



Great Western Air Ambulance Charity provides the critical care and air ambulance service for 2.1 million people across North Somerset, Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire and parts of Wiltshire.

We provide emergency care to people who are in a state so critical that they require the specialist skills of our team at the scene of the accident or medical incident. Though we are part of the regional 999 response service and work closely with NHS hospitals, we are a charity entirely funded by local people.

Our crew of Critical Care Doctors, Advanced Practitioners, Specialist Paramedics and Pilots can be anywhere in our region in just 20 minutes. They bring lifesaving medical and surgical skills straight to the patient. They can perform interventions at the scene that would normally only be done in a hospital Emergency Department.

Despite this, our crew are the first to say that it is the precious minutes before they or any ambulance arrives that are most crucial when someone has a cardiac arrest.

As part of the chain of survival, CPR & defibrillation before an ambulance arrives can increase the chances of surviving a cardiac arrest from one in 10 to seven in 10.



So, to reduce avoidable and needless deaths our goal is that anyone who suffers a cardiac arrest will receive immediate CPR and then defibrillation within five minutes.

If someone gives effective CPR, these chest compressions help keep blood flowing throughout the body and keep the patient alive. But a defibrillator can restore the heart's rhythm and enable the patient to start breathing for themselves again.

Whereas, each 1-minute delay decreases their survival chances by another 10 percent, so defibrillators need to be close-by, publicly available and used.

We are delighted to be working with Donate for Defib WSM as they support the people of Weston-Super-Mare by fundraising for and placing defibrillators, where they are needed.

<https://greatwesternairambulance.com/what-we-do/aed/>