Alderman David Payne

11 Farrow Place

Lady Dock

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Cllr Dora Dixon-Fyle,

Mayor of Southwark,

Southwark Council

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January 27th 2016

Dear Dora,

I was very pleased to meet with you on October 26th, together with Sister Josephine and Malcolm Alexander from the Patients’ Forum to discuss access to defibrillators in Southwark.

As some time has passed I would very much like to progress this campaign and to ensure that the lives of people who live, work and attend events in Southwark can be saved when they have a cardiac arrest.

The area of development that we discussed were as follows and I wondered if we could meeting in the near future to progress these.

1)   Getting the support of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee and Local Medical Committee to agree a process to ensure that every pharmacy and GP has a defibrillator and trained staff –

You agreed to raise this issue with Dr Jonty Heaversedge, Chair of the CCG in the first instance.

2)   Defibrillators currently in Southwark – we sent you a list of the locations where they are currently held. As pharmacies already have staff trained in CPR they would be a very good location and would give us an extra 30 in the borough of Southwark.

3)   All branches of Marks and Spencer’s currently have Defibs. At the time you were about to meet with Andy Clerk, Chief Executive of ASDA and said you would raise the issue of staff training for staff in ASDA stores. Andy said that ASDA stores do have defibs, but staff are not trained to use them. Can we progress the training issue?

4)   Other supermarkets: Sainsbury’s and Tesco’s do not have Defib but a letter from you which I am happy to draft if you wish, could have a great effect.

5)   Schools – A meeting with the Heads Forum to discuss this issue would be very welcome. We could suggest a ‘donate one pound’ scheme for each school student to fund school defibrillators. We could arrange training for six formers in first instance. The focus could be on saving the life of a friend, parent or relative.

6)   Department of Health funding is available through the British Heart Foundation. Money can be provided for 5 defibs available for areas of high ‘footfall’. The bid from Southwark Council would have to be submitted by Council or CCG or both by March. Malcolm did send you the details for making bids. We are happy to assist the Council and CCG with the paper work.

7)   Meeting with Chris Hartley-Sharpe – London Ambulance Service leader for defibrillators. We can arrange a meeting between yourself and Chris is you wish.

I look forward to hearing from you and I am very happy to meet to discuss this further. I am sure that Sister Josephine and Malcolm would be happy to join us.

Best wishes

Alderman David Payne

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