

Please ask for : Alethea Fuller
Telephone Number: 0121 626 6060
Our Reference: 2025-00285
wmpcc@westmidlands.police.uk



Date: 25/03/2025

Dear FOI Applicant,

Thank you for your freedom of information request received in this office on **03 March** 2025 in which you asked a series of questions regarding Bleed Kits. In response to your request, I can confirm:

1. Bleed Kit Placement & Community Engagement

- ***Does your force/service actively approach community sites, businesses (e.g., Mid-Counties Co-op), or other organisations to host a bleed kit?*** In March 2024 we spent £33,000 on 420 bleed kits and worked with Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to get those kits out to community venues across the WM as per the attached email ('bleed kits') and spreadsheet ('Bleed kit distribution tracker'). The email references a meeting where it was discussed for which the minutes are attached ('HOC's minutes') This is the Heads of Community Safety (HOCS) meeting which we host. The Heads of Community Safety are the key officers within each CSP. The minutes erroneously state 425 bleed kits where there were actually 420.
- ***What criteria determine where a public bleed kit is placed?*** CSPs have the required local intelligence and community contacts to determine this themselves.
- ***Is there a record of all publicly accessible bleed kits within your jurisdiction? If so, how is this list maintained and updated?*** The attached email titled 'FOI-14 - Attachment 1 (2025-00285)', sets this out. We upload all bleed kits we have provided to our website. It is maintained and updated by the Communications team with information provided by the Policy team: [Bleed Control Kits - West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner \(westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk)

2. Bleed Kit Activation Process

- ***When a 999 call is received for severe bleeding, how does your service determine whether a public bleed kit should be activated?*** The WMPCC does not receive 999 calls – West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) would make that determination.
- ***Are bleed kits mapped in the emergency call system, and how is this information communicated to the caller or responders?*** As per the email attached 'FOI-14 - Attachment 1 (2025-00285)' – yes they are. You will need to contact WMAS on how that is communicated.
- ***Do members of the public receive direct instructions to access and use a bleed kit during an emergency?*** Yes. WMAS know where the kits are and can advise on the specifics.

3. Responsibility & Maintenance

- **Who is responsible for the upkeep and replenishment of public bleed kits once deployed?** We provided a one-off set of bleed kits. We will give further consideration to the provision of bleed kits before these expire.
- **Are there specific policies regarding regular inspections or maintenance of these kits?** No, although each kit has a use by date.

4. Public Training & Awareness

- **If members of the public are expected to use bleed kits, is any formal training provided for businesses, community groups, or individuals?** Yes – the attached email titled 'FOI-14 - Attachment 1 (2025-00285)' sets out how to access this training.
- **Are first aid training providers involved, or is there an official training scheme linked to the initiative?** Training is provided by West Midlands Police and West Midlands Fire Service as per the attached email 'FOI-14 - Attachment 1 (2025-00285)'.
- **Is there any guidance or public education campaign aimed at increasing awareness and correct usage of bleed kits?** We publicise the bleed kits when we distribute them. Our most recent post is here: : [Facebook](#)

5. Collaboration Between Police & Ambulance Services

- **Do the police and ambulance service work in unison when activating bleed kits, or does each service have an independent activation process?** As per the attached email 'FOI-14 - Attachment 1 (2025-00285)', it is for the ambulance service to activate use of the bleed kits (unless those hosting them decide to use them directly themselves).
- **If a police officer arrives first at a scene with a catastrophic bleed, do they have a direct activation process for a bleed kit separate from the ambulance service?** No.
- **Are there joint protocols, training, or agreements in place to ensure an effective response between emergency services?** As per the attached email 'FOI-14 - Attachment 1 (2025-00285)', there is a joined up approach to training. Our office has not been involved in the development of any bleed kit specific protocols or agreements beyond that set out in the attachments.
- **Are bleed kits carried in police vehicles, or are they only placed in static locations?** The OPCC does not hold this information.

6. Future Development & Expansion

- **Are there plans to expand this model beyond the current region or work with additional businesses and community partners?** No. We already have coverage across the area we are responsible for so we would not be looking to expand beyond our region.
- **Have there been any evaluations or reviews of the effectiveness of bleed kits in real incidents? If so, can any reports or findings be shared?** None by our office/in relation to our provision

If your service has any internal policies, guidance documents, or operational procedures related to the deployment and activation of public bleed kits, please provide copies or links to publicly available versions. Relevant documents already attached, titled 'FOI-14 - Attachment 1 (2025-00285)', 'FOI-14 - Attachment 2 (2025-00285)', and 'FOI-14 - Attachment 3 (2025-00285)'. You will note that the attachments contain some redacted information. These have been made in line with Section 40 of the FOIA.

Freedom of Information Right of Appeal

Any person who has requested information from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and is unhappy with the way their request for information has been handled can request a review of their case.

A request for review must be made in writing by letter or email. You should include the reference number of your request if you have it, and outline why you are requesting the review to:

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Lloyd House
Birmingham
B4 6NQ

Telephone: 0121 626 6060
Email: wmpcc@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

All requests for review will be recorded. Receipt of a request for internal review will be acknowledged and the appellant informed of an estimated date for determining the outcome. The OPCC will attempt to respond to internal reviews as soon as practicable and in any case within two months.

All investigations will be undertaken by someone not involved in the original response.

The result of any internal review will be communicated to the appellant outlining the decisions taken.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

There is no charge for making a request for internal review or appeal to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,



Alethea Fuller
Deputy Chief Executive