

261103 – Item 14 - Community First Aid Course

Purpose: To consider information gathered by Cllr Hampton and determine whether the council wishes to support the delivery of community first aid awareness training.

Background

At its September 2026 meeting, the council considered a request to explore opportunities for community first aid training. The council resolved:

"Cllr Hampton will take the lead on the Community First Aid Course proposal, investigate options further, identify potential partners, establish indicative costs and develop more detailed proposals, and bring it back to a future meeting for consideration."

Cllr Hampton has since made enquiries with potential training providers and has identified two possible options.

Option 1 - St John Ambulance

St John Ambulance has advised that it may be able to provide a free [Community First Aid Awareness Session](#), provided participants do not require a formal qualification or certificate.

The session would focus on basic first aid awareness and emergency response. Demand for these sessions is reported to be high, and advance booking of at least 4-6 weeks is recommended.

No costs to the council have been identified at this stage, although a suitable venue and agreed dates would be required.

Option 2 - Joe Rice First Aid Training

Joe Rice First Aid Training has confirmed availability to deliver [community awareness sessions](#) and has provided the following indicative costs:

- **2-hour community first aid session:** £180 plus VAT
- **4-hour community first aid session:** £250 plus VAT

Considerations

Members may wish to consider:

- Whether the objective is to provide a basic awareness session for residents or a more comprehensive training opportunity.
- Whether a free awareness session from St John Ambulance would meet community needs.

- Whether funding should be allocated for a paid provider if members consider this would offer greater flexibility or engagement.
- Potential partnerships with local organisations to assist with promotion, venue provision and attendance.

Financial Implications

- St John Ambulance Community First Aid Awareness Session: Room Hire
- Joe Rice First Aid Training:
 - 2-hour session: £216 including VAT
 - 4-hour session: £300 including VAT

No budget provision has currently been allocated for this project. However, the open spaces budget is predicted to be underspent due to the dry summer so the council could consider virement of an appropriate sum to the relevant budget heading.

Recommendation

Council to consider the information provided by Cllr Hampton and determine whether:

1. To pursue a free First Aid Awareness Session through St John Ambulance;
2. To allocate funding for a session delivered by Joe Rice First Aid Training;
3. To continue investigating options and report back to a future meeting; or
4. To take no further action.