



CABINET

20TH APRIL 2017

AGENDA ITEM (10)

COTSWOLD COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR PROJECT

Accountable Member	Councillor Alison Coggins Cabinet Member for Health and Leisure
Accountable Officer	Diana Shelton Shared Head of Leisure & Communities 01993 861551 diana.shelton@cotswold.gov.uk

Purpose of Report	To seek approval for an initiative which will place auto external defibrillators (AEDs) throughout rural communities in the Cotswold District alongside those already registered with the South West Ambulance Service Foundation Trust (SWASFT).
Recommendation(s)	<p>(a) That Officers be authorised to work with the South West Ambulance Service Foundation Trust to identify locations for placing new AEDs across the Cotswold District;</p> <p>(b) that the initiative includes the promotion of Community First Responders alongside the placing of AEDs, together with public awareness campaigns;</p> <p>(c) that the Cabinet Member for Health and Leisure be authorised to allocate funding in a maximum sum of £2,000 towards the cost of purchasing and locating AEDs within each Ward, with the maximum contribution towards each AED being £500.</p>
Reason(s) for Recommendation(s)	<p>The proposals accord with the Council's priority to champion issues which are important to local people and which will enable them to benefit from good health and well-being.</p> <p>The proposals will support SWASFT in its efforts to improve performance of ambulances, as well as potentially saving lives in the process.</p> <p>AEDs have been proved to save lives when used in timely and appropriate ways with community awareness.</p>

Ward(s) Affected	All
Key Decision	Yes
Recommendation to Council	No

Financial Implications	<p>Each AED costs £1,495 plus VAT (which includes a cabinet but not fitting).</p> <p>The guarantee is for eight years. This includes replacement Pads and batteries during the period of the guarantee and theft replacement of both cabinet and AED.</p> <p>Initial training for up to twelve people is included as part of the package.</p> <p>Across the District, there are 115 Parishes. Many of these will already have a publicly-available AED. Mapping of existing AEDs is being completed with SWASFT. Officers will support SWASFT to identify those areas which are without a publically-available AED at this time.</p> <p>The recommendation is that this Council offers a maximum contribution of £500 towards providing each AED, within an overall maximum budget of £68,000 (34 Members x £2,000).</p> <p>Town/Parish Councils/Meetings can reclaim the VAT, but will be responsible for fitting the AEDs and cabinets.</p>
Legal and Human Rights Implications	There are no Legal and Human Rights implications.
Environmental and Sustainability Implications	SWASFT will be responsible for the sustainability and monitoring of the publicly-available AEDs
Human Resource Implications	There are no Human Resource Implications. This Project will be delivered within existing resources.
Key Risks	There are no Key Risks.
Equalities Analysis	This project will improve access to life-saving equipment for the majority of residents in the Cotswolds.
Related Decisions	None
Background Documents	<p>(i) The Leader's Ambulance Performance Report - December 2016</p> <p>(ii) Provision of scheme funding - Council, 21st February 2017</p>
Appendices	Appendix 'A' - map of current placements of publically-available AEDs registered with SWASFT across the District (including AEDs which are available just over the District borders)
Performance Management Follow Up	<p>(i) Implement Cabinet decision(s).</p> <p>(ii) The Project is in the 2017/18 Service Plan for Leisure and Communities and as a key task will be reported on appropriately.</p>
Options for Joint Working	Experience of the Forest of Dean and West Oxfordshire District Councils' Defibrillator initiatives will be used in the development of the Cotswold project.

Background Information

1. One of the Council's objectives is to campaign on issues which are of concern to local people, including access to services, such as health services, new technologies and community facilities.

2. Access to health services will always be a major issue in rural districts. Secondary care will always be based in district general hospitals. The impact of early treatment on survival rates for those experiencing cardiac arrest is absolutely key to reducing what is a major cause of mortality. Every minute without treatment following an attack reduces survival by 10%.

3. The latest development of auto external defibrillators (AEDs) point to the fact they can be operated by anyone. The new generation of machines only administer the electric charge if it can detect that a shock is needed - this means a charge cannot be given by mistake. Also, they are quite safe to use on children, which is a very important development.

4. The Community First Responder (CFR) initiative is well-established in the Cotswolds, but is always looking to extend its trained volunteers who provide very important support prior to the arrival of an ambulance. The project will work with the South West Ambulance Service Foundation Trust (SWASFT) to encourage the development of volunteers. The volunteers initially receive five days' training that includes CPR and providing assistance to a Paramedic. They are equipped with Basic Life Support equipment including oxygen and an AED.

6. It is expected that this project will lead to refreshed knowledge of the community as to how to access minor injury units and accident and emergency units in line with Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning guidelines. In addition, SWASFT will clarify to communities the practical sequence of telephoning the emergency services (999), applying CPR, and defibrillating before the ambulance arrives.

7. AED installations should be close to the incident allowing AEDs to be collected and delivered to the incident within a few minutes. It is for this reason that the project seeks to maximise the deployment of AEDs across the District.

8. Proposed Next Steps and Key Elements of the Scheme

8.1 Officers will issue a communication to Members and Town/Parish Councils/Meetings setting out the elements of the scheme.

8.2 Officers will define a simple application process.

8.3 Town/Parish Councils/Meetings will be asked to identify AEDs in their areas so that the Council can locate units not currently known to SWASFT.

8.4 It will not be possible to give funding retrospectively for recently-purchased AEDs, or to use the funding to contribute towards the on-going running costs of existing units.

8.5 An important element of the project is to raise general public awareness of the life-saving machines in their communities and have the confidence to use them. Officers therefore will be encouraging SWASFT to set out, at an early stage, the exact nature of the support it will be providing to communities in this regard.

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