



Community Safety News

Community rallies for Real Change

Thousands of pounds have been raised for local homeless charities thanks to the generosity of people in the borough of Basingstoke and Deane.



Residents, groups, churches, schools and businesses are among those who supported this year's Real Change not Loose Change campaign, exceeding the £15,565 target with more money still coming in. This money raised will make a difference enabling:

- people sleeping on the streets to benefit from a comfortable bed and a hot meal at the Night Light winter shelter, held in town centre churches seven nights a week, from December to the end of February.
- the Camrose Day Centre to continue to open for a third day every week to provide homeless people with a welcoming space to enjoy a meal, receive advice and have a shower and a shave.
- Julian House to provide storage for people who are sleeping on Basingstoke's streets to keep their personal items safe.

The Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) which includes a range of specialist, voluntary, statutory, faith and community groups, launched Real Change 2017 on World Homelessness Day in October. The initiative encouraged people wanting to help make a real change to donate to the crowdfunding site, as an alternative to giving money directly to rough sleepers. People were also encouraged to donate their time as a volunteer with local homeless charities or items such as food, bedding or clothing.

This joined-up forward thinking approach is already resulting in more people being helped in the right way. A rough sleeper count held towards the end of last year recorded an estimate of 15 rough sleepers in Basingstoke, down from 26 in 2016. The borough has been recognised by other authorities for its work as a Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) pilot. This sees the council and other relevant services such as the police, ambulance, health service and drug and rehabilitation teams work together with those rough sleepers identified most in need of support, to share knowledge and create an individual tailored approach for each person.

For more information on how you can help Real Change, visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/realchange

Public Access Defibrillators

Sudden cardiac arrest remains the UK's single biggest killer. Public Access Defibrillators (PADs) are lifesaving machines and very easy to use.

Do you know where your nearest defibrillator is? Visit www.communityresponders.com/aedlocator or download the 'Save a life' locator app.

The ABCs of AEDs

What YOU need to know to Save a Life

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is a life-threatening emergency that occurs when the heart unexpectedly stops beating. It affects more than 30,000 people outside hospitals each year in the UK. It could strike anybody, regardless of age.

Today, 1 in 10 victims survive an SCA!

This could be 5 in 10 if bystanders gave CPR and used AEDs immediately!



A: HAVE A PLAN BEFOREHAND

Do you have an AED nearby? If you do, work out how you are able to access it in the event of an emergency, remember to check available hours, and share, if there isn't one nearby, can you look at getting one? Think about how many businesses are in your vicinity, could you all split the cost?



B: PURCHASE & PLACE YOUR AED

There are various Automated External Defibrillator (AED) options available, they all work in a similar way. It is important that you choose the right location for your AED however to ensure it is accessible by as many people as possible. Get in touch with us for free guidance.



C: TRAIN & RAISE AWARENESS

You don't have to have training to use an AED, however sometimes it helps with confidence and it is good to learn CPR too. It only takes a couple of hours. Don't forget to let everybody know that the AED is there and available for use, and register it with the local Ambulance Service.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest leads to death within minutes if the person does not receive immediate help. The chances of survival decrease by 10% every minute without CPR!

Where do you go for AEDs or Training?

Get in contact with us, we are a charity and can help you source an NHS approved AED to place in your community or workplace and get it registered with the Ambulance Service once installed. We offer various types of training, the majority of which is offered completely FREE of charge to individuals and organisations alike.

Email: info@communityresponders.com | Call: 0330 088 1118

COMMON QUESTION

Can I be sued for trying to save somebody's life?

Very unlikely, and there has never been a recorded case of this. You are protected legally when trying to save somebody's life under the Social Action, Responsibility and Heroism Act 2015.

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