

## Adult Care, Housing & Public Health

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10 November 2023

Councillor Tinsley

By email: [Adam.Tinsley@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Adam.Tinsley@rotherham.gov.uk)

Dear Councillor Tinsley

### Re: Council Question

Following your recent Council Question in relation to the DHCS's Community Automated External Defibrillator Fund and its current availability the public health intelligence team have undertaken a piece of work to look at defibrillator coverage within the borough.

The outcome of this work has shown that there is good coverage already in place in Rotherham, with 167 devices recorded as being in place currently. The attached map shows wide coverage of devices across the borough, with the vast majority being accessible 24hrs a day (some, marked in blue on the map are situated within buildings and only accessible during opening hours).

The mapping demonstrates that over 75% of the Rotherham population live within 500m of an AED, which demonstrates good coverage especially for a borough like ours with significant rural and semi-rural areas.

The mapping also demonstrates high coverage within the wards where we have higher rates of emergency admissions for coronary heart disease, and higher levels of deprivation, which we know are associated with heart health risks.

The mapping work has demonstrated good AED coverage in the borough, and appropriate targeting of higher risk communities from those devices we have, so at present we would not recommend the allocation of Council resources to additional devices through the part funded offer. However, the current fund offers opportunities for fully funded devices, or for other local bodies to take up part funded devices and we have undertaken the following actions to ensure that there is good awareness of the current DHSC funding, and that this can be taken up (subject to appropriate funding) where there is a local need: -

- The RMBC Estates team have been shared copies of the attached mapping to enable further discussions within the Place Partnership Estates Group to identify any Council and Partner buildings that exist in less well served areas that may benefit from a bid to the fund.
- Details of the available funding have been shared through RMBCs Ward E-bulletins, with additional targeting towards Parish Councils and local groups who may be interested in accessing the funding.

I hope that you find this useful in addition to the responses given to your Council Question and may I also apologise for the delay in our response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Spicer', written in a cursive style.

Ian Spicer  
Strategic Director