

Subjec	ct:	Update on Public Access Defibrillator Pilot Programme		
Date:		5 <sup>th</sup> December 2017		
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Restric	cted Reports			
Is this report restricted?			Yes No X	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?				
After Committee Decision				
	After Council	Decision		
Some time in the future		the future		
	Never			
Call-in				
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?		r Call-in?	Yes X No	
1.0	Purpose of Repo	rt or Summary of Main Issues		
1.1		e purpose of the report is to provide further update to the Committee on the progress OF		
	the public access defibrillator pilot programme.			
2.0	Recommendations			
2.1	The Committee is asked to:  • note the update on the pilot programme; and			
	approve the proposed locations for the third phase of the public access defibrillator			
		e – Ormeau Park (depot area), Orang	•	
		folk Playing Fields. Strangford Playing		

Musgrave Park and Ulidia Playing Fields. This is subject to the identification of a suitable location with an electrical supply and confirmation with the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) that there are no other public access defibrillators within a short distance:

# 3.0 Main Report

# 3.1 Update on first and second phase of public access defibrillator provision

Members will be aware the Council has been undertaking a public access defibrillator pilot programme. As part of this programme defibrillators were initially installed in 6 parks in May 2016, namely:

- Victoria Park
- Waterworks Park
- Fullerton Park
- Tullycarnet Park
- Boucher Road Playing Fields
- Falls Park
- 3.2 A second phase of installation took place in September 2017 across a further 7 Council sites, namely:
  - Grove Playing Fields
  - Cherryvale Playing Fields
  - Blanchflower Stadium
  - Wedderburn Playing Fields
  - Woodvale Playing Fields
  - Henry Jones Playing Fields
  - Woodlands Playing Fields
- 3.3 Installation at Botanic Park and City of Belfast Playing Fields is also due to take place as part of the second phase. The installation at Botanic Park has been delayed due to the ongoing project at the Tropical Ravine. The installation at City of Belfast Playing Fields has been delayed due to vandalism of the defibrillator cabinet (see below).

# **Deployment**

3.4 To date there are no records of any of the installed defibrillators having actually been used since the beginning of the pilot programme.

#### **Damage/vandalism to Defibrillators**

- 3.5 There have been a number of vandalism incidents to the Council's public access defibrillators during this pilot programme.
- An incident involving the defibrillator at Waterworks Park resulted in the unit's paediatric pads having to be replaced, in addition to ancillary equipment (towel, razor etc). A number of incidents in Fullerton Park have resulted in the defibrillator being retrieved from the local PSNI station and on another occasion being damaged beyond repair (the defibrillator has since been replaced free of charge by the local manufacturer). The City of Belfast Playing Fields cabinet was damaged beyond repair before the defibrillator could be installed. A decision has now been taken to relocate the cabinet and defibrillator within the Pavilion building, which is accessible to the public while the park is open.
- 3.7 An additional two defibrillators have had to be temporarily withdrawn from service at Woodvale Playing Fields and Falls Park due to issues with the cabinet opening mechanisms. Discussions are ongoing with the Supplier to have these cabinets repaired or replaced and the defibrillators re-instated at the earliest opportunity.

#### Management

3.8 A number of local staff have been trained in the use of the defibrillators and further training is planned. Staff have also been trained and appointed to monitor the condition of the equipment on a regular basis.

### Third phase of public access Defibrillator Provision

- 3.9 At the People and Communities Committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017, the Committee was informed of a donation of £5,408 from the family of the late Mark Murphy.
- 3.10 The Committee agreed to a third phase of installation across a further 8 Council sites, using the donation to cover the cost of buying the 8 defibrillators. The Committee was informed at the same meeting that the Murphy family had requested that one of the defibrillators was installed in Cherryvale Playing Fields as it is located close to the family home and is extensively used by many of the friends and families who have supported them in their fundraising. As Cherryvale Playing Fields was one of the agreed sites for the second phase this request and the erection of a plaque at the defibrillator in Cherryvale Playing Fields to acknowledge the donation was agreed at this meeting. The plaque was unveiled and received positive media coverage on 19th August 2017.

- 3.11 During this pilot programme, the focus for public access defibrillators on Council sites has been on recreational facilities and those sites with significant public access or high footfall. Continuing with this focus on recreational facilities and recognising the specific reference to sports facilities within the Community Resuscitation Strategy and the Murphy family's wishes, the next phase of provision would be proposed for:
  - Ormeau Park (depot area)
  - Orangefield Park
  - Shore Road Playing Fields
  - Suffolk Playing Fields
  - Strangford Playing Fields
  - Loughshore Playing Fields
  - Musgrave Park
  - Ulidia Playing Fields
- 3.12 The provision of defibrillators at these sites would be subject to the identification of a suitable location with an electrical supply and confirmation with the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) that there are no other public access defibrillators within a short distance.

#### **Financial and Resource Implications**

3.13 The cost of 8 defibrillators for the third phase of the programme will be covered by the donation from the Murphy family. It was anticipated that costs associated with the cabinets and installation of the defibrillators would be covered by the funding already allocated to the second phase of defibrillator installation, however all funding allocated to the second phase has been used. The costs associated with cabinets and installation for the third phase of the programme and ongoing vandalism will be met by the 2017/2018 Parks Service budget.

### **Equality or Good Relations Implications**

3.14 The Council's Good Relation Unit have advised that proposals for extending the deployment of defibrillators will have a positive effect on the Health and Wellbeing of people who work, live and visit Belfast and that this is a positive equality action.

#### 4.0 Documents Attached

None