



## 2021 update

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# **British heart foundation**

## The Circuit

2021 saw South Western Ambulance Service (SWAST) join the circuit and asked us to be the first organisation to upload all of the defibrillators that we look after to the system.

With all of our monitored cabinets being regularly checked via our monitoring system, alongside all of the guardian checks that you all carry out weekly, means we know that our cabinets are rescue ready when needed.

# **Guardian checks**

During the lockdowns, any of the cabinets that were not being regularly checked were looked after by us to ensure they were available throughout if needed.

Now these lock downs are over, we are asking that all cabinets are checked weekly. We have to upload this info the circuit, and those not checked once within a month are removed from the circuit. This stops them being available is required. If anyone needs the guardian check list please let us know, it takes approx. 30 seconds to carry out

## **Monitoring access**

If anyone requires access to their cabinet(s) monitoring data, please let us know and we will send over the step by step guide. This will allow you to see when the checks where carried out and if the door is closed, and if the defib is present. It also provides the date the pads expire

# **Courses**

We have again held a range of first aid and mental health courses throughout 2021, both in person and online.

These regulated courses are held regularly and upon a successful completion have a three year certificate awarded.

## **Brochures & guides**

We have now produced a range of brochures for the defibrillators and cabinet packages that we offer, as well as the first aid courses, and mental health courses.

We have also produced the guides for accessing the monitoring portal & guardian check list.

If you would like a copy of any of them, please let us know

# Annual fee

With our annual fee we will replace the pads upon their expiry date and upon their use. We will also work alongside SWAST & FLEET to have the defibrillator returned to the cabinet upon its use.

Since our beginning in 2017 we have managed to keep the annual fee the same, however the last year has seen all of our costs increase by a large amount, including pads.

This means that unfortunately we will have to increase the annual fee from 1st January 2022. This will be increased to £190+VAT (£228) per cabinet. Thankfully we have managed to lock all of our costs until Dec 2023, so will be able to hold this cost. There is also no increase in those that have a mobile data sim contract with us, as these are set costs with our supplier.

# Cabinet deployments

In 2020 we had 71 cabinets activated by SWAST, where the defibrillator has been taken to an incident. From these deployments, 4 people were saved by early defibrillator use and effective CPR.

To date (27th Dec) we have had 160 cabinets activated by SWAST, with 2 people saved.

This shows the pressure that the service is under, as well as the importance of public access defibrillators. These deployments may be as a precaution in case the incident changes.

Thank you to everyone who has assisted in having public access defibrillators installed and kept checked and available to assist the service & local communities