

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Council Provision of Defibrillators</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Corporate Policy and Resources Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>Tuesday 28 April 2024</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For decision</b>
<b>To be discussed In Committee YES/NO</b>	<b>No</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Council operates as one effective and efficient corporate unit with a common purpose and culture
Outcome	Council wide approach to providing life saving equipment for its citizens and visitors.
Lead Officer	Head of Performance

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	£30k
Included in Current Year Estimates	<b>YES</b>
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	4421-62200
Staffing Costs	£3k - £5k

<b>Legal Considerations</b>	
Input of Legal Services Required	<b>NO</b>
Legal Opinion Obtained	<b>NO</b>

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

## 1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report is written to address the Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Dermot Nicholl and seconded by Councillor Cara McShane on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 as follows:

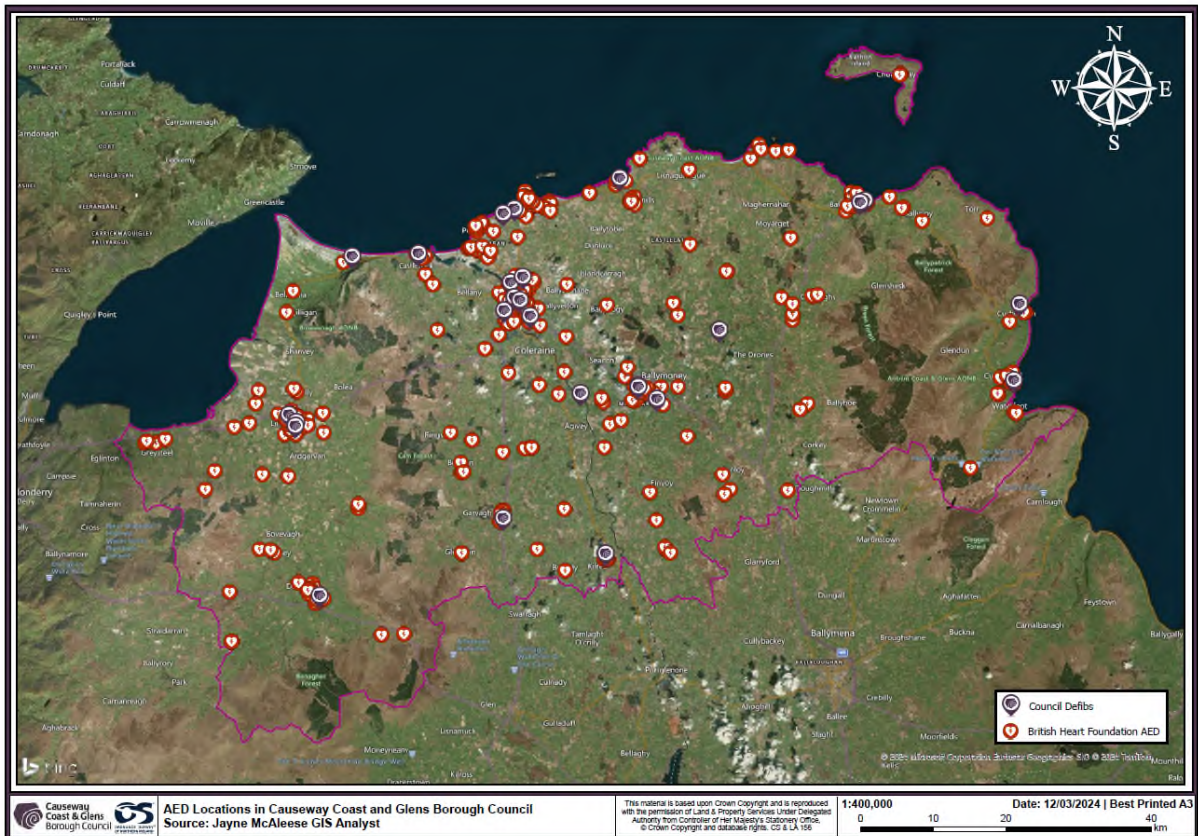
***I would like to put forward this motion for the next full council meeting as a follow up to my 2015/16 motion as mentioned below.***

***In 2015/16 I had a motion in relation to defibrillators, so this is an update to that motion that was passed then, with an added request to establish a fund for community / sports organisations to apply to. The British Heart Foundation can part-fund equipment, so I believe it is worth us exploring if we could establish a fund that would support this. I think this might have been established at one time in other Councils too.***

***"That this Council agrees to: Review and where appropriate, remedy its provision of defibrillators across its entire public estate to ensure no gaps exist in adequate service provision. This needs to include our leisure facilities, Council offices, Community centres and areas of high public footfall; Undertake a programme of training for staff who have daily contact with the public in the use of Defibrillators and CPR; and to explore establishing a fund for groups to apply to from across Causeway Coast and Glens to support funding this equipment in their communities."***

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Defibrillators are provided across the Borough through a number of mechanisms. Such as private groups, the RNLI, the British Heart Foundation and via the Council.
- 2.2 The defibrillators can be hard wired into buildings or mobile and require access to power to charge them. If mounted outside, a specialised box that controls the environmental temperature to protect the defibrillator is required along with a lock and access mechanism to enable access.
- 2.3 The location of registered defibrillators is on the British Heart Foundation website and relates only to those with an external mount. Defibrillators that are located within buildings are not available for general public use and are therefore not on the BHF website. The map below shows the defibrillators registered with the British Heart Foundation in Red and the defibrillators provided by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council in Blue.



2.4 The RNLi provide defibrillators at major beaches they are supervising but only when staff are on duty during summer months.

2.5 The Council has approved 30k in the 2024/25 estimates for providing additional defibrillators where the need arises. The costs per defibrillator is set out below and includes the various options that can be additionally purchased.

Heartstart Defibrillator	£999
Carrying case	£131
Child/infant key	£100
AED prep kit	£15
Cabinet	£695
Total per unit	£1940

2.6 Each defibrillator requires to be mounted in a cabinet and hard wired into a power supply and will need to be inspected each week to check it is operational. The cost of electricity per annum is estimated at £60 and all external defibrillators will be registered with the British Heart Foundation. There is also an initial cost of connecting to the electrical supply in any particular building. This cost will vary.

2.7 As an initial step Six defibrillators have been ordered to ensure they are available as and where the need arises this summer.

### 3.0 Proposals

The notice of motion has a number of elements. Firstly:

***"That this Council agrees to: Review and where appropriate, remedy its provision of defibrillators across its entire public estate to ensure no gaps exist in adequate service provision. This needs to include our leisure facilities, Council offices, Community centres and areas of high public footfall;***

### 3.1 Current Council facility defibrillator provision

The table below sets out the current provision of defibrillators at Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council facilities. A number of these are registered on the British Heart Foundation website as they are externally mounted, those that are internal are not registered.

<b>Location with Defib / AED</b>	<b>On the British Heart Foundation Circuit External Mounted</b>	<b>Outside/Inside building</b>
Ballymoney Office	YES	Inside
Cloonavin	YES	Inside
Limavady Office	YES	Inside
Sheskburn	YES	Inside
Coleraine Depot	YES	Inside
Andersons Park Tennis Pavilion	YES	Outside
Peter Thompson Hall Castlerock	YES	Outside
Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre	YES	Inside
Stranocum Community Centre	YES	Outside
Quay Road Playing Fields, Ballycastle	YES	Outside
Portballintrae Village Hall	YES	Outside
Drumaheglis Caravan Park	YES	Outside
Coleraine West Community Centre	NO	Inside
Rugby Avenue Playing Fields	NO	Inside
Ballysally Community Centre	NO	Inside
Scroggy Road Playing Fields	NO	Inside
Kilrea Sports Centre	NO	Inside
Roe Valley Leisure Centre	NO	Inside
Coleraine Leisure Centre	NO	Inside
Dungiven Sports Centre	NO	Inside
Jim Watt Sports Centre	NO	Inside
Benone	NO	Inside
Cushendall	None	
Cushendun	NO	Inside
Juniper Hill – Residents assoc	NO	Outside
Carrick Dhu -Residents assoc	NO	Outside

3.2 The provision of defibrillators in and outside Council premises requires a member of staff to be given responsibility to carry out a weekly check to ensure the equipment is functioning by recording the light indicators. There is also a requirement to replace any consumables used if the equipment is called upon in an emergency. Facility Managers therefore must be satisfied that they can fulfil these obligations before installing a defibrillator. A maintenance log is also required to be kept and updated.

3.3 Initial feedback received from Countryside staff as part of this initial review has indicated a deficiency in provision in beach areas where there is high footfall throughout the summer and a reduced but significant use at other times of the year. The RNLI do provide a level of cover but only when lifeguards are actually on duty during summer months. This potentially needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

3.4 Some Departments within the Council do provide defibrillators and this is detailed in the table above. There is no Corporate approach in relation to where defibrillators should be located and it is a matter for each Departmental Director to decide if such provision is appropriate. The provision of funding in this years budget will present the opportunity for each Director to review provision in their operational areas and decide if there are grounds to install additional defibrillators and identify suitable locations.

3.5 Generally according to the British Heart Foundation mapping, there appears to be fairly good provision across most of the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area but obviously there is now an opportunity to enhance this.

4.0 Another aspect of the Notice of Motion is as follows:

***Undertake a programme of training for staff who have daily contact with the public in the use of Defibrillators and CPR; and to explore establishing a fund for groups to apply to from across Causeway Coast and Glens to support funding this equipment in their communities."***

4.1 Defibrillators purchased by the Council are fully automatic and designed to systematically provide instruction in such a way that someone with no training can operate them. There are courses available on operating the devices mainly aimed at building confidence and awareness. Managers could avail of this training for their staff.

## 5.0 Options

***"That this Council agrees to: Review and where appropriate, remedy its provision of defibrillators across its entire public estate to ensure no gaps exist in adequate service provision. This needs to include our leisure facilities, Council offices, Community centres and areas of high public footfall;***

5.1 To address this aspect of the Notice of Motion it is suggested that Council departments are asked to review provision in their respective operational areas and put forward proposals regarding potential locations for defibrillators. Those submitting requests will be required to have in place a suitable location, an electricity supply and staff to inspect and update consumables as required. Initial consideration should perhaps be given to seaside areas within the Borough where there is a large footfall over the coming summer months.

***Undertake a programme of training for staff who have daily contact with the public in the use of Defibrillators and CPR; and to explore establishing a fund for groups to apply to from across Causeway Coast and Glens to support funding this equipment in their communities."***

5.2 To address this element of the Notice of Motion it is suggested that a report be brought back in September 2024 to update Elected Members on expenditure to date with regard to the purchase of new defibrillators and identify any funding that could be made available to the public within their communities to purchase or part purchase defibrillators.

## **6.0 Recommendation**

**It is recommended** that the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee recommends to Council that there is a stepped approach to enhancing the provision of defibrillators in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Area. As follows:

Stage 1. Provide defibrillators at designated seaside beaches as requested by the Countryside Team.

Stage 2. Ask Council Departments to review the provision of Defibrillators at facilities they operate and enhance provision where appropriate.

Stage 3. Review expenditure in September with the view to potentially offering funding to the public for the part or full funding of defibrillators subject to budget restrictions.

Stage 4. Review the provision of Defibrillators in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area prior to the 2025/26 budget setting process.