

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES****1. Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 To provide an update to the Committee on Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) following a motion agreed at Council on 17 November 2021.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the Council meeting on 17 November 2021 the following motion was unanimously agreed:

“Council notes that on average 30,000 people each year suffer a sudden cardiac arrest outside of hospital, and 20% of these incidents occur in public spaces. Council further notes only 10% of victims of cardiac arrests survive when the incident occurs outside hospital.

Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) can play a significant role in saving the lives of people who suffer heart attacks in public. It is estimated that a shock from an AED, alongside CPR treatment, increases survival rates to 75-80%.

Council notes that, though there are public defibrillators in various places across the city including some council premises and assets, there are gaps in the provision of publicly accessible AEDs and at present there is no holistic mapping system listing all AEDs across Sunderland, Washington and Coalfield.

Therefore, Council agrees to:

- Review and, where appropriate, increase the provision of defibrillators across all council-owned spaces including public parks, community centres, leisure facilities, and areas of high public footfall.
 - Bring a report to Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee no later than February 2022 detailing a plan to roll out more Automated External Defibrillators across the city.
 - Ensure all current and future defibrillators on council land and property are registered with the National Defibrillator Network, which is supported by the British Heart Foundation, the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives, Resuscitation Council UK, and St John Ambulance.”
- 2.2 This report updates on the actions taken since that report, but at the outset officers would like to explain that the initial work undertaken to review the current provision meant that the planned update to Scrutiny in February could

not be met. However, it is now possible to give a more meaningful update to Committee.

3. Current Position

3.1 The Council has AEDs located at the following sites:

- Thorney Close Action & Enterprise Centre
- Jack Crawford House
- City Hall x 2 (being relocated from the Civic Centre)
- South Hylton House
- Software Centre
- Evolve
- Washington Business Centre
- Hetton Centre
- Skills Academy for Sustainable Manufacturing and Innovation (SASMI)
- ICT Moorside

3.2 The review of these sites identified that whilst the AED have been subject to regular maintenance and update, for example replacement batteries and pads, several of these are now older and the sourcing of replacement parts is becoming increasingly difficult. As such, the decision has been taken to undertake a full replacement exercise. This procurement is currently underway and will be funded from existing Property Services budgets.

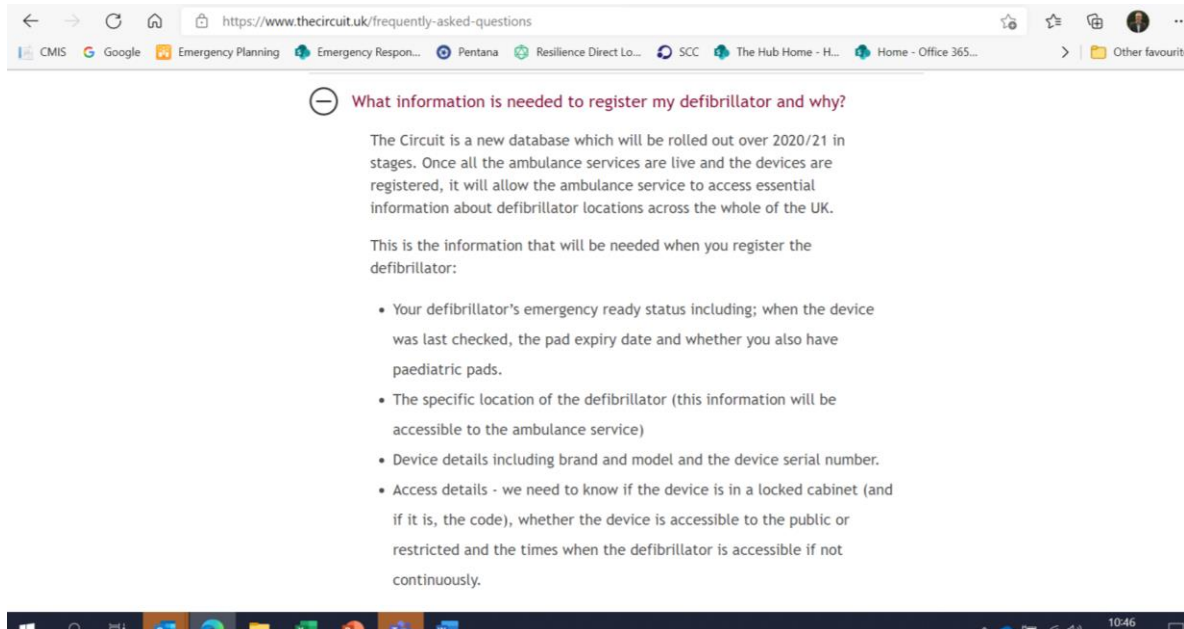
3.3 In addition, whilst a longer-term strategy for the expansion of the provision will be developed in conjunction with partners, staff in Property Services identified that Washington Arts Centre and the Winter Museum and Gardens as being areas of high footfall, but did not have an AED. Therefore, those two sites are being included in the procurement exercise currently underway.

3.4 In addition, AEDs are located at each of the leisure centres in the city that are operated by Everyone Active, as part of the Council's contract to run provision in the city. Whilst not directly maintained by the Council, as Everyone Active is responsible as part of the leisure services contract, these are listed below for information:

- Hetton Sports Centre
- Hetton Community Pool
- Houghton Sports Complex
- Raich Carter Centre
- Silksworth Sports Complex – Ski Centre
- Washington Leisure Centre
- Aquatics Centre

3.5 With regards to the registration of the AEDs, officers have investigated the process to register the AEDs in council property/on council land on the National Defibrillator Network (details can be found at <https://www.thecircuit.uk/>). The process is straight forward, but as can be

seen from the screenshot copied below, information about the make, model, maintenance etc is required. As the AEDs are in the process of being replaced, the registration of the locations will be completed when they have been replaced. Everyone Active will be asked to update the details of the AEDs at their sites as part of the registration process.



3.6 Further consideration is being given to the immediate benefit of an AED at the Port, and an update will be circulated to Committee members once completed.

4. Next steps

- 4.1 As noted above, current AEDs will be registered once they have been replaced. In terms of the approach to widening the provision of AEDs in the city, colleagues from Public Health are reviewing a proposal from the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) and Sunderland Clinic Commissioning Group (SCCG), who are working in partnership with Cardio Proof (a local charity focusing on improving survival rates for cardiac arrest in the North East).
- 4.2 The proposal focuses on how improvements to patient outcomes can be maximised, looking at the provision and maintenance of AEDs across the city as well as building capacity for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in Sunderland via identification of a network of volunteers provision of appropriate training. It also focuses on the wider benefits that can come from the immediate administration of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) before the arrival of an ambulance, so also proposes a programme to train and support a series of Community First Responders (CFRs).
- 4.3 Public Health officers are currently considering the proposal with NEAS and SCCG colleagues to ensure that the proposed approach, and the associated

commissioning routes, are appropriate. Further updates will be provided to the Committee once a decision has been taken.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the information included in this report, and to consider and comment on the contents.

6 Background Papers

- 6.1 None