

CABINET

**COUNCILLOR M.J. ROBERTS
CHAIRMAN OF POLICY AND PROJECT
ADVISORY BOARD**

6TH AUGUST 2024

KEY DECISION: NO

REPORT NO. ACE2407

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM POLICY AND PROJECT ADVISORY BOARD -
DEFIBRILLATORS AND BLEED KITS IN RUSHMOOR**

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On 7th December 2023, the Council resolved to refer a Notice of Motion on defibrillators to the Policy and Project Advisory Board (PPAB) for consideration:

The Notice of Motion requested that:

- PPAB produce a report into the current accessibility and maintenance of defibrillators and bleed kits in Rushmoor
- Assess the cost commitments in expanding provision of defibrillators and bleed kits in Rushmoor
- Make recommendations for expanding the provision of defibrillators and bleed kits across Rushmoor

On 13th February 2024 PPAB received a presentation from officers and the Artery Project, outlining existing provision and costs for additional defibrillators.

On 21st March 2024, a further report was presented to PPAB, with results from a needs assessment and survey. The report recommended the installation of accessible defibrillators and bleed kits in priority areas to mitigate the dangers of out of hospital cardiac arrests.

RECOMMENDATION:

PPAB recommend to Cabinet to:

- Endorse the already approved £10,000 from the existing UKSPF neighbourhood level interventions project budget to purchase up to six Public Access Defibrillators (PADs) in priority areas identified.
- Support the prioritisation of the purchase of PADs above the relocation of existing Council owned defibrillators.
- Support the work with First Responders to arrange and co-ordinate daily checks on new defibrillators.
- Support the work with partners and provide defibrillator awareness training sessions.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The report outlines the work undertaken earlier this year following the Notice of Motion, the findings from the survey and needs assessment and provides a further update on costs since the PPAB meeting in March 2024.
- 1.2. This report proposes the purchase of up to six defibrillators to be installed in specific locations across the borough where existing coverage is considered inadequate.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. A Notice of Motion to Council on 7th December 2023 proposed that the Council consider increasing the number of defibrillators and bleed kits in the borough.
- 2.2. On 13th February PPAB received a presentation from Council officers and the Artery Project, outlining current provision, associated costs, and external funding opportunities for defibrillators. PPAB agreed that a survey and needs assessment was necessary to provide a more comprehensive understanding of need.
- 2.3. A report was presented to PPAB on 21st March 2024 outlining the results of the needs assessment and survey. The report recommended an increase in the number of accessible defibrillators and bleed kits to mitigate the dangers of out of hospital cardiac arrests.
- 2.4. It is recognised that in the event of an out of hospital cardiac arrest, access to a defibrillator, prior to the arrival of medical help, has a significant effect on the survival rate.
- 2.5. Heart and circulatory diseases are strongly associated with health inequalities. A study by the University of York in 2023(Burgoine T, 2023),[Automated external defibrillator location and socioeconomic deprivation in Great Britain | Heart \(bmj.com\)](https://www.bmj.com/lookup/doi/10.1136/bmj-2023-076000), showed that people in deprived areas, who are among the communities at the greatest risk of cardiac arrest, are further away from life-saving equipment, highlighting the risk to life and the need for equal access to defibrillators.
- 2.6. The Council is committed through the Supporting Communities Strategy to improving health and wellbeing outcomes and reducing health inequalities. To date the Council has allocated £9,656 towards defibrillators via the Supporting Communities Grants. In addition, the Council has provided significant officer time to support local groups who have fundraised independently for defibrillators.

3. DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL

General

- 3.1. To assign £10,000 from existing UKSPF project budgets to purchase up to six defibrillators in priority locations identified by the needs assessment. In no priority order these locations are:
- Aldershot Town Centre - The Victoria House
 - Farnborough Town Centre – Victoria Road location, near Wetherspoons
 - Aldershot Park – South of the Ward – Community centre in Andover Way (Lighthouse project)/Ticehurst/Place Court or Parkside
 - Fernhill – North of the Ward – Hawley Road - New Inn pub
 - Cove & Southwood – St Christophers Estate – West Farnborough Club/Stuart Jones house – Maple Leaf Close
 - Prospect Estate, Cherrywood – Totland flats/Prospect Community Centre
- 3.2. To work with community groups and local organisations to identify specific locations in the above areas and support them to take ownership and responsibility of maintaining the defibrillators. A signed agreement to acknowledge ownership and maintenance checks for the defibrillator is the responsibility of the community group and not the Council will be required.
- 3.3. To relocate existing defibrillators at the Council offices, and Princes Hall to make them accessible at all times.

Alternative Options

- 3.4. An alternative option would be to seek external funding opportunities, to purchase defibrillators, as opposed to using UKSPF funding. This would delay the project until funds are secured.
- 3.5. Alternatively, the Council could work to promote and encourage others to address the identified gaps in provision. This may not impact the priority areas and progress could be slow.
- 3.6. Finally the Council could choose to do nothing to increase the provision of defibrillators and bleed kits in the borough which would not address the issues set out in this report.

Consultation – Survey & Needs Assessment

- 3.7. A borough wide survey (Appendix A) was circulated to partners, charities, sports clubs, and businesses on Monday 26th February, closing on Friday 8th March. It was also included in the Council's news email, a business newsletter and shared widely on social media.

Survey results

- 3.8. Sixty-nine organisations responded to the survey. It is estimated that there are 141 defibrillators in the borough. (Appendix B: map to show all defibrillators we are aware of including doctors' surgeries and schools)
- 3.9. It is estimated that there are a total of 37 Public Access Defibrillators available in the borough 24/7 (Appendix C: Map to show location of all PAD's)
- 3.10. Eleven responses identified organisations who would like a defibrillator but faced barriers including a Lack of funds and limited access to premises.
- 3.11. The survey identified seven bleed kits (Five in Farnborough and two in Aldershot). These are located at schools (3), churches (2), St John's Ambulance and one is owned by a community group.

Needs Assessment (Appendix D)

- 3.12. Using Lower Layer Super Output areas (LSOA's) each area was given a score of 1-5 using the following metrics:
 - 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Score
 - 2019 IMD score for health deprivation and Disability Domain
 - 2021 Census Date - The Number of people aged 65 and over
 - Nature of the place – including:
 - Cluster of shops, cafes, petrol stations restaurants or pubs
 - Community Centre, Sports centre, open space, Cemetery or Church
 - Static Homes and Pharmacies.
- 3.13. The higher the score, the greater the need for a defibrillator. The data identified town centres and areas of deprivation with the highest scores and therefore the greatest need (Appendix E)

Summary of Findings

- 3.14. The survey and needs assessment identified six locations with a gap in provision, where the availability of a defibrillator would significantly increase the chance of survival should anyone suffer a cardiac arrest (see priority locations named in 3.1)
- 3.15. North Town, North Camp and Rowhill also recorded high scores in the needs assessment. However, there are existing defibrillators in these areas, and it is felt that provision is adequate.
- 3.16. North Camp Matters Association have advised the Council that they have independently secured funding for an additional three devices.

Costs and maintenance

- 3.17. Defibrillators can cost between £800 and £2,500 plus VAT, depending on the make and model, excluding the cost for fitting and installation.
- 3.18. The fitting and installation cost vary significantly depending on the location of the external defibrillator and the distance from the nearest suitable power supply. It is estimated that installation costs are in the region of £600.
- 3.19. Additional costs associated with PADs include routine replacement of the battery and pads, plus additional replacement of the pads if the defibrillator is used. The typical shelf life of pads and batteries is 2 to 5 years, depending on the model and frequency of use.
- 3.20. The ongoing maintenance of a PAD does not require technical expertise but requires a daily check to ensure that the “active status” indicator is green. Monthly checks are needed to ensure the condition of the unit and accessories are intact, the battery and pads remain in date, together with a manually initiated self-test. Additional checks are required every time the defibrillator has been used.
- 3.21. Bleed kits cost in the region of £85 to £200. They have a shorter expiry date, which requires them to be replaced more frequently.

Progress since PPAB

- 3.22. The Council has acquired several quotes for bulk purchase of defibrillators. The quotes include three defibrillators for North Camp who are funding their own but included as part of the overall purchase. The quotes range between £9,855 and £14,400 for nine defibrillators. Installation costs will be additional and are estimated to cost in the region of £3,600 (£600 per unit).
- 3.23. Based on a quote of £1,095 per defibrillator the Council would be able to fund the purchase and installation of six defibrillators (installation at £600 per unit) at a total cost of £10,170. It is predicted that this figure will be lower because Council officers have identified defibrillators within the priority list of six, that are likely to be externally funded.
- 3.24. The Council is working with Vivid to secure a defibrillator in Cherrywood. This would potentially be funded by Vivid and not require Council funding.
- 3.25. The Council is working with The George PH, Aldershot. The Council has identified a site for a defibrillator in the Wellington Centre, Aldershot (close to the Victoria House entrance) which The George PH will potentially fund.
- 3.26. The Council is in discussion with First Responders regarding carrying out ongoing maintenance checks for new defibrillators, reducing the impact on community groups and providing additional reassurance that checks will be maintained.

- 3.27. Since the PPAB meeting in March, the Property team have confirmed that the cost to relocate Council owned defibrillators will be £2,500 per unit.
- 3.28. The Council is working with North Camp matters to involve them in a future bulk purchase and secure an overall cost reduction for them. They have identified specific locations based on our needs assessment data.
- 3.29. The Community Safety Team are in dialogue with the Police about locating bleed kits in anti-social behaviour hotspots.

4. IMPLICATIONS

Risks

- 4.1. The project is highly dependent on a) the Council identifying and agreeing the specific location for a defibrillator and b) ensuring community groups take responsibility for maintenance and ownership of the device. This is crucial to ensure a sustainable model and reduce the financial burden on the Council.
- 4.2. While the implications for community groups is partially covered in section 4.1, it is important to detail that these community groups must fully understand the scope of their responsibilities, including regular checks and financial planning for potential replacements or repairs. The success of this initiative heavily relies on the commitment and capability of these groups to manage and sustain the defibrillators without ongoing financial support from the Council.

Legal Implications

- 4.3. Any Council funded defibrillator installed in a new location, will require a legal agreement stating that the Council will not be liable for future on going costs. The Council is not responsible for other, community-owned defibrillators already installed across the borough and will not retain any responsibility for new defibrillators installed by individuals and groups as part of this funding.
- 4.4. The Council will not cover any maintenance costs for the defibrillators. While this has been previously stated, it is crucial to underline that all ongoing maintenance responsibilities will rest solely with the community groups or other responsible entities who agree to take on this role.

Financial Implications

- 4.5. Relocating existing defibrillators on Council premises will cost approximately £2,500 per unit. The property team are responsible for existing maintenance checks.

Resource Implications

- 4.4. The project requires resource from the Policy Team and the Community & Partnerships team. This includes working with local communities and partners to identify locations, purchasing and establishing future ownership of devices.

Equalities Impact Implications

- 4.5 Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Outcomes (OHCAO) Registry, funded by Resuscitation Council UK and British Heart Foundation has shown that 80% of out of hospital cardiac arrests happen in residential areas. People from minority ethnic groups and those from the more deprived areas are most at risk.
- 4.6 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Following discussion at the February and March 2024 Policy and Projects Advisory Board (PPAB) meetings, PPAB recommend that Cabinet:
- 5.2 Endorse the already approved £10,000 from the existing UKSPF neighbourhood level interventions project budget to purchase up to six Public Access Defibrillators (PADs) in priority areas identified, and to prioritise the purchase of PADs above the cost of relocating existing Council owned defibrillators.
- 5.3 To work with First Responders to arrange and co-ordinate daily checks on new defibrillators. An annual report on checks to be sent to the Community & Partnerships Team.
- 5.4 To work with partners and provide defibrillator awareness training sessions to include raising awareness of defibrillator locations and what to do if you are a bystander when someone has a cardiac arrest.
- 5.5 To work with local Public Houses, prioritising those in areas where anti-social behaviour is prevalent and support them to fund Bleed Kits independently.

LIST OF APPENDICES/ANNEXES:

Appendix A – Draft letter to be completed by lead organisations
Appendix B – Survey
Appendix C - Map of Defibrillators
Appendix D - Map of Publicly Accessible Defibrillators
Appendix E – Needs Assessment
Appendix F – Maps showing the areas of greatest need

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Appendix A – Draft letter to be completed by lead organisations

RUSHMOOR
BOROUGH COUNCIL



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John Smith
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GU12 4HT

Dear Rushmoor Borough Council,

Regarding the maintenance, upkeep, and monitoring of the Defibrillator at [Insert Here] we as the Community Group, hereby agree to take on the following responsibilities:

- a. We will ensure that the Defibrillator is maintained, kept up-to-date, and monitored in accordance with industry standards and the manufacturer's guidelines.
- b. We will maintain detailed records of all maintenance, upkeep, monitoring, and usage of the Defibrillator.
- c. We will stay informed of any changes or updates in industry standards and manufacturer guidelines and adjust our practices accordingly.
- d. We will promptly notify the Council of any delays or issues in the maintenance and monitoring of the Defibrillator.
- e. We will immediately report any defects or problems with the Defibrillator to the Council.
- f. Upon request, we will provide the Council with any necessary documentation related to the use, maintenance, upkeep, or monitoring of the Defibrillator.
- g. ~~In the event that~~ we are no longer able to fulfil our responsibilities, we will notify the Council as soon as possible and collaborate with them to transfer the maintenance, upkeep, and monitoring of the Defibrillator to another party in a timely manner.

It is important to note that while we are committed to maintaining the Defibrillator, we acknowledge that the Council will not be responsible for funding future maintenance or replacement parts.



Name	Signature

Appendix B – Survey

Defibrillators in Aldershot and Farnborough

Introduction

We would like to understand where defibrillators are in Aldershot and Farnborough and identify places in the community where new ones might be needed.

If you are a representative from a local organisation, business, school or community group we would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete the following survey.

The closing date for our survey is Friday 8 March.

To view our consultation survey privacy notice please visit www.rushmoor.gov.uk/consultationprivacynotice.

* 1. Please provide the name of your organisation/company/business/school/group.

* 2. Please provide the postcode for your organisation/company/business/school/group.

* 3. Do you have a defibrillator on your premises?

Yes

No

Defibrillators in Aldershot and Farnborough

* 4. Is the defibrillator accessible for the community/members of the public 24-hours-a-day, 7 days a week?

Yes

No

5. If no, what are the restrictions? For example, the defibrillator can only be used within working hours or opening hours, or only for use by staff as part of medical practice etc.

To understand the coverage of defibrillators in Aldershot and Farnborough, we would like to map where they are. This map will be on our website, as part of a Rushmoor Borough Council committee report.

*** 6. Do you consent to your defibrillator being included on this map?**

- Yes
- No

The Circuit is the national defibrillator network providing an overview of where you can find defibrillators. At the moment, many defibrillators never get used because emergency services don't know where they are or how to access them. [The Circuit - the national defibrillator network](#).

*** 7. Has your defibrillator been registered on the national database the Circuit?**

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

8. If no, will you consider registering your defibrillator with the Circuit?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Defibrillators in Aldershot and Farnborough

*** 9. Do you think there is a need for a defibrillator at your organisation/company/business/school/group?**

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

10. If yes, what are the barriers your organisation/company/business/school/group getting a defibrillator?

- I don't know how to get one installed
- Lack of funds
- Limited access to our premises
- Other (please tell us)

Defibrillators in Aldershot and Farnborough

We are also interested in knowing where bleed kits are located in Aldershot and Farnborough.

A bleed kit is a collection of medical supplies and equipment designed to provide immediate aid to someone with severe bleeding. The kits are intended for use in emergencies until professional medical help arrives.

*** 11. Does your organisation/company/business/school/group have a bleed kit?**

Yes

No

No, but we know where one is located (please tell us where it is)

12. If we can contact you about your answers, please provide a contact email address.

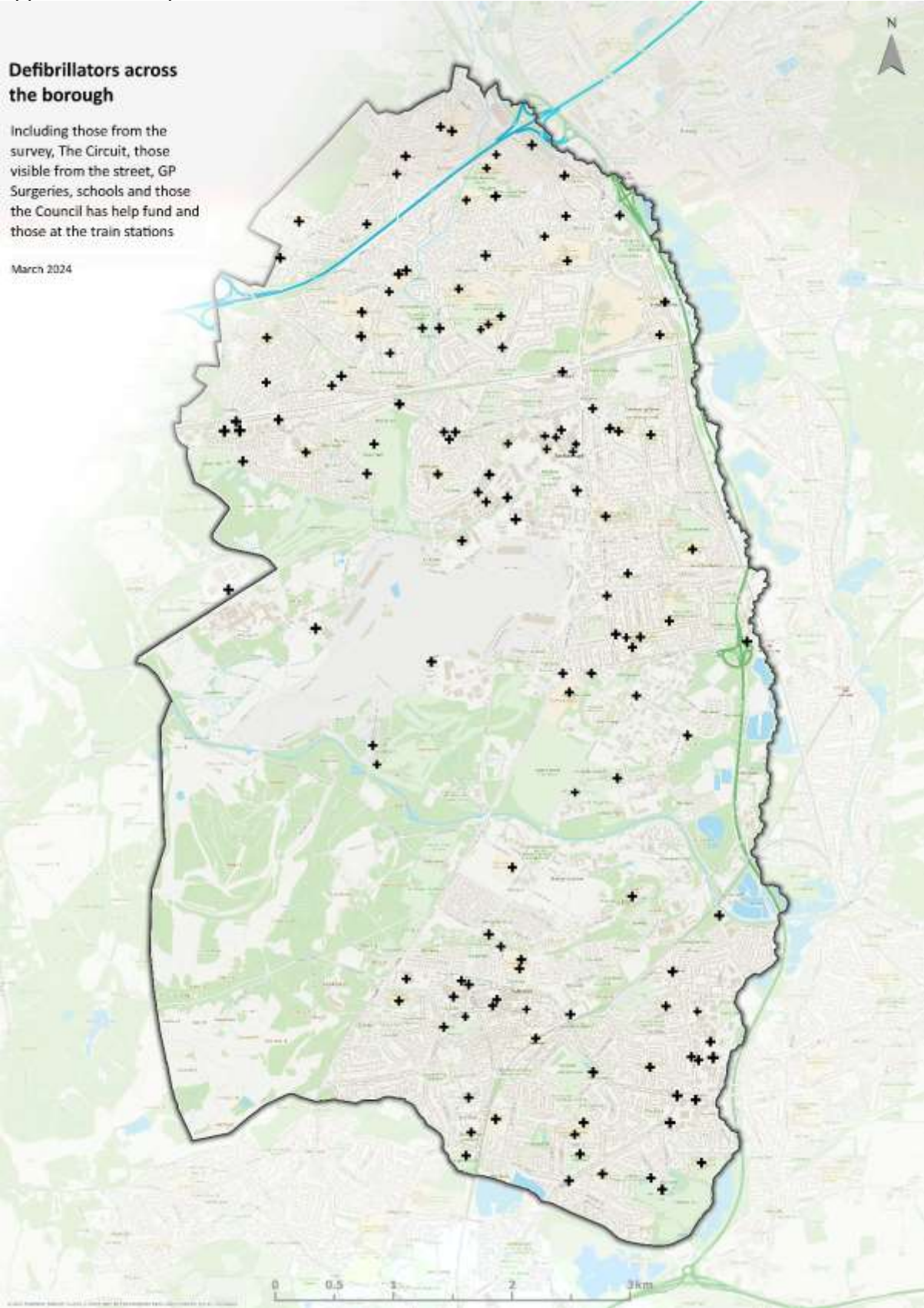
Thank you for taking part in our survey

Appendix C - Map of Defibrillators

Defibrillators across the borough

Including those from the survey, The Circuit, those visible from the street, GP Surgeries, schools and those the Council has help fund and those at the train stations

March 2024

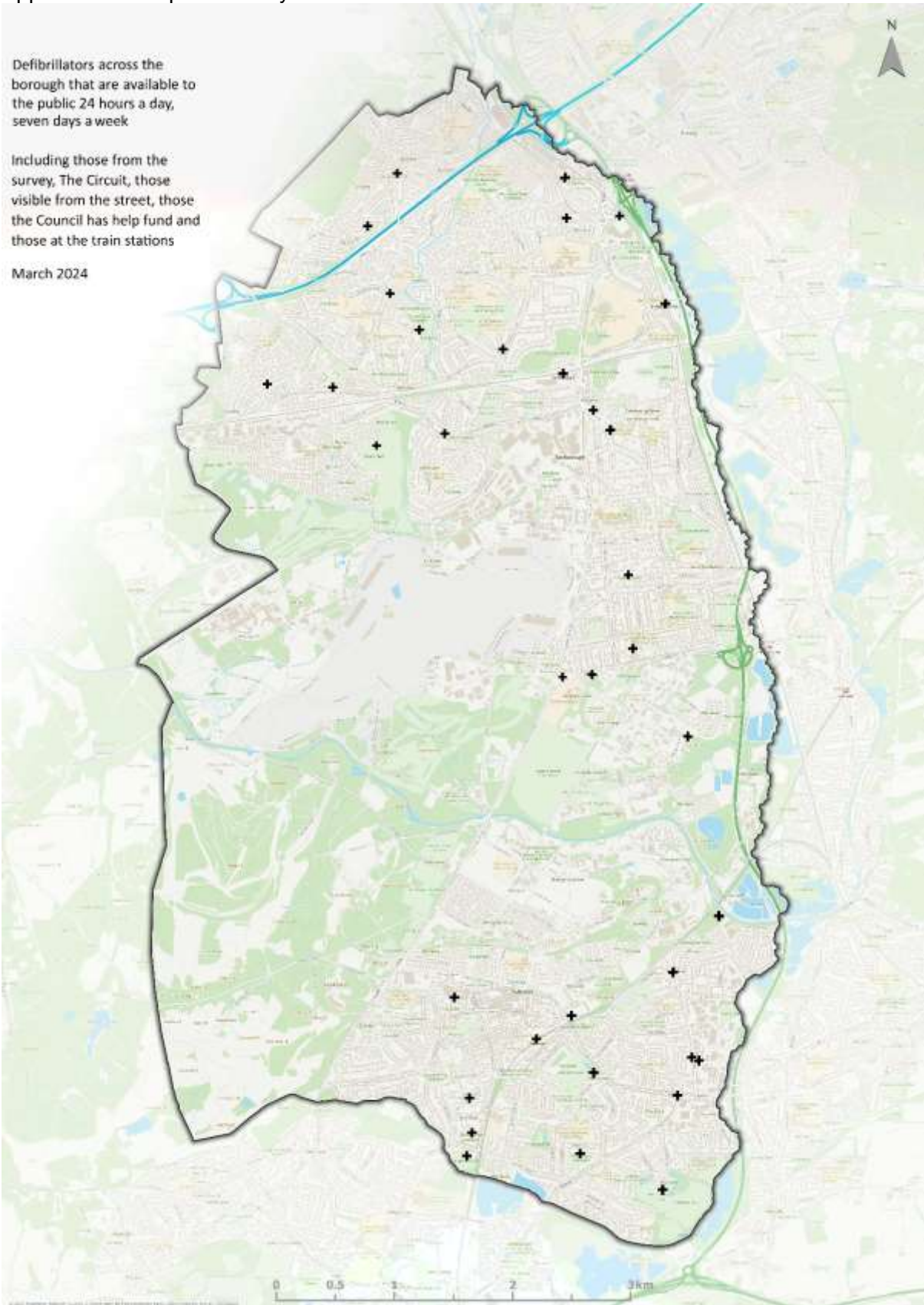


Appendix D - Map of Publicly Accessible Defibrillators

Defibrillators across the borough that are available to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week

Including those from the survey, The Circuit, those visible from the street, those the Council has help fund and those at the train stations

March 2024



APPENDIX E

Appendix E – Needs Assessment

*Areas of multiple deprivation.

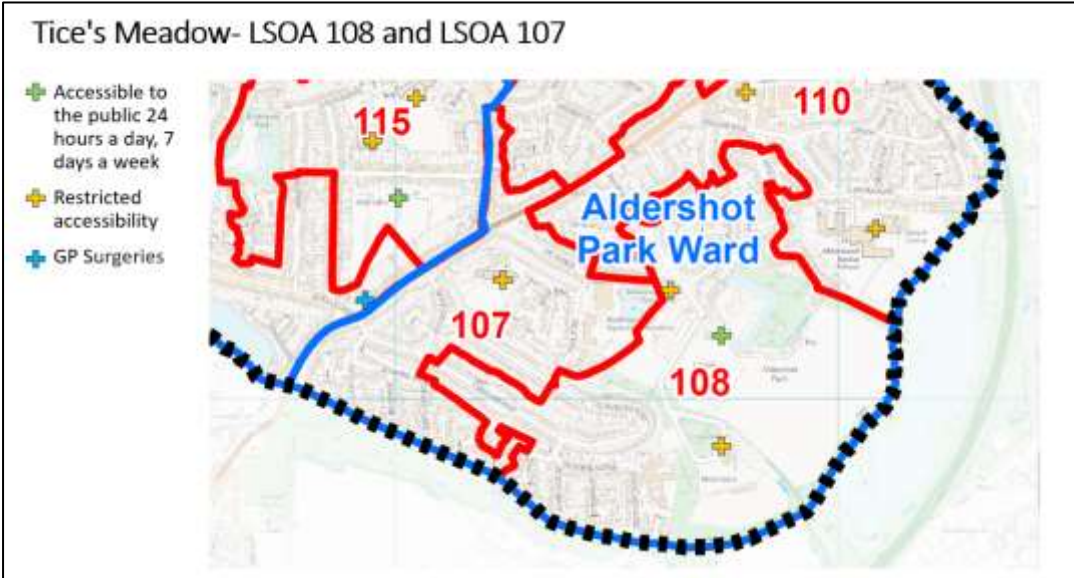
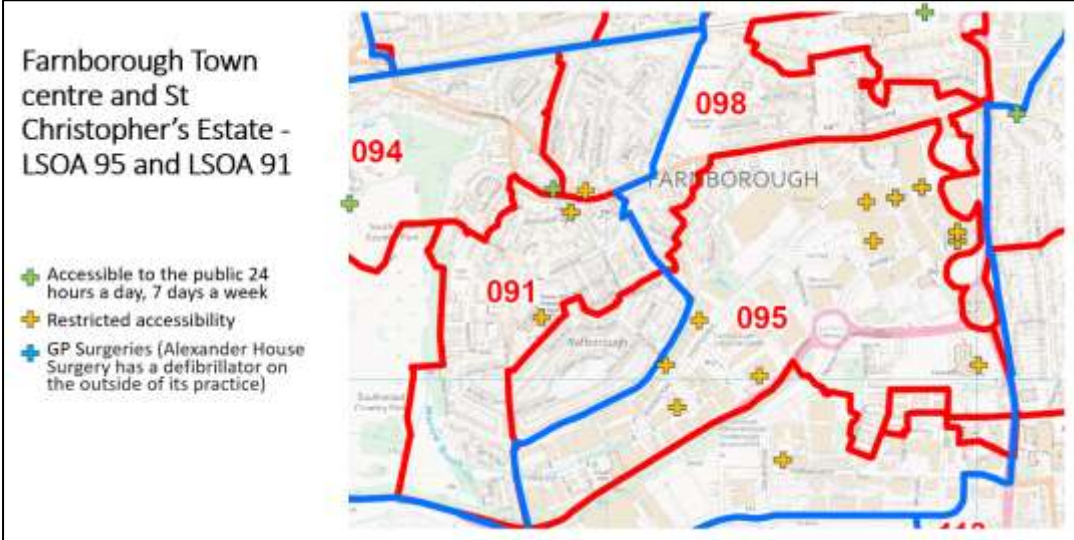
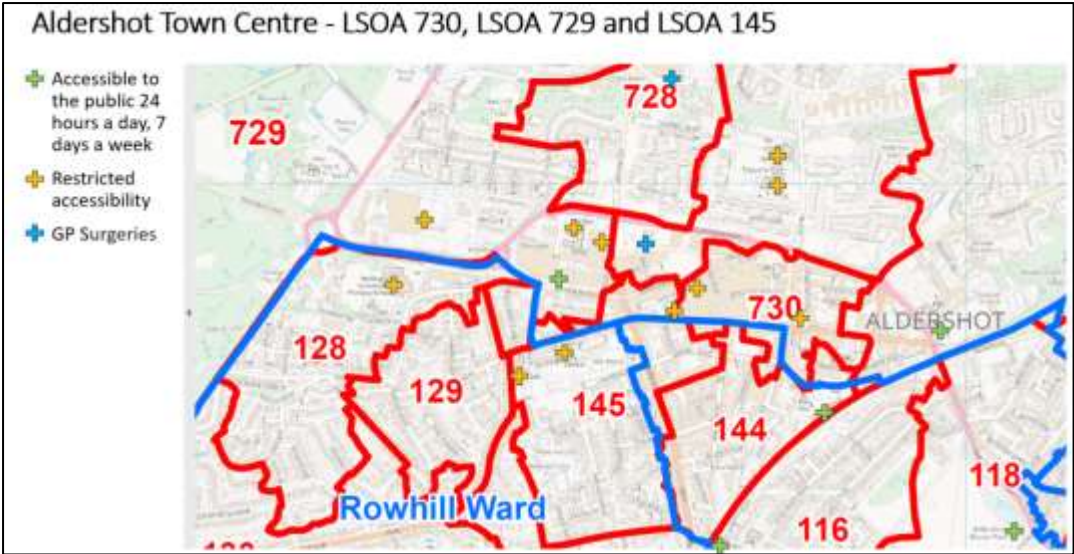
Note: After the 2021 Census LSOA 142 (an area of multiple deprivation) was split into LSOA 727 and 730. An assumption has been made that the deprivation will be worse in LSOA 730 (in/near to Aldershot town centre), than in 727 (mainly Army housing and Wellesley).

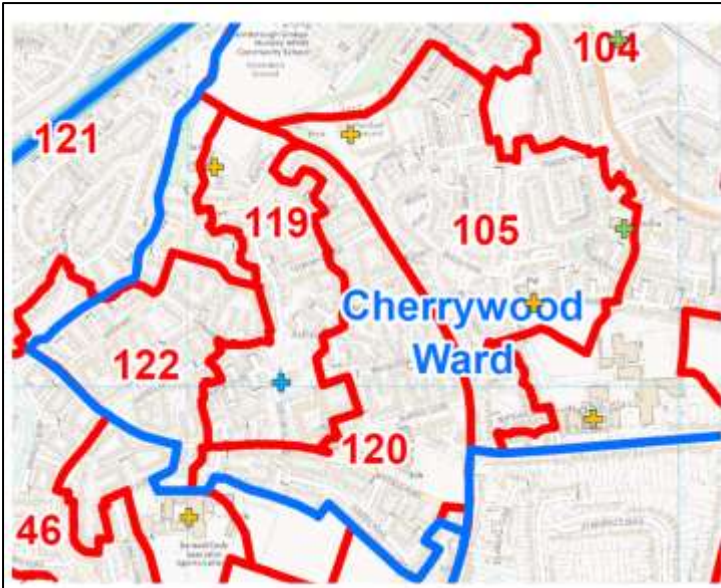
	2019 IMD	Health deprivation score	Number of old people - plus 65	Nature of place	
LSOA	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Total
730 - Aldershot TC	5	4	4	5	18
145 - Aldershot TC	4	3	5	5	17
108 – Aldershot Park	5	5	4	3	17
091 – St Christopher’s Estate	4	5	3	4	16
858 – North Town	4	4	3	5	16
107 – Aldershot Park	4	5	4	3	16
119 – Totland area Cherrywood	5	5	3	2	15
095 - Farnborough TC	3	3	4	5	15
099 – Fernhill ward	3	4	4	4	15
729 - Aldershot TC	3	4	2	5	14
140 - North Camp Village	3	4	2	5	14
105 – Cherrywood ward	4	4	4	2	14
131 – Rowhill ward	2	4	5	3	14
106	4	4	3	2	13
120	4	3	4	2	13
132	2	3	4	4	13
139	3	4	3	3	13
118	3	3	3	4	13
104	3	2	4	3	12
121	4	3	5	0	12
146	4	4	3	1	12
103	2	1	4	5	12
098	2	2	4	4	12
149	2	3	4	3	12
113	2	4	4	2	12
137	2	3	3	4	12
144	4	3	4	1	12
109	2	3	4	3	12
122	4	4	3	0	11
096	1	1	5	4	11
135	3	2	4	2	11
141	2	4	1	4	11
128	3	4	4	0	11

129	3	4	3	1	11
110	3	4	4	0	11
093	1	1	4	4	10
094	1	2	4	3	10
114	1	2	3	4	10
138	3	3	3	1	10
116	2	2	3	3	10
117	1	2	5	2	10
100	2	4	2	1	9
147	1	2	4	2	9
092	1	1	3	4	9
148	1	2	4	2	9
136	1	2	3	3	9
727	3	2	2	2	9
125	2	2	4	1	9
115	1	2	4	2	9
123	2	2	3	2	9
101	1	2	4	1	8
102	1	2	4	1	8
097	1	2	4	1	8
130	1	1	4	2	8
111	1	1	5	0	7
728	2	3	1	1	7
124	2	2	3	0	7
112	1	1	3	1	6
134	1	1	3	0	5
133	1	1	3	0	5

Appendix F – Maps showing the areas of greatest need

LSOAs that scored 14 or over in the needs assessment.

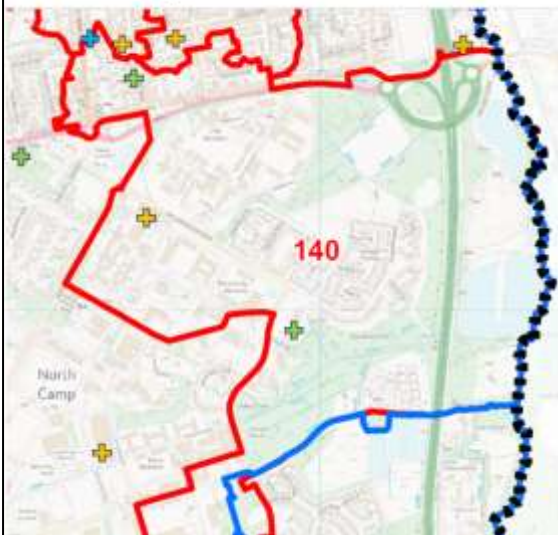




Cherrywood - LSOA 119 and LSOA 105

- + Accessible to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- + Restricted accessibility
- + GP Surgeries

North Camp - LSOA 140

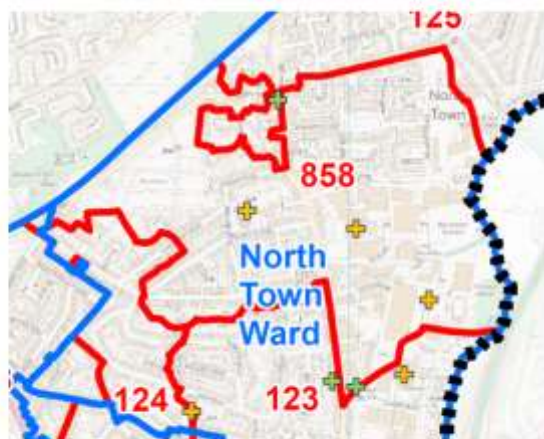


- + Accessible to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- + Restricted accessibility
- + GP Surgeries

Fernhill - LSOA 99



Rowhill - LSOA 131



North Town - LSOA 858