

MARGAM JOINT CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDANT AND REGISTRAR – C.Phillips

7 December 2018

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All Wards

Provision of a defibrillator at Margam Crematorium

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Members approval to make a donation to Welsh Hearts which in return will be used to fund the costs of a defibrillator to be present at Margam Crematorium.

Background

2. The organisation Welsh Hearts, a Registered Charity (Registration Number 1154109), has approached Margam Crematorium to determine whether there would be any interest in the Joint Crematorium Committee making a donation of £995 to the organisation, which in turn will see the charity provide the Margam Crematorium with a defibrillator for use. As a registered charity Welsh Hearts cannot charge for these products and instead ask for a donation.
3. Members will be aware that a defibrillator (or AED) is an easy-to-use device that delivers an electric shock to the heart of a patient when they have had a cardiac arrest. A cardiac arrest is when the heart stops pumping blood around the body, which is often caused by an electrical problem with the heart. A Defibrillator can shock the heart back into a normal rhythm.
4. Welsh Hearts provides free ongoing CPR and defibrillator training, undertaken by an experienced First Responder. They also offer free electro pads, ongoing care and maintenance of the defibrillator as and when required.

5. There is no legal requirement for the Margam Crematorium to have a defibrillator present at the Crematorium, however, consideration has been given in recent years to the first aid needs of the Margam Crematorium and officers have recently undergone the necessary first aid training where it was highlighted the benefits that such devices could have in an area such as the Margam Crematorium, which is set away from other buildings but has large numbers present each day.
6. An additional cost might be required for the storage of the defibrillator if the defibrillator is located outside, as it will need to be housed in a heated, alarmed and unlocked storage cabinet (as recommended by the Welsh Ambulance Service). The costs of such a cabinet are estimated as being in the region of £450 to £550. Costs for the installation of the unit will also be implemented, though it is anticipated that the cost of this will be somewhat low.
7. Attempts have been made to source defibrillators from alternative sources to determine whether the arrangement proposed by Welsh Hearts represents value for money and therefore would appear to be the best supply for the Margam Crematorium. Welsh Hearts have provided defibrillators to other civic venues to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council.

Equality Impact Assessment

7. There are no equality impacts associated with this report.

Financial Impact

8. The cost of the donation amounts to £995 and provisions of this can be met within the 2018/2019 budget. An additional cost in the region of £550 would be required in the event that the defibrillator is to be placed outside, the costs of which would again be met within the 2018/2019 budget. A budget provision of £1800 has been set aside to cover the costs associated with this.

Workforce Impacts

9. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

10. There are no legal impacts associated with this report.

Consultation

11. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

12. That members approve the donation of £995 to Welsh Hearts to fund the cost of a defibrillator to be placed at Margam Crematorium and the purchase of a heated, alarmed and unlocked storage cabinet (as recommended by the Welsh Ambulance Service).

List of Background Papers

13. None

Officer Contact

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