



Derry Hill & Studley Heartbeat Annual Funding Request – Implications for Four-Year Support Agreement

Background

Derry Hill & Studley Parish Council has an agreement with the community group to provide **up to £1,700 per year** for a **four-year period**, subject to an **annual funding request submitted each January**. To support this commitment, **£7,200** has been held in reserves to cover the remaining 4 years of the agreement.

Funding Request 2026

The group submitted its funding request for the current year. The request included funding for **two new defibrillators and the maintenance costs for the other defibs**, resulting in a total amount that is **close to the full £7,200 currently held in reserves** for the four-year agreement.

Financial Implications

If the initial funding request were approved at the level submitted:

- The majority (or all) of the reserves earmarked for the four-year agreement would be exhausted.
- The Parish Council would **not be able to continue providing the agreed annual support** in future years.

Alternatively:

- Limiting funding to the agreed annual amount (£1,700) would allow the Council to **maintain support over the full four-year period**, but would not fully meet the cost of the defibrillators as requested.

Meeting Update

Following submission of the original request, a meeting was held with Derry Hill and Studley Heartbeat, attended by Councillor Todd and the Clerk. The purpose of the meeting was to explore a solution that balanced the group's needs with the Parish Council's budgetary constraints and the intention to provide appropriate support over the full four-year period.

As a result of this discussion, it was agreed that the group would revise their financial request to seek funding for the replacement of **one defibrillator** in the current year, with a view to submitting a **further, identical request next year** to cover the second defibrillator.

Under this approach:

- Funding would remain within the agreed support levels of the 4 year term.
- The Parish Council would be able to continue providing support over the full four-year period.
- The remaining funds would be available to support **maintenance costs in 2028 and 2029.**

Recommendation

The council approve the amended approach to financial support for Derry Hill and Studley Heartbeat and approve the request for £2600 for support to purchase a replacement defibrillator to replace a unit that has reached the end of its useful life.

Budget – Defibrillators

Katherine Checchia

Parish Clerk