

Meeting:	Cabinet	Date:	9 March 2022
Subject:	Public Access Defibrillator Provisions		
Report Of:	Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods		
Wards Affected:	All		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
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Appendices:	1 Current and Proposed Locations of Public Access Defibrillators		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

To outline to Cabinet the considerations made in identifying locations for new Public Access Defibrillators (PADs).

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet is asked to **RESOLVE** that:

- (1) the approach to identifying new Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) sites be noted;
- (2) it be noted that new PADs will be located in the locations outlined in the report (3.9).

3.0 Background and Key Issues

3.1 Less than 1 in 10 people in the UK survive an out of hospital cardiac arrest. This has been partly attributed to two factors that can be changed:

- there aren't enough people prepared to perform CPR when someone has a cardiac arrest
- there aren't enough defibrillators.

3.2 In 2019 Gloucester City Council made available a fund of £6500 to provide additional public access defibrillators (PAD) in areas of the city and communities where a PAD is not available, or access is limited.

- 3.3 A mapping exercise has been carried out to plot the current locations of PADs. This map can be found in appendix 1.
- 3.4 Officers have liaised with Ward Councillors, community contacts and reviewed guidance from the British Heart Foundation (<https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/how-to-save-a-life/cpr-training-in-communities/defibrillators-in-communities>) and Community Heartbeat Trust (<https://www.communityheartbeat.org.uk/starting-project>) to help identify suitable locations for new PADs.
- 3.5 The following factors have been considered:
- Costs - the approximate cost of a new Public Access Defibrillator is £890 to £2850 A replacement battery ranges from £19.30 up to £290. Replacement defibrillator chest pads cost £40. These figures vary depending on the type of defibrillator etc..
 - Cabinets cost £160 to £200 for in-door locations and £450 to £520+ for external cabinets that require an electricity supply.
 - Access
 - Security
 - Infrastructure, including power requirements
 - Responsible persons
 - Training- annual training for 12 people will cost around £500.
 - Monitoring and Maintenance- Servicing and maintenance will cost approximately £500 per defibrillator.
- 3.6 General factors to consider when choosing a location for a PAD are to look at areas that have a high foot fall and where the equipment is relatively easy to access. The PADs currently located in the City's shopping centres (e.g., Eastgate) provide a good example of appropriate and effective siting.
- 3.7 Practically, any site that has a location to provide power for the defibrillator cabinet, is well lit and easily accessible could host a PAD. The defibrillator itself has a battery so does not require power.
- 3.8 One further consideration is that a PAD installed externally may be more vulnerable to vandalism or misuse, although it is normal practice for a code to be required before access to the equipment is possible. Codes to unlock cabinets are obtained by phoning 999, but defibrillators will only be locatable by the emergency services if the site has been registered, for example, via the following: <https://www.thecircuit.uk/>
- 3.9 A list of potential sites have been considered and the following are the recommended sites:
- Matson shops, Matson Avenue
 - Robinswood Hill Country Park, Reservoir Road
 - The Venture, Northfield Road

3.10 The following locations have been considered and rejected:

- The Redwell Centre - there is a Defibrillator located at Matson Rugby Club which is adjacent to the Redwell Centre
- Walls Roundabout – footfall in this area is limited and there is not an obvious site for a PAD in the area.
- Phoenix Centre- the Matson shops are more appropriate to locate a PAD due to footfall and ability to site an external PAD.
- City Church and St Georges Church – there are already defibrillators located nearby.

4.0 Social Value Considerations

4.1 This initiative supports health and wellbeing and has the potential to reduce the impact or costs to the NHS which in turn ensures health services can focus on the health issues which are less avoidable or preventable.

4.2 This initiative encourages community support and gives residents the ability to take urgent action to prevent serious illness which promotes community resilience and engagement.

5.0 Environmental Implications

5.1 The PAD itself required no power but, depending on the model used, the battery may need replacing after each use. The batteries are also lithium-ion and have to be disposed of appropriately.

5.2 Defibrillators are kept in powered cabinets (to maintain a stable operating temperature) and cost approximately £2 to £3 to run. Defibrillators are not significant source of greenhouse emissions.

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

6.1 The City Council could decide not to support the installation of new PADs. However, Councillors have been supportive of this initiative and are keen to see new PADs in the City.

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

7.1 As detailed in 3.9 and 3.10, several sites have been considered and some have been rejected or deprioritised, with reasons outlined in 3.10.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

8.1 Should the Council want to increase the number of PADs in the City year on year, a budget should be allocated to enable this work.

8.2 The ongoing maintenance and servicing costs of £2000 are allocated from existing budgets.

9.0 Financial Implications

- 9.1 A £6,500 fund was created in 2018 for this purpose and will be utilised to meet the costs of the proposals.
Ongoing maintenance costs will need to be covered from existing budgets.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report)

10.0 Legal Implications

- 10.1 The council has a general power to implement the initiative under the Localism Act Section 1.
- 10.2 Given the very local nature of the grant there are no subsidy control issues.
- 10.3 A grant letter should be issued to recipients which should include matters such as how long the defibrillator should be retained and maintained by the recipient.

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

None

12.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA) and Safeguarding:

- 12.1 The PIA Screening Stage was completed and did not identify any potential or actual negative impact; therefore, a full PIA was not required.

13.0 Community Safety Implications

- 13.1 This report supports Community Safety and the health of our residents. It also considers the appropriateness of location and likelihood of vandalism when placing PADs.

14.0 Staffing & Trade Union Implications

N/A

Background Documents: None