

Appendix MM.

Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF094/T2

The supply and installation of a publicly accessible Automated External Defibrillator (AED), to be located at the Gnoll Country Park Visitor Centre.

This bid has been developed to 'Enhance Existing Council Services' by working closely with the management at the Gnoll Estate.

The funding will be used to procure an AED through the Registered Charity, 'Heartbeat Trust UK.' The quotation includes for the unit, the information signage, a polycarbonate cabinet, and the fittings needed to attach the defibrillator to the Visitor Centre. The defibrillator will be easy to use, featuring a full-colour display with vivid rescue images, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) cycle timer and a gauge that shows CPR compression depth. It is suitable to be used on individuals of any age.

This proposal is part of a wider initiative spearheaded by the Neath North Members to fully equip the Ward and its environs with publicly accessible defibrillators.

On average, 8,000 people in Wales suffer a sudden cardiac arrest outside of hospital each year, and the survival rate is just 3-5%. The chances of survival are greatly increased when an AED is deployed. Time is critical. Councillors has identified gaps in the provision of this life-saving equipment at strategic locations across the Ward. These locations are in the most densely populated, most visited areas, like the Gnoll, that receive a huge amount of footfall. In the unfortunate event of a cardiac arrest the provision of an AED nearby would allow persons in the vicinity to perform emergency medical treatment whilst waiting for the Emergency Services to respond.

The defibrillator will be in the ownership of 'Street Care' Services, who have made an ongoing commitment to ensuring that the unit is appropriately maintained for the foreseeable future. The defibrillator comes with a 7 year warranty and care package from 'Heartbeat Trust UK', which covers the cost of replacement batteries/pads and insurance to protect against vandalism or theft.

This scheme has no financial implications for NPTCBC.

Recommendations

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £1,500.00, this being the total cost of procuring the defibrillator, polycarbonate cabinet and the 7 year warranty/care package (no match funding). Councillor Alan Lockyer would wish to fund the project from his remaining Members Fund allocation.

The project proposal is recommended for approval and financial support under the Members Community Fund.