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ST/SJ  
P-04-471  
2 May 2013  
Steve Thomas  
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WLGA • CLILC

William Powell AM  
Chair  
Petitions Committee  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

Thank you for your letter of 24<sup>th</sup> April on the provision of automated external defibrillators within local government "public places". WLGA fully accepts that this is a crucial issue and one which can save lives. There is strong evidence, as reported in guidelines from the European Resuscitation Council (ERC),<sup>1</sup> that using automated external defibrillators in the management of cardiac arrest outside of hospital, improve survival. Our problem however is that the WLGA does not have the capacity to collect the scale of information you seek. We have no dedicated health and safety professionals within WLGA or resource to undertake this. It would in turn require all authorities to undertake an extensive and potentially costly survey not least of all in terms of leisure centres, libraries, schools, residential care homes etc.

Bearing in mind the severe resource constraints we are facing I will write out to seek the policies of authorities on this but I'm afraid that this is about the extent of the assistance we can provide on this enquiry.

Yours sincerely

**Steve Thomas CBE**  
Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

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