



Bristol Councillors,

We remain incredibly grateful for the unanimous support from councillors for our proposal to improve public defibrillator provision and education on how to perform basic life support back in December last year. We even taught 15 of you the skills you need to save a life later that day, which you can read about here

<https://greatwesternairambulance.com/cpr-taught-to-bristol-city-councillors/>.

It would send a powerful message of support for this initiative if you voted for our city-wide Community Infrastructure Levy bid to install one defibrillator per Councillor in each Bristol ward in your upcoming Area Committee meetings.

We are aware that the proposal will take time and is subject to ongoing discussions around implementation but suffice to say we look forward to progressing these conversations about strategic impact in due course. We also look forward to the moment your defibrillator is installed, within your ward showcasing the Bristol City Council logo and a plaque reflecting your contributions next to each of these life saving devices. This will be a lasting legacy and one that we hope you can feel proud of each and every time you walk past them.

Until then, here is a quick refresher on what we can achieve together. Simply: we can save more lives and where this is not possible, we can provide some comfort knowing that everything that could have been done, was done.

At the meeting you heard from Lousie Polledri and how it could have been different for her son, Sam, when he suffered a cardiac arrest in Millennium Square. There were no accessible defibrillators near to where Sam fell when he needed them most. For every minute that someone is in cardiac arrest, without CPR and a defibrillator, their chance of survival reduces by 10%. A defibrillator came too late for Sam. He wasn't given the chance to survive.

This is a familiar story for our doctors and specialist paramedics who attend a huge volume of cardiac arrests, representing over a 1/3 of our total call outs. This volume, our vision to 'give everyone the best pre-hospital emergency care whoever they are, wherever they are', and the 8% survival rates in this country for anyone suffering an out of hospital cardiac arrest all make it very easy to see why GWAAC is placing public defibrillators and training people in this area. But we need your help.

If we strengthen every link in the chain of survival, we can ensure that anyone suffering a cardiac arrest not only has a defibrillator near them but someone nearby with the skills necessary to save their life.

GWAAC

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Chain of survival



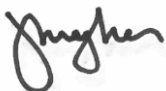
As part of the partnership, we will work with you and your ward to identify the areas that most need public defibrillators. This need will be driven by data, which will be informed by (a) heat maps for cardiac arrests, (b) overlaying these maps with existing public/private defibrillator provision, and (c) walking radiuses. Naturally, there will be some wards with better provision than others; it is however clear that even if we are successful with our bid to install a public defib in each ward...we will still need more. We will share our heat maps with you to illustrate this point and identify the areas within your ward that could most benefit from a defib.

The vision is to ensure there is a defibrillator within a 3–5-minute walk and a network of volunteers to keep them 'rescue ready'. To do this will take work, but we're confident that with your help and community links, we can get there.

Together, we can provide our shared communities with the best chance on their worst day.

If you have any questions in advance of the forthcoming discussions or would like to attend a CPR session, please do reach out to joe.hughes@gwaac.com.

Yours faithfully,



Joe Hughes and the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity Team

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