

Provision of bleed kits by each defibrillator

Summary and recommendation

1. The defibrillator has now been fitted in Little Hampden
2. The earmarked funds in our accounts was £2,500, at 30 September 2024. The actual cost (net of VAT that can be reclaimed) was £1,326¹. Released funds from this project are, therefore, £1,174
3. It has been suggested that the Council used the release funds to purchase two bleed kits and cabinets, to be located next to the defibrillator in both Great Hampden and Little Hampden.
4. The Council is able to use its powers under the Public Health Act 1936, s234 (Life-saving appliances) to facilitate this purchase.

Background

5. The simple fact is that bleeding to death can happen very quickly. If haemorrhaging isn't stopped, a person can bleed to death in just five minutes. If injuries are severe, this could be even quicker.
6. Bleed kits are often considered necessary in major city centres, mainly for stab wounds, but they are as important in rural locations as gardening accidents etc can be equally as traumatic and deadly.
7. Bleed control kits are specialised trauma kits designed to provide bystanders with the products they need to stop life-threatening bleeding until paramedics arrive, potentially saving lives. First-aid kits are rarely a suitable substitute for bleed kits as many standard first-aid kits will not carry the necessary equipment to stem a severe and critical bleed.

Next steps

8. Agree the purchase and cost budget. A budget of £500 per location should suffice, meaning that the lifesaving equipment costs would remain within the original sum earmarked for the Little Hampden defibrillator.
9. Since the permission of the relevant landowners to attach the bleed cabinets next to the defibrillator cabinets.

¹ Defibrillator and cabinet £1,166 and fitting and electrical works £160

10. Find suitably skilled people to fit each cabinet.