

## **AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS - UPDATE**

### Report of the Director of Public Health

#### **1 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 In November 2021 full council agreed a motion on Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) which set out a commitment to:

- Liaise with North West Ambulance Service to seek public access to their definitive list of public defibrillators and to make this available prominently via the council's website;
- Review and, where it would be beneficial, increase the provision of defibrillators across-Council-owned spaces including public parks, community centres, leisure facilities, and areas of high public footfall;
- Implement a streamlined process for community groups to install defibrillators on council buildings using the Community Heartbeat Trust system;
- Liaise with Sport England and other key national sports governing bodies to check the first aid requirements for their affiliated clubs and make training courses available to local clubs and teams that want to learn how to access AEDs and be trained in the use of defibrillators and CPR; and
- Bring a report to the Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee meeting in January 2022, detailing a plan to roll out more AEDs across the Borough, and reporting on progress towards gaining public access to the North West Ambulance Service definitive list

1.2 This paper is a second update on the progress against these areas of action.

**2** Action 1: Liaise with North West Ambulance Service to seek public access to their definitive list of public defibrillators and to make this available prominently via the council's website

2.1 North West Ambulance Service have now provided a list of AEDs and Community Public Access Defibrillators (CPADs) in the Stockport Borough to the public health team at Stockport Council. Due to the sensitivity, at this time we are unable to publicly publish the list of AEDs that North West Ambulance Service has provided.

2.2 Additionally, 'The Defib Finder' [Defib finder – find the defibrillators nearest you.](#) has now been launched. This interactive online tool is funded and managed by the British Heart Foundation and provides up to date information on defibrillator locations across the UK

2.3 The information on Defib Finder is taken from The Circuit: the National defibrillator Network which is also funded and managed by the British Heart Foundation (BHF). However, the BHF state that they cannot guarantee, and assume legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy of the data on Defib Finder.

2.4 We have therefore have two lists of AEDs in the borough, one from North West Ambulance Service and one of those AEDs that are registered with the Circuit and can be found publicly on the Defib Finder Website.

2.6 We are currently working to reconcile the two lists, and will focus on working with North West Ambulance Service to look at way to engage with those guardians of

AEDs who are not registered on The Circuit to encourage registration, so locations of AEDs can be more up to assessing and accurate and so that the locations can be in the public domain on the Defib Finder Website.

- 2.7 We plan to incorporate the Defib Finder Website as part of wider resources and information for this AED work and for it to be incorporated onto our Council Website as a useful resource for community groups and residents.

- 3** Action 2: Review and, where it would be beneficial, increase the provision of defibrillators across Council-owned spaces including public parks, community centres, leisure facilities, and areas of high public footfall

- 3.1 The principles of locating an AED are installing them in locations that meet the following criteria:

- where footfall is high, and particularly where physical activity or risk of drug taking increase the risk of a cardiac event
- where access can be provided at the times when the site is busy
- where someone can maintain it,
- where there's a power supply
- where the vandalism risk is low

- 3.2 From the lists we can see that AEDs are placed in some education sites, businesses, workplaces, parks, shopping centres, leisure facilities, community venues.

- 3.3 Once the two list of current AED sites have been reconciled, we will be able to give a clearer analysis of potential gaps in locations where increasing AED provision would be appropriate.

- 3.4 We have engaged with several AED providers and we are reviewing the options available to assess costs from different providers, with regards to installation, ownership responsibilities and maintenance of AEDs for community groups.

- 3.5 Further guidance regarding costings, support and installation from AED providers will be available for community groups who are considering installing an AED.

- 3.6 We will continue to work with Sector 3 and our VCSFE partners and community networks to engage with our communities regarding current provision of AEDs and to identify gaps and willing community groups who want to be AED guardians and who can enable installation in their local areas and across the borough.

- 3.7 Vernon Building Society have committed to providing funds to support the increase in provision of AEDs over the next three years. The funding will equate to approximately 4 AEDs per year, and we will work with Sector 3 and community partners to support the process of increasing provision as outlined above.

- 4** Action 3: Implement a streamlined process for community groups to install defibrillators on council buildings using the Community Heartbeat Trust system

- 4.1 We are working with our own estates and legal team to determine and streamline the process of installation of AEDs on Council Buildings.

- 4.2 An AED Guidance Review document and AED Application form have been approved by Head of Estates. The purpose of the Guidance Review document is to provide guidance to organisations who wish to install AED on Council premises in order that applications can be considered as efficiently as possible

- 4.3 The document details applicant organisation requirements, an application checklist and it describes the council process so that organisations are clear about the requirements and information that they will need before they apply.

- 4.4 It is intended that this process will be a supportive process and will encourage more applications from community groups and organisations.
  - 4.5 The AED application form provides the applicants with a checklist of supporting information which will be needed to accept the application. Both these documents will be used as tools to ease the process of community groups and organisations applying to install AED on Council Buildings. These documents will shortly be available on the Council's website, through a dedicate page with information and advice for AED applications.
  - 4.6 We are establishing a small working group which will meet on a regular basis to review applications. The working group will involve relevant colleagues from the council and Voluntary sector to ensure the progression of applications and to help with the analysis of AED locations and provision.
5. Action 4: Liaise with Sport England and other key national sports governing bodies to check the first aid requirements for their affiliated clubs and make training courses available to local clubs and teams that want to learn how to access AEDs and be trained in the use of defibrillators and CPR
- 5.1 Manchester Football Association met with the Mayor's Office in November 2021 and it was agreed that Andy Burnham would write to all Education and Local Authorities in early 2022 to request the completion of a survey to enable Manchester Football Association to complete the audit.
  - 5.2 The survey was received and completed collectively for Stockport by physical activity colleagues. From the audit we can confirm we have AEDs in all of Life Leisure Facilities with some of the larger sites having two accessible units.
  - 5.3 We will continue to engage with Sport England, other key national sports governing bodies, and our own local clubs and seek out opportunities for training courses and learning opportunities on how to access AEDs and be trained in the use of defibrillators and CPR.

## **6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The committee are asked to:  
Note the progress made against the actions set out in the motion agreed at full Council in November 2021.
- 6.2 It is recommended that a further update on progress is provided in 6 months time.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

There are none

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Jennifer Connolly on telephone number or alternatively email [jennifer.connolly@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:jennifer.connolly@stockport.gov.uk)

