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## **AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS POLICY**

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### **POLICY OBJECTIVE**

This policy deals with the provisions and installation of Automated External Defibrillators (AED) at Council fixed sites.

### **1. POLICY STATEMENT**

The intent of this policy is to outline Council's commitment to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health & safety of all Council's workers and other persons in the workplace.

### **2. POLICY COVERAGE**

This policy applies to all areas of Council's operations and is applicable to Council fixed sites that have workers and/or are regularly attended by members of the general public and where prompt medical or emergency response may not always be readily available.

### **3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>Term/Word</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>WHS Act</b>	Work Health & Safety Act 2011
<b>WHS Regulations</b>	Work Health & Safety Regulation 2017
<b>PCBU</b>	Person who conducts a business or undertaking
<b>Council</b>	Wentworth Shire Council
<b>AED</b>	Automated External Defibrillator
<b>SCA</b>	Sudden Cardiac Arrest

### **4. POLICY CONTENT**

**4.1** Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is one of the leading causes of death in Australia. Statistics provided by St Johns Ambulance Australia show that survival from SCA without early defibrillation with an AED is less than 5%. Defibrillation within the first few minutes of having a SCA, increases the survival rate to over 70%.

Over 90% of people who suffer SCA do not survive. For every minute that passes without defibrillation, the chance of survival reduces by 10%.

Council's (as the PCBU) duty of care under Section 19 of the WHS Act must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health & safety of the workers engaged & other persons in the workplace.

Council also has a duty to provide first aid under Clause 42 of the WHS Regulation, in which it must have regard for the nature of work, nature of hazards and the size & location of the workplace, also the number & composition of the workers and others persons at the workplace.

**4.2** The General Manager will ensure that during normal operating hours, ready access to an AED is available at all Council fixed sites that have workers and/or are regularly attended by members of the general public.

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4.3 Council will provide sufficient funding for the purchase of the AEDs and any ongoing maintenance costs.

4.4 The General Manager will ensure that a system is implemented for the inspection and monitoring of the AEDs to ensure they remain operational and fit for use.

4.5 Council will provide information via the Council website, on the location of Council's AEDs.

**5. RELATED DOCUMENTS & LEGISLATION**

- Work Health & Safety Act 2011
- Work Health & Safety Regulation 2017
- Local Government Act 1993
- Civil Liability Act 2002

**6. ATTACHMENTS**


Nil.

**7. DOCUMENT APPROVAL**

This document is the latest version of the official policy of the Wentworth Shire Council, as adopted by Council on 29 June 2022. All previous versions of this policy are null and void.

This policy may be amended or revoked by Council at any time.

A PDF copy of the signed document can be accessed from Council's record management system and Reliansys.

Signed: ..........

29 June 2022

**General Manager Wentworth Shire Council**

**Date**