

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities

Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team



Monthly briefing

Information correct as of 20 March 2025

Update on Extra Care Housing development progress

The groundbreaking ceremony for Meadowcroft Lodge in Guildford marked the beginning of an exciting new development aimed at supporting older people to live independently for longer. Surrey County Council, in collaboration with Places for People, is transforming a disused site into a state-of-the-art extra care housing facility.

Meadowcroft Lodge will feature 59 one and two-bedroom apartments, all available at affordable rents. The development includes communal facilities such as a café and gardens, and the apartments will be equipped with assistive technology to help residents maintain their independence. The local community will also have access to some of these facilities.

This project is part of Surrey County Council's Right Homes, Right Support Strategy, which aims to provide specialist accommodation in local communities to help people achieve greater independence. The strategy also includes plans for more supported independent living accommodation for people with learning disabilities and autistic people, as well as improved short breaks facilities for carers.

As construction progresses, social care teams will begin discussions with individuals supported by the county council to explore the possibility of moving into Meadowcroft Lodge. The development is expected to be ready for residents by early 2027.

For further information or to learn more about the plans please visit [Extra Care Housing](#).

Change NHS: Help build a health service fit for the future

As part of the 10 Year Health Plan, the government are asking for your views on [priorities for change](#) that were identified from their engagement activity so far. Bringing together some of the thousands of members of the public, health and care staff and experts who have fed into the plan so far for the [Change NHS summit](#).

The [survey](#) closes on the 15 April at 5pm.

For further information or to [register](#) for updates please visit [Change NHS](#).

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities

Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team



Steady on your Feet website launched in East Surrey to prevent falls

First Community, covering East Surrey, has launched their [Steady on your Feet](#) website providing a range of advice, guidance, videos and online resources for anyone worried about falling.

The site aims to provide users with the confidence to maintain their mobility and reduce the risk of falls. There is information on managing hazards in the home, diet tips, exercises, support groups and partner organisations who can help support.

The Steady on Your Feet website and interactive self-assessment tool is part of an NHS national campaign to help reduce falls. The East Surrey Ageing Well Steering Group have supported First Community to develop this tool to help prevent falls and support individuals to maintain their independence.

For further information, please visit [Steady on your Feet](#).

The Radio Teleswitch Service (RTS) switch off

From 30 June the Radio Teleswitch Service (RTS) is switching off which could affect homes' electricity and hot water supply. Some homes have an older electricity meter called an RTS meter, which uses a radio signal to switch meters between peak and off-peak rates. The radio signal that controls these meters is going to be switched off on the 30 June because it has reached the end of its operational life.

If you or someone you know has this type of electricity meter, your energy supplier should have already contacted you to arrange an upgrade.

For further information, please visit [Ofgem](#).

New Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) chapter: Food and Health

A new [JSNA chapter on Food and Health](#) has recently been published. This builds on the work of the [Surrey Whole System Food Strategy](#) and explores the complexities of the food system in Surrey which involves many stakeholders and faces significant challenges such as rising childhood obesity, increasing reliance on food banks and natural resource depletion.

Free webinar on women's health

Surrey Heartlands will be holding a free women's health webinar covering topics such as menopause, pelvic health and contraception on Thursday 20 March.

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities

Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team



The event will be held via Teams from 7pm to 8pm and you must [register](#) to receive the Team link, the event will also be recorded. There will be an opportunity to post questions to professional speakers, and this webinar is open to all including residents.

Latest news from Healthwatch Surrey

The [Healthwatch Surrey March 2025 Insight Bulletin](#) shares the news that Healthwatch Surrey have been shortlisted for a Healthwatch England Impact Award and also focuses on thanks and praise for GP practices, with a spotlight on eye care services and social care and the perceived lack of accountability for hospitals.

They also highlight how they have affected change by sharing their [Quarterly Impact Report](#), encourage people to have their say, by providing information about 3 surveys they currently have running and share their engagement schedule for this month.

Healthwatch Surrey also recently published:

- [What we're hearing about adult social care - February 2025 - Healthwatch Surrey](#)

Giving Carers a Voice colleagues have also published their quarterly reports which are available on the Luminus website:

- [Giving Carers a Voice Insight report – October to December 2024](#)
- [Giving Young Carers a Voice report – January 2025](#)

New services at the Horley Health Hub

Alliance for Better Care's community partners, Africa Community in Sussex and Surrey, has launched weekly walk-in sessions every Thursday (9am to 5pm) at [Horley Health Hub](#), offering support and guidance for anyone seeking community, housing and employment guidance, in addition to immigration and welfare support.

Whether someone is looking for help navigating local services or seeking guidance on their rights and opportunities, their team are available to support them.

More information about [Africa Community in Sussex and Surrey](#) can be found online. Alternatively, they can be contacted via:

- **Email:** info@aciss.uk
- **Telephone:** 07456 382002 / 07508 738794

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities



Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team

Free sports classes to support mental wellbeing

[Sport In Mind](#) uses sport and physical activity to improve the lives of people experiencing mental health problems.

They are running free adult activity groups in Surrey, including yoga, tennis and badminton. The groups take place at venues in Cranleigh, Walton on Thames, Godalming, Guildford, Haslemere, Leatherhead and Woking.

For further information, please visit [Sport in Mind](#) or contact them via:

- **Email:** info@sportinmind.org
- **Telephone:** 01189 479762

Empowering unpaid carers for dementia in Surrey

Surrey County Council has launched the Dementia Advice and Information Project as part of their [Joint Health and Social Care Dementia Strategy](#) for 2022 to 2027. This initiative is dedicated to improving the lives of people with dementia and their carers by providing accessible information to support and services, including training tailored to their needs. The vision of this project is to create a community where people with dementia, unpaid carers, and families feel supported and everyone knows where to go for help.

For more information on the project, contact the Communities and Prevention team on communitiesandpreventionprojects@surreycc.gov.uk

Memory Café launching in Knaphill

[Dramatize Tea Rooms](#) in Knaphill, have collaborated with [Caremark](#) to launch their first memory café for those affected with Dementia. They will run on the last Friday of every month from 1pm.

For more information, please visit [Dramatize](#) or contact them via:

- **Email:** info@dramatizetearoom.co.uk
- **Telephone:** 01483 222852

New Strength and Balance classes in Merstham and Horley

As part of YMCA East Surrey's [Moving Together Programme](#), new Strength and Balance classes are being held in Merstham (Community Hub) and Horley (Community room, Tesco) every Friday until 29 August. These gentle exercise classes are aimed to help attendees feel stronger and steadier, improve balance and increase confidence for everyday activities.

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities

Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team



No booking is required and each session costs £2 (card payment only).

For further information, please visit [Moving Together](#) or contact:

- **Email:** paris.breeden-west@ymcaeastssurrey.org.uk
- **Telephone:** 01737 779979

Ryan Neuro Therapy Centre

The [Ryan Neuro Therapy Centre](#), based in Coulsdon, welcomes visitors to meet their team, explore their specialist gym and physiotherapy-led exercise classes, tailored to meet individual needs and see first-hand the positive impact they make in their members' lives.

For more information about what they do, and how they can work with you, please contact:

- **Telephone:** 0208 660 1181
- **Email:** contact@ryanneurotherapy.org
- **Website:** ryanneurotherapy.org

Latest news from Mary Frances Trust

[Mary Frances Trust](#) is holding the following NEW free activities for Surrey residents:

- Wellbeing Walk, every Thursday in Tattenham
- Games and Hobby Group, biweekly on Thursdays (starting 10 April) in Leatherhead.
- Online Coffee and Mindfulness, every Friday, hosted online.
- Golden Years Coffee and Social, every Saturday (starting 5 April) in Ashted
- Space to Grow, every Wednesday (starting 2 April) in Walton on Thames

These groups are free to Surrey residents. For information on the range of courses and activities run by Mary Francis Trust please check their [calendar](#).

To book please register as a client of Mary Frances Trust is required by completing a [registration form](#). Once registered, a place can be booked for any of their events by contacting Mary Francis Trust via:

- **Telephone:** 01372 375400
- **SMS Text:** 07929 024722
- **Email:** info@maryfrancestrust.org.uk

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities



Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team

News from Catalyst Support

Community Connections Surrey Partnership website launches

Catalyst Support, Mary Frances Trust and Waythrough (formerly Richmond Fellowship) are launching a new [Community Connections Surrey Partnership](#) website as well as new [marketing materials](#) as part of a brand refresh. This comes after the three providers were awarded a new Community Connections contract in 2024 to continue to provide the service in their respective areas for the next 5 years.

The service offers free support to Surrey residents (aged 16+) experiencing mental health or emotional wellbeing difficulties such as low mood, stress, anxiety or a diagnosed mental health condition.

Community Connections timetable

The Catalyst Support [Community Connections timetable](#) is updated monthly and offers a variety of activities designed to support wellbeing, encourage social connections, and provide a safe space to try something new.

For more information, please visit [Catalyst Support](#).

Change of head office address

[Catalyst Support](#) remain committed to supporting mental health and wellbeing and providing outreach services in the community. Although their website and telephone numbers remain the same, they have recently moved to a new head office:

- **New address:** Block G, Unit 1, Nankerville Court, Guildford Road, Woking, GU22 7NJ
- **Telephone:** 01483 590150
- **Text:** 07909 631623
- **Email:** info@catalystsupport.org.uk

Latest from Action for Carers Surrey

Equipment for carers

Action for Carers' [Moving and Handling team](#) have a new web page advising carers about some of the simple equipment that can make a significant difference to how they help the person they care for. The equipment page also signposts to Surrey County Council's comprehensive [Home Equipment Finder](#).

For further information, please visit [Action for Carers](#).

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities

Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team



Because Carers Count

Action for Carers is holding free online training for professionals to better understand how to support and refer carers.

For further information, future training dates or to book please visit [Because Carers Count](#)

New professional guide from Carers UK and Carers Trust

A new resource, [identifying and supporting unpaid carers in England](#) has been created by a partnership of Carers Trust, Carers UK and the VSCE Health & Wellbeing Alliance. Aimed at professionals working right across health and social care, it aims to improve the inclusion, support and involvement of unpaid carers, bringing together in one place statutory duties and best practice resources.

Ageing Well event in Reigate in May

Reigate and Banstead Borough Council is hosting an 'Ageing Well' event for residents on the Friday 9 May in the Reigate and Banstead Town Hall.

No booking is required, and attendees will learn more about the wide range of services, activities and opportunities for older residents, with refreshments available.

For further information, please contact the Community Partnerships Team via

- **Email:** communitypartnerships@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

Surrey Wheelchair Service meet & greet and service user engagement forum

The [Surrey Wheelchair Service](#) is holding a meet and greet session in Woking on Friday 16 May, followed by the chance to have your say at one of their service user engagement forums:

You will need to book your place via their [online form](#).

For further information, please visit [Surrey Wheelchair Service](#).

Personal Assistant (PA) Employer Peer Support Group

Surrey Independent Living Charity (SILC) has launched their new PA Employers' Peer Support Group (replacing previous webinars). Facilitated by SILC, this group is for employers of Personal Assistants in Surrey to meet and support each other and to:

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities



Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team

- share common issues and concerns
- share experiences and support each other
- gain advice from your peers
- connect with each other and create social opportunities

The next meeting will be Wednesday 7th May at 10:30am and for further information about the group that meets bi-monthly via Zoom.

For further information, please visit [Employer Peer Support](#).

Domestic Abuse Champion Training in Waverley

Domestic abuse can affect anyone and have a huge impact on a person's life, safety and wellbeing. It can lead to unplanned time off work and decreased productivity.

South West Surrey Domestic Abuse Service (SWSDAS) is offering free training on Monday 31 March (9:30am - 12:30pm) to organisations in Waverley to help you and your staff to recognise the signs of Domestic Abuse and provide guidance and advice, together with help on developing a Domestic Abuse Policy for your team.

For further information or to be kept informed of future training dates, please contact Georgia.

- **Email:** georgiacm@swsdas.org.uk.

Current open Surrey County Council consultations

Find all [open Surrey County Council consultations](#) on Surrey Says.

Submitting an article for the Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships Information and Engagement Team Briefing

If you would like us to include an article on behalf of your organisation in the next edition, please email: asc.engagement@surreycc.gov.uk

Please note that we are unable to include attachments when we circulate the briefing, so please ensure that any documents that you wish to reference are uploaded to your own organisation's website or a partner website.

You can unsubscribe from the Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships Information and Engagement Team Briefing by contacting us at: asc.engagement@surreycc.gov.uk

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities



Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Information and Engagement Team

Sharing the Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships Information and Engagement Team Briefing

If you would like to share the Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships Information and Engagement Team Briefing with other professionals, the latest edition is available from:

www.surreycc.gov.uk/adultsbriefing