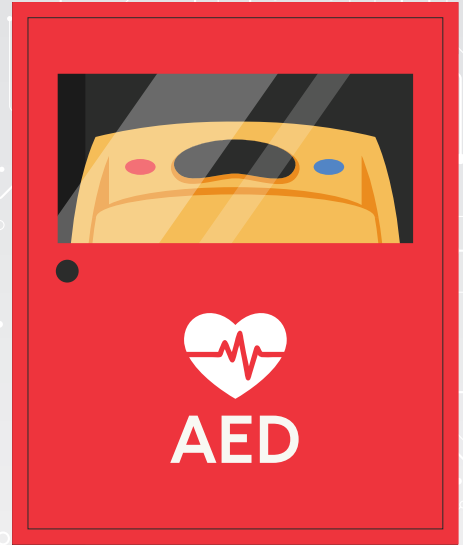


**When every  
second  
counts...**

**Unlock the  
potential to  
save lives.**



**Lifesaving buoys and fire extinguishers aren't  
locked – so why lock your defibrillator?**

**In a cardiac emergency, every second counts.**

Swift action in the moments following a cardiac arrest can mean the difference between life and death. Each minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces the chance of survival by up to 10%. Placing defibrillators in locked cabinets can result in crucial lost minutes, potentially costing lives.

# Unlocking the truth:

## Addressing challenges and misconceptions of locked defibrillator cabinets

A locked cabinet can delay defibrillator access during a cardiac emergency.

### Challenges:

- Remembering the code.
- Confidence in the code if the door doesn't open immediately.
- Forgotten codes require another 999 call.
- Poor phone signal in rural areas.

Research suggests defibrillators are often placed in locked cabinets due to misconceptions about theft and vandalism. The same research dispelled these misconceptions.

### Misconceptions

- Only 0.3% of defibrillators on The Circuit (the national defibrillator network) have theft or vandalism records.
- 76% of theft or vandalism incidents involved locked cabinets. Evidence suggests many of these incidents are desperate attempts to access the defibrillator in emergencies, rather than acts of vandalism.
- Defibrillators that are recorded as “stolen” have often been deployed in an emergency but not yet returned. Ensure your defibrillator is clearly marked with return details and registered on [thecircuit.uk](https://thecircuit.uk)

**Additional information can be found in our consensus statement. Scan the QR code to learn more.**

