

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 26 February 2025

Planning for your Future Day – 11 March 2025

Surrey County Council is planning an awareness day on Tuesday 11 March 2025 to provide another focal point for their ongoing Planning for your Future campaign, being run in partnership with Age UK Surrey.

This aims to:

- support self-funders, care arrangers and carers to plan early for care and help avoid decision-making at crisis point
- encourage residents to have discussions about care options and financial planning, connect to support locally and stay independent
- improve residents' confidence to navigate the health and social care system
- help ensure that professionals can support residents with accurate information, advice, and guidance

The campaign has been running since Autumn 2023 and over 2,000 people have now attended the events, which are also supported by a marketplace showcasing key preventative services.

Feedback has been consistently positive, with residents appreciating the vital information shared. People have been connected to relevant support, much of which they had not been aware of prior to the events.

Research with the Surrey Heartlands Citizens Panel in December 2024 shows that **3% more people have made plans** compared to April 2022, proof of the impact the campaign is making.

An awareness day is planned for Tuesday 11 March 2025 to provide another focal point for the ongoing campaign. Three neighbouring local authorities- Hampshire, Oxfordshire and West Berkshire - will work with Surrey County Council to amplify messages and encourage planning ahead.

There will be a range of activities taking place on the day including:

- an in-person information session at Guildford Baptist Church, from 11am to 1pm. To attend the [Planning for your future in-person information session](#), please book online
- an online webinar that is open to residents and professionals in Surrey and the three local authority areas, taking place from 7pm to 8pm. To attend the [Planning for your future online webinar](#), please book online

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Making the right choice: patient campaign

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust has produced a new patient video, designed to help patients make the right choice and find the most appropriate service for their needs.

The [Make the right choice video](#) provides guidance on different services and alternatives to the Emergency Department, such as NHS 111, local pharmacies and urgent treatment centres.

Autism Suicide Prevention Training for Surrey professionals

Autism Oxford is offering free [online Autism Suicide Prevention Training sessions](#) for professionals in Surrey. The training aims to equip professionals with vital tools to better support autistic individuals.

[Registration for the Autism Suicide Prevention Training sessions](#) is available online. For queries, please contact:

- **Email:** ssp@autismoxford.org.uk.

Moving and handling training for Direct Payment and Personal Health Budget holders

Surrey Independent Living Charity (SILC) has a limited number of fully funded face-to-face [Moving and Handling training sessions](#) available to book for Direct Payment or Personal Health Budget recipients to train their Personal Assistants (PAs). Practitioners and social care teams can also make referrals on their clients' behalf. It is an opportunity for people to have a trainer visit their home and train their PAs on the correct procedures for safe moving and handling, bespoke to the individual and using the equipment in their home.

All enquiries must be made before the end of March 2025 to receive this fully funded training and is available to book with SILC by:

- **Telephone:** 01483 458111
- **Email:** training@surreyilc.org.uk

Surrey Charities Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Survey

In response to Black Lives Matter in 2020, new sector guidance on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and acknowledging that there is a problem with racial diversity, Surrey VCSE Alliance set up the EDI Steering Group and EDI Champions Network to support change. A survey was carried out in March 2021, leading to the 'Ambitions for An Equitable Surrey' Report.

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A new [EDI survey](#) has recently launched which aims to collate key EDI information, with a particular focus on Race, Disability and LGBTQ+. It also asks for information about religious belief and ethnic heritage.

NHS launches first-ever breast screening campaign to help detect thousands of cancers earlier

The NHS in England has launched its first-ever [breast screening awareness campaign](#) to highlight the benefits of screening and encourage more women to make the most of regular mammograms, as figures show more than four in ten (46.3%) invited for the first time don't act on their invitation.

The campaign – supported by leading charity Breast Cancer Now – launched with a new advert across TV, radio and online to highlight that screening can detect any cancers as early as possible, while providing reassurance and relief to millions of women who get the all-clear.

New NHS estimates suggest that if screening attendance could be improved to 80% of those eligible next year (2025/26), nearly a million more women (around 925,000) could be screened, compared to 2022/23 – with over 7,500 additional breast cancers detected at an earlier stage, when they are more treatable.

Search 'NHS breast screening' to find out more.

Age Concern Epsom and Ewell's befriending service

[Age Concern Epsom and Ewell's befriending service](#) offers older, more isolated members of the community, much needed regular companionship and a chance to chat. Their befrienders are volunteers from all walks of life who give their time to visit someone in their own home for around an hour each week.

For further information, please contact Age Concern Epsom and Ewell:

- **Telephone:** 01372 732456
- **Email:** info@ageconcernepsom.org.uk

Surrey Combating Drugs Partnership annual progress report

The [Surrey Combating Drugs Partnership annual progress report](#) shows commitment and progress on preventing and reducing the harm from substance use in Surrey. The partnership is made up of strategic decision-makers across key partner organisations including the police, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, probation, health, districts and boroughs, and community and voluntary sector, and reports to the Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board.

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Gambling harm 2025 campaign launched

Surrey County Council's Public Health team is running a campaign to raise awareness of gambling harm and how people can access help and support.

If you're in a role where you work directly with clients and members of the public, there are things you can do to help reduce the negative effects of harmful gambling including:

1. Ask clients/patients if gambling is affecting them (where appropriate to do so). These two questions have been tested with council staff and the public and shown to work well:
 - Is your own gambling, or that of someone else, causing you any worries?
 - Do you think you are affected by any gambling, either your own or someone else's?
2. Signpost people to the range of free [sources of gambling support and services](#)
3. Share/publicise Surrey's gambling related harm campaign on social media
4. Increase knowledge by attending free online training on gambling related harm:
 - [Gambling harms training webinar](#)
 - [Understanding and Responding to Gambling Related Harm](#)

'Only order what you need' campaign

It is estimated that 1.2 million repeat prescription items are wasted in Surrey Heartlands each year. When medicines are wasted, they can't be reused or recycled, and this adds to pollution and harms wildlife. It also means that valuable NHS resources are being wasted.

The [Only order what you need campaign](#) hopes to encourage people on repeat prescriptions to check what medicines they have at home before they order.

New training sessions to support dementia care at home

Surrey County Council has worked with carers of people with dementia to design new training, which will be available at day centres and other community venues in Surrey. From understanding the importance of hydration to learning about coping strategies and dealing with concerning behaviours, the training covers essential topics to help carers deal with the changes that dementia can bring.

The training is being offered as part of the joint dementia strategy, a five-point plan to improve the lives of Surrey residents with dementia and their families. The council is also committed to supporting all Surrey carers through the Surrey Carers Strategy which aims to support carers to live well.

Find out more about the [dementia training](#) and how it can be accessed online.

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New sessions from Marie Curie in Caterham

Marie Curie will be holding the first of four Community Meet, Learn and Connect sessions in their new Caterham office. With each event focusing on a different theme, the first session will focus on bereavement, featuring a talk from Marie Curie bereavement counsellor, Claire Collins. There will be an opportunity to meet the team, network with volunteers and discover their plans for Surrey. It will be an informal event with light refreshments.

- **Date:** Thursday 13 March 2025
- **Time:** 12pm to 1.30pm
- **Venue:** Suite 2A, 2nd floor, Quadrant House South, 47 Croydon Road, Caterham, CR3 6PB

Please register as follows:

- **Email:** EastofEnglandRegionalAdmin@mariecurie.org.uk

Flu Vaccine survey

Luminus, working with Surrey Heartlands, is keen to explore motivations to having or not having the seasonal flu vaccine and understand any reasons why eligible care home workers chose not to take up the vaccine when offered.

They have produced a [Care home workers flu vaccine survey](#), the results of which will be anonymous and not linked to the care home worker or the care home they work in. The findings of the research will help inform future communications and help understand any support needed for those who have not had the vaccine, to encourage uptake in the future.

Latest news from Healthwatch Surrey

Healthwatch Surrey January 2025 Insight Bulletin

The [Healthwatch Surrey January 2025 Insight Bulletin](#) focuses on thanks and praise, the personal service which seems to be lacking in GP practices and how hospital waiting times and waiting lists continue to impact patients.

They also highlight current projects including access to GPs for those experiencing domestic abuse, support for people with learning disabilities, responding to feedback about the insight bulletin and share their engagement schedule for the upcoming months.

Healthwatch Surrey also recently published the following reports:

- [Enter and View: St Peter's Hospital Emergency Department and Same Day Emergency Care Report November 2024](#)

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- [What we're hearing about Guildford and Waverley November 2024](#)
- [What we're hearing about Surrey Heath October 2024](#)

Emotional support for people with learning disabilities

Healthwatch Surrey is exploring access to, and experiences of, emotional and mental health support for people who have a learning disability. Whilst Healthwatch Surrey is talking to people with a learning disability directly, they would also appreciate hearing the experiences of those providing support or care.

An [emotional wellbeing and mental health support online survey](#) has been launched. It is hoped the findings will help inform future service development and identify training requirements. The closing date for the survey is 16 March 2025.

For further information about this project, please contact the Healthwatch Surrey Helpdesk:

- **Telephone:** 0303 303 0023
- **Text (SMS)/WhatsApp:** 07592 787 533
- **Email:** enquiries@healthwatchsurrey.co.uk

Experiences of women and girls in Surrey survey

The [Experiences of women and girls survey](#), commissioned by Surrey County Council, is open to all women and girls aged 16 and over living, working, or studying in Surrey. The survey aims to understand perspectives of those who have experienced or witnessed violence against women and girls. This research will help Surrey's Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership understand the type of support that is available, where the gaps are and understand how to improve the service for others.

[Advice and support for survivors of violence against women and girls](#) is available online.

RNIB Big Travel Survey

The last few years have brought lots of changes to how people get around neighbourhoods, towns, cities, and all of the UK. It is expected the next few years will bring lots more changes to trains across Great Britain, buses in England, and more. When so much is going on, it's especially important that RNIB have the best understanding possible of the experiences and opinions of people with sight loss in all these aspects of getting around.

RNIB has produced the [Big Travel Survey](#) which takes approximately 20-30 minutes to complete and closes on 28 February 2025.

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Free community first aid training

The British Red Cross and Surrey Prepared are hosting free first aid training sessions which are not a formal first aid qualification but are designed to help with confidence or the ability to react immediately to an incident, injury or illness. The sessions are suitable for beginners or those with existing knowledge and will take place at Woking, Horley, Dorking and Haslemere libraries.

Places are limited and tickets will be issued on a first come, first served basis. Further information about the [community first aid training](#), including the dates, times and booking form can be found online.

Latest news from the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB)

New appointment

The SSAB is pleased to announce that Jolene Llewellyn, currently their Safeguarding Adults Review Co-ordinator, has been appointed as the new Board Manager. It is anticipated that Jolene will commence her role on 1 April 2025.

Annual Report 2023/24

The Surrey Safeguarding [Adults Board Annual Report 2023/24](#) has been published.

Domestic abuse training

Transform your training is running free (with code **SURREYDA**) Surrey domestic abuse (DA) training for professionals and volunteers working to prevent or respond to DA in Surrey. Most courses will be delivered online via Microsoft Teams.

Further details about [Surrey domestic abuse training](#), including course objectives and how to book a place is available online.

Young Carers Action Day Professionals' Seminar: The Difference You Make

There are around 15,000 young carers living in Surrey, supporting an unwell or disabled relative. But young carers are poorly recognised, not being identified early enough or at all, with severe effects on their health, wellbeing, educational achievement and long-term prospects.

A free seminar, The Difference You Make, marking Young Carers Action Day on Wednesday 12 March 2025, 12.30 to 2pm, is designed to support professionals to spot, refer and support this vulnerable group.

Please [register for the Difference You Make seminar](#) online.

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Workforce Wellbeing 'How Are You?' framework

Surrey County Council has partnered with local mental health charities and organisations to support organisations in their journey towards improving the mental health and wellbeing for their workforce. The free ['How are you?' Workforce Wellbeing toolkit](#) has been developed with resources, training and signposting to support businesses in assessing the health and wellbeing of staff.

Stroke Café open in Jubilee House, Godalming

Care UK Jubilee House, Godalming holds a monthly stroke café, giving an opportunity for those affected by a stroke to share stories and make new friends in a relaxed and friendly environment. Complimentary refreshments are available.

- **Date:** Last Thursday of each month
- **Time:** 11am to 12.30pm
- **Venue:** Jubilee House, Pound Lane, Godalming, GU7 1BX

To book a place, please contact Care UK as follows:

- **Telephone:** 07521 430 740
- **Email:** harris.walkermurphy@careuk.com

Further [information about what's on at Jubilee House](#) is available online.

Frimley Academy's 20/20 Programme Cohort 11

Frimley Integrated Care System is offering a fully funded opportunity to join an exciting programme to develop professional and personally, to build and expand networks across the Frimley system and strengthen them across boundaries.

The [20/20 leadership programme](#) is a dynamic cross-sector programme designed to grow capacity as a leader, while strengthening partnerships across health, social care, local authorities, community groups, and the voluntary sector.

Please note, that whilst there is no closing date, applicants are encouraged to complete the [20/20 leadership programme application form](#) as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

For more information, please contact the Frimley Academy Team:

Email: frimley.academy@nhs.net

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Latest news from Mary Frances Trust

Community Connections Surrey launches new partnership website

Catalyst Support, Mary Frances Trust and Waythrough have launched a new Community Connections Surrey partnership website, as well as new marketing materials as part of a brand refresh.

The Community Connections Service offers access to free mental health support to Surrey residents (16+) in the form of individual goal setting sessions, wellbeing activities delivered online and face-to-face in the community, as well as financial advice and information.

Find out more about [Community Connections Surrey](#) online.

Nature Nurtures project

Mary Frances Trust has recently launched a new Nature Nurtures Project to help Surrey residents embrace the healing power of nature.

The project provides free, accessible activities designed to suit all people in a variety of places in Surrey Downs to connect with nature and each other. The programme includes online activities for those unable to go outside who would still like that connection with nature. Please note this project isn't part of Community Connections Surrey.

Further information about the [Nature Nurtures Project](#) is available online. Places can be booked by emailing the team:

- **Email:** naturenurtures@maryfrancestrust.org.uk

Community Connections Peer Support

Mary Frances Trust has spaces left on the following peer support groups:

- **Online Men's Peer Support Group:** on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. From 8pm-9.30pm
- **Face to Face Men's Peer Support Group:** weekly on Thursdays, from 7.30pm-8.30pm at the Leatherhead Hub
- **Online LGBTQIA+ Peer Support Group:** every 3rd Tuesday, from 7pm-8pm
- **Bipolar Peer Support Group:** every 1st Thursday, from 7pm-8.30pm. Hybrid sessions: both face-to-face in Leatherhead and online

To book or enquire about any of these groups, please contact:

- **Telephone:** 01372 375 400
- **Text (SMS):** 07929 024 722
- **Email:** info@maryfrancestrust.org.uk

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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.

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