

BECOMING A RESPONDER



All responder equipment is generously funded by The Sandpiper Trust.

For more details on their charitable work, visit

www.sandpipertrust.org



BASICS Responders provide a valuable service to communities across Scotland, particularly in remote and rural areas. They are trained in pre-hospital care and come from backgrounds in paramedicine, nursing and medicine.

We have two types of responder: Immediate Care Responders and Clinical Cardiac Responders.

The Scottish Ambulance Service calls on a **BASICS Scotland Immediate Care Responder** when they are closer than an ambulance, when there may be a delay in response or when additional specialist support is required, such as at a multi-casualty incident.

The Scottish Ambulance Service alerts a **BASICS Scotland Clinical Cardiac Responder** via the GoodSAM app when there is a potential cardiac arrest within 10km of their location.



HOW DO WE SELECT IMMEDIATE CARE RESPONDERS?



Upon completion of either a Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Course (PHEC) or an RCSEd Diploma in Immediate Care, prospective applicants are encouraged to note their interest by emailing:

responders@basics-scotland.org.uk

During the selection process, the following factors are taken into consideration:

- **Clinical experience:** Minimum of 5 years' post-registration experience for all clinicians (paramedics and nurses) or ST3 and above for doctors.
- **Clinical credibility:** The applicant's current specialty and any relevant qualifications (experience in general practice, critical care or emergency medicine).
- **Clinical currency:** The amount of patient-facing hours the applicant is currently engaged in.
- **Geographical location** of the applicant (with a focus on remote and rural areas).

Successful applicants will then be invited to attend an interview / clinical scenario assessment at our office in Aberuthven. This one-day session provides detailed information on the practical aspects and expectations of responding. During the clinical assessment, the following factors are considered:

- Clinical competency and approach in common emergency scenarios.
- Confidence and ability to work using a systematic approach to assessment and interventions required.
- Interactions working as part of a team and ability to handle being a single responder first on scene.
- Non-technical skills.

Following this assessment the Responder Support Team will make a decision about your suitability for responding.

What equipment do The Sandpiper Trust supply to Immediate Care Responders?

- The Sandpiper Bag which contains a range of life-saving equipment, all of which is reviewed by our clinicians to be in line with current practice recommendations.
- Portable AED.
- PPE.



WHAT DO I NEED TO HAVE TO RESPOND?

- **BASICS Scotland membership** is mandatory and paid annually, granting access to the BASICS Scotland app, website resources and discounted training courses (priced from £35 to £75 per year).
- **Vehicle:** Ensure your vehicle is roadworthy, insured for emergency response and undergoes regular maintenance checks.
- **Kit:** All individual responders are required to carry their Sandpiper bag and AED with standard contents while logged on with the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS). Responders typically have a designated place of residence for responding, with a SAS system radius set around this address for call visibility. Oxygen cylinders are available at larger SAS stations and emergency drug pouches can be requested through the Responder Support Team.
- **Skills/Qualifications:** Responders are expected to perform tasks they are competent in, focusing on Advanced Life Support provision. It's crucial for responders to operate within their scope of practice and adhere to yellow-level trauma response guidelines.
- **Smart device:** Access to the BASICS Scotland app/JRCALC Plus app using a smart device.

HOW DO WE SELECT CLINICAL CARDIAC RESPONDERS?



Upon successful completion of either a Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Course (PHEC), OH-ALS course or Cardiac core skills day, prospective applicants are encouraged to note their interest by emailing:

responders@basics-scotland.org.uk

During the selection process, the following factors are taken into consideration:

- **Clinical experience:** Minimum of 5 years' post-registration experience for all clinicians (paramedics and nurses) or ST3 and above for doctors.
- **Clinical credibility:** The applicant's current specialty and any relevant qualifications (experience in general practice, critical care or emergency medicine).
- **Clinical currency:** The amount of patient-facing hours the applicant is currently engaged in.
- **Geographical location** of the applicant (with a focus on remote and rural areas).

Successful candidates will be invited to start the application process.

Cardiac Core Skills Day Applicants

Applicants who have attended the Cardiac core skills day will be invited to attend a clinical scenario assessment at our office in Aberuthven.

This ½ day session provides detailed information on the practical aspects and expectations of responding.

Following this assessment, the Responder Support Team will make a decision about your suitability for responding.

What equipment do The Sandpiper Trust supply to Clinical Cardiac Responders?

- The Clinical Cardiac equipment bag which contains a range of life-saving equipment, all of which is reviewed by our clinicians to be in line with current practice recommendations.
- Portable AED.
- PPE.



WHAT DO I NEED TO HAVE TO RESPOND?

- **BASICS Scotland membership** is mandatory and paid annually, granting access to the BASICS Scotland app, website resources and discounted training courses (priced from £35 to £75 per year).
- **Vehicle:** Ensure your vehicle is roadworthy, insured for emergency response and undergoes regular maintenance checks.
- **Kit:** All individual responders are required to carry their Clinical Cardiac bag and AED with standard contents while logged into the GoodSAM App.
- **Skills/Qualifications:** Responders are expected to perform tasks they are competent in, focusing on Advanced Life Support provision. It's crucial for responders to operate within their scope of practice and adhere to yellow-level trauma response guidelines.
- **Smart device:** Access to the BASICS Scotland app/JRCALC Plus app using a smart device.

HOW DOES RESPONDING WORK?



Immediate Care Responders

To be available, you must log on with the Scottish Ambulance Service and be tasked by ambulance control. This ensures your safety and CNORIS indemnity cover. A dispatcher will usually contact you by mobile phone, although some remote responders are tasked via Airwave radio.

Clinical Cardiac Responders

To be available, you must sign into the GoodSAM app. This ensures your safety and CNORIS indemnity cover. When alerted, accept the task and proceed to the location.

Fixed Resource Responders

Some clinicians provide emergency response during surgery hours. They do not need to log on to SAS, as they are visible during opening times. Clinicians must have completed a BASICS Scotland PHEC course and the surgery must hold an up-to-date Sandpiper Bag.

What commitment does a responder need to be able to offer?

As a volunteer, we are aware that responding needs to fit around other commitments and responsibilities. However as the equipment provided is all charity funded, we do ask that individual responders log on for a minimum of **100 hours** per year.

Sandpiper bags and equipment **should not** be used at private events, as part of NHS kit for paid work or kept just in case you come across an incident.

This is for accountability and governance of both The Sandpiper Trust and the responder network.

WHERE CAN I GET SUPPORT?

The Responder Support Team was created to maintain a robust governance structure for responder selection, training and equipment provision.

Additionally, we offer ongoing support to responders post-incident, including clinical debriefing and pastoral care.

You may well remember your first call for some time. All calls provoke a degree of emotional response which can vary person to person.

The Responder Support Team review all Patient Report Forms (PRFs) regularly and these should be submitted after each incident attended, even if you are stood down. We can offer phone support or advice if you have attended a particularly challenging incident or if you just need to talk to someone about an incident.

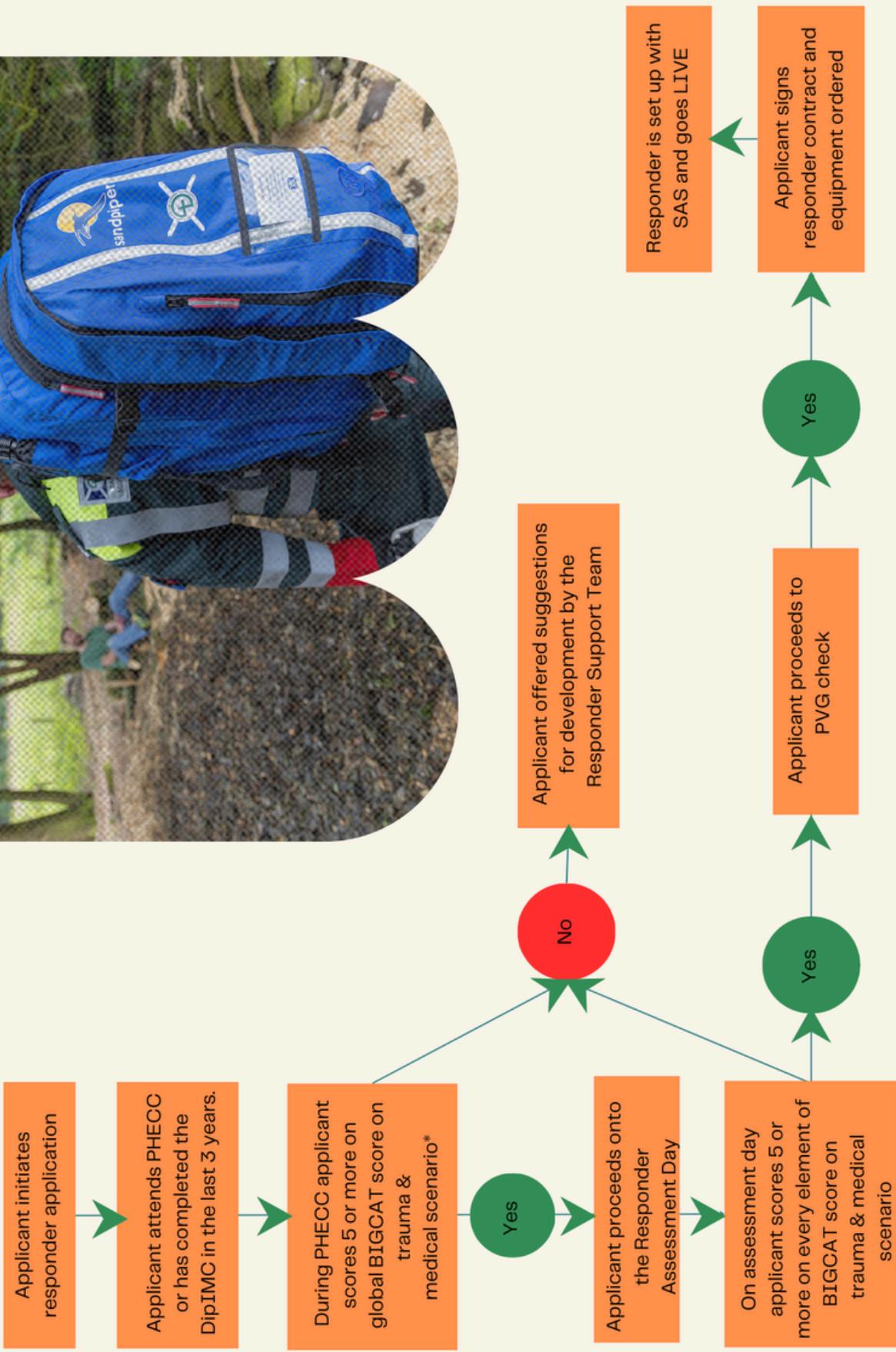
We recommend all prospective responders take a look at the material through Lifelines Scotland <https://www.lifelines.scot> as it has lots of useful tools to promote self awareness and identify signs of emotional distress / trauma response. With this in mind, we have access to a specialist psychology team if needed.

Our Responder Support team are always happy to be contacted if you have any questions.



Please get in touch if you are interesting in becoming a BASICS Scotland Responder
responders@basics-scotland.org.uk
01764 663 671

BASICS SCOTLAND IMMEDIATE CARE RESPONDER APPLICATION PROCESS



* in exceptional circumstances with full faculty support a candidate scoring 1 x 4 and 1 x 5 can proceed to responder assessment day.

BASICS SCOTLAND CLINICAL CARDIAC RESPONDER APPLICATION PROCESS

