some of the most marginalised women in our society, who are at high risk of STIs, drug dependency, mental ill health, homelessness and significant risk of harm.
Option 2 -

Option B: Approve a 12-month extension to the collaboration agreement with Rochdale Council, under which Rochdale will act as lead authority and commission Manchester Action on Street Health in accordance with Rochdale Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

This is the recommended option. Extending the contract with Manchester Action on Street Health would mean that we can continue to effectively support the health needs of one of the most marginalised and stigmatised groups in our society by commissioning a provider who is an expert in the field and has proven experience and track record of supporting and advocating for women who sex work to help them experience good health, safety and emotional wellbeing

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Option 1 -

Do not continue to fund a targeted support offer for women who sex work and live or work in Oldham. This is not the recommended option as it does not align with Oldham's priorities of tackling health inequalities for vulnerable, priority or at-risk groups and is not consistent with the commitment within the Oldham Plan to take a person and community centred approach, that places prevention at the heart of our emerging new model of delivery.

8. INTERESTS AND NATURE OF INTERESTS DECLARED

FIELD_DECISION_INTERESTS

9. PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:

10. DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:

Decision Number	Date of Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented

	06 March 2024	

1. **TITLE:**

2. **SERVICE AREA:**

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

4. **DECISION MADE BY:**

5. **DECISION:**

6. **REASON FOR DECISION**

7. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:**
10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:**

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