

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 7 December 2015

Portfolio:	Policy and Resources
Subject:	Training for Defibrillators in Fareham
Report of:	Director of Finance & Resources
Strategy/Policy:	
Corporate Objective:	A Safe and Healthy Place to Live and Work

Purpose:

To consider the allocation of funding and resources to enable the effective provision of a defibrillator at each of the Borough's Community Centres and to provide training for the use of defibrillators to the staff and user groups of these facilities.

Executive summary:

Every year across the United Kingdom more than 30,000 people suffer a cardiac arrest. Of this number less than one in ten currently survives. Swift access to Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillation is a key influential factor to these survival rates.

Defibrillators are simple and safe to use. Once in position, the defibrillator detects the heart's rhythm and it will not deliver a shock unless one is needed. If the heart has stopped, high-voltage (200–1000 volts) pads will pass an electric current through the heart so that it is shocked into working normally again.

The Government, working in partnership with the British Heart Foundation, has announced £1 million of funding to provide free defibrillators for public places.

This report presents the funding criteria and the options available to the Council to help ensure the best defibrillator coverage across the Borough's community centres.

Recommendations:

That the Executive approves:

- (a) the provision of up to four CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and defibrillator training sessions to be facilitated by the Council's Facilities Manager and delivered to core staff or users from those community centres securing a defibrillator. Up to 12 individuals can be trained in one session, and it is proposed that this tailored training would be made available to up to three individuals from each community

centre. The British Heart Foundation provides a training video with each defibrillator so the training is over and above their requirement;

- (b) the allocation of £150 for the purchase of one additional battery for use in training sessions;
- (c) the allocation of £6,005 to a 'plan b' fund to purchase defibrillators for up to five community centres who may be unsuccessful in their applications to the British Heart Foundation if they fail to meet the criteria;
- (d) the allocation of a maximum of 70 hours in total (5 hours per community centre) for Building Services to install any cabinet required to house the defibrillators; and
- (e) the allocation of a maximum of £7,020 to purchase up to 13 secure coded cabinets for those Community Centres intending to install their defibrillator externally.

Reason:

To improve the likelihood of an individual surviving a cardiac arrest in the Borough of Fareham.

Cost of proposals:

The expected cost of this project is £13,175 and will be funded by the balance remaining on the FBC charity account and community grants budget.

Appendices: Appendix A Status report for defibrillators in Fareham's community centres

Background papers: None

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Executive Briefing Paper

Date:	7 December 2015
Subject:	Training for Defibrillators in Fareham
Briefing by:	Director of Finance & Resources
Portfolio:	Policy and Resources

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to consider the allocation of funding and resources to enable the effective provision of a defibrillator at each of the Borough's Community Centres and to provide training for the use of defibrillators to the staff and user groups of these facilities.

BACKGROUND

2. Every year in homes and communities across the United Kingdom more than 30,000 people suffer a cardiac arrest. Of this number less than one in ten currently survives. Swift access to Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillation is a key influential factor to these survival rates. Research shows that for every minute an individual suffering a cardiac arrest spends without CPR and defibrillation, their chances of survival are reduced by 10%.
3. Defibrillators are simple and safe to use. Once in position, the defibrillator detects the heart's rhythm and will not deliver a shock unless one is needed. If the defibrillator detects that the heart has stopped, high-voltage (200–1000 volts) pads will pass an electric current through the heart so that it is shocked into working normally again.
4. The Government, working in partnership with the British Heart Foundation, has announced £1 million of funding to provide free defibrillators for public places. The defibrillator offered through the British Heart Foundation initiative is a simple mains powered machine in an unsecured cabinet.

POTENTIAL DEFIBRILLATOR SITES ACROSS FAREHAM

5. Across Fareham, 16 Community Centres create key hubs which often attract large numbers of service users and visitors. They are focal points in their communities and this high usage makes them ideal locations for defibrillators.
6. When the 16 Community Centres were contacted to inform them of the Government initiative, seven were supportive of making an application (subject to approval from their committee), two were willing to proceed with an application immediately and two already had existing defibrillators. Of the remaining five, difficulty of contact due to the Centre not being staffed, transition within the committees and the identification of low visitor numbers were the main reasons support was not secured.

FUNDING CRITERIA

7. The British Heart Foundation's criteria for a successful application to the Government initiative are:
 - a. The ability to demonstrate that the defibrillator will be accessible to the public (preferably 24 hours per day, 7 days per week).
 - b. A high footfall at the location.
 - c. A commitment to train the local community in CPR.
8. Consultation with the British Heart Foundation indicates that many of Fareham's Community Centres would meet the first two conditions as a result of their high public usage and lengthy opening hours or willingness to locate the defibrillator externally in a secure cabinet.
9. For those Community Centres considering externally locating a defibrillator, there is a real risk that devices may be damaged or stolen, rendering them inoperable in an emergency situation. This report proposes that secure, coded cabinets (for which the emergency services hold easily accessible details of the code) are made available to those Centres for which an externally located defibrillator would make them a more valuable resource for the community they serve. Those wishing to access the cabinet will follow instructions on the front to call emergency services to obtain the code. An allocation of up to £7,020 would allow the purchase up to 13 secure coded cabinets.
10. This report also proposes that Fareham Borough Council allocates resources to enable the Community Centres to fully meet the final criteria of providing training in CPR. As part of the Government initiative, a 'Call Push Rescue' training pack (a tutorial DVD on how to deliver CPR, developed by the British Heart Foundation) is available upon application.
11. Within the Council, the Facilities Manager is qualified to provide CPR and defibrillator training and has the capacity to deliver a tailored session on this to core members of staff and user groups of community centres. Up to 12 individuals can be trained in one session, and it is proposed that this tailored training would be made available to up to three individuals from each community centre. An additional defibrillator battery would need to be purchased, at a cost of £150, to allow the training sessions to be undertaken.
12. Applications to the British Heart Foundation are considered on a case-by-case basis. Although the British Heart Foundation has been advised of the Council's intentions to support our community centres in their applications, they are unable to guarantee that every application will be successful.
13. Five of the Centres have been highlighted by the Leisure Development Manager as having lower levels of usage and are therefore less likely to make a successful application. This report proposes that a 'Plan B' fund of £6,005 to provide defibrillators for those Community Centres that do not meet the British Heart Foundation's criteria.

CONCLUSION

14. Every year across the United Kingdom more than 30,000 people suffer a cardiac arrest and less than 10% currently survives. Swift access to CPR and defibrillation is a key helping improve survival rates. The Government, working in partnership with the British

Heart Foundation, has announced £1 million of funding to provide free defibrillators for public places, which this report proposes to take advantage of.

15. This report proposes the provision of a defibrillator at each of the Borough's Community Centres. To support this provision, it is also proposed that training for the use of defibrillators to staff and user groups of these facilities is provided.
16. A total of £13,175 is requested to ensure that defibrillators and training can be provided to all of the Community Centres, across the Borough, including those that do not manage to meet the requirements of the Government's and the British Heart Foundations scheme.