

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

Adult Social Care | Information and Engagement Team



Monthly Briefing Information Correct - 23 March 2023 Spreading The Word Survey Results

Thank you to all who completed our Spreading the Word Survey last month. We had an 18% response rate which helps us to evidence the impact of our monthly briefing. Some key findings are:

- **92%** stated that they found the briefing useful or very useful;
- **70%** stated that they cascade relevant articles or the whole briefing onto colleagues, partners or members with a number cascading it to over 100 contacts each month.

The Future Of The Surrey Care Home Market

On Thursday 16 March Surrey County Council and Surrey Care Association held a market shaping event focusing on residential and nursing care providers that support older people in Surrey.

We were able to engage with over 100 care providers along with a range of partners across health and social care on key areas such as hospital discharge, caring for residents with complex needs, the use of technology in care and the future of the care market in Surrey. We also launched the [Market positioning statement](#) for supporting older people in residential and nursing care at the event which outlines the needs of the care market in Surrey.

We would like to thank all who attended, promoted, supported or contributed to the event.

For further information please contact: **Website:** [Residential and nursing care new provider application](#) **Email:** residentialnursingcare@surreycc.gov.uk

Upcoming Elections: Voter ID requirement

From 4 May 2023, voters in England will need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections.

This will apply to:

- Local elections
- Police and Crime Commissioner elections
- UK parliamentary by-elections
- Recall petitions

From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections.

If you don't have accepted photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate.

To find out more about accepted forms of photo ID, how to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, and what to expect on polling day please visit: **Website:** [The Electoral Commission](#)

Launch of the Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Strategy

The Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership (known formally as the ICS) has published its Integrated Care Strategy which you can find on the [Surrey Heartlands website](#). The strategy was launched publicly at the recent [Surrey Heartlands Expo conference](#).

This new strategy, which supports Surrey's wider [Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#), sets out the overall framework for how, as partners, they will collectively work together to improve the quality of life, health, and wellbeing of residents, and reduce the gaps in healthcare and outcomes for local communities.

New Your Fund Surrey Funding Open For Applications

Since its launch in 2020 Your Fund Surrey has awarded £5.5million to community projects across Surrey including sports pavilions, a community shop and café, village halls and a disability playground. The Your Fund Surrey Small Community Projects funding has been set up in recognition of the role smaller community projects can play in their neighbourhoods.

This funding is available for one off simple projects worth between £1k and £50k to support capital community projects. Each Surrey County Councillor has been given £50k Small Community Project funding to allocate in their areas. This is in addition to the Members Community Allocation fund now known as the County Councillors Community Allocation.

The Your Fund Surrey Large Community Project funding is still available for funding of larger capital projects in excess of £10k and is subject to a staged application process. As well as other community funding opportunities within Surrey.

For further information and funding opportunities please visit [Your Fund Surrey](#).

Funding Boost For Initiatives To Support Discharge From Hospital

In January, the Government announced that £200million would be made available across the country for hospital discharge, with the money needing to be spent or allocated by the end of March. Surrey Heartlands' £3.3million share of the funding has now been fully allocated.

The county council has worked closely with NHS Surrey Heartlands to allocate funding from the Government to support the hospital discharge process. Examples of how the funding is being used include, in North West Surrey, extending home-based care provision and in East Surrey, expanding capacity at the East Surrey Frailty Hub, to help reduce avoidable emergency admissions. In Surrey Downs meanwhile, examples include enhancing the existing virtual ward (where nurses and other medical staff monitor a person's condition from the comfort of their own home) while in Guildford and Waverley, funding has been allocated for purchasing additional beds for patients with complex needs, with an increased focus on early discharge and proactive community care.

New Carer Emergency Card from Crossroads Care Surrey

Working in partnership with Surrey County Council, Crossroads Care Surrey has launched a new [Carers Card](#). Its main purpose is to help others know a person is a carer, in case of an emergency but it also entitles carers to certain discounts.

To apply for this free card, please contact Crossroads Care Surrey:
Email: enquiries@crossroadscaresurrey.org.uk **Telephone:** 01372 869970.

Red Bag Scheme Introduced Across East Surrey To Support Care Home Residents Admitted To Hospital

On Monday 20 February, the [Red Bag Scheme](#) (often known as The Hospital Transfer Pathway) was introduced to East Surrey care homes, to improve the experience for residents admitted to hospital. East Surrey care home residents admitted to hospital in an emergency will now have a red bag with them displaying their name, care home contact details and essential items including: general health information, including any existing medical conditions, medication information, so that ambulance and hospital staff know immediately what medication they are taking and personal belongings (such as clothes, glasses, hearing aid or dentures).

The bag follows the resident's journey from care home to hospital, and back to their care home following discharge from hospital. Evidence has shown that the scheme, which has launched in other areas of the country, is helping to reduce hospital stays due to smoother discharge processes.

For further information on the Red Bag Scheme please visit: **Website:** [NHS England Red Bag Scheme](#)

Emergency Alert System being tested on 23 April

The UK government's new Emergency Alerts system is now live. The system will enable people to be contacted via their mobile phone when lives are in danger. Several localised tests have taken place

however a nationwide test has been scheduled for the 23 April. Emergency Alerts are sent to compatible mobile phones within an area of risk. An Emergency Alert is a loud, siren-like sound with a message will appear on your mobile phone screen. They don't track your location, need your phone number, or collect personal data, and only the emergency services can send them. You can check an alert is genuine at [gov.uk/alerts](https://www.gov.uk/alerts).

For further information or to find out more please visit **Website:** [Emergency Alerts](#)

Urgent Community Response (UCR) Service Video Launch

The Urgent Community Response (UCR) service operating in Surrey Downs provides an urgent response in the community to Surrey Downs residents, 18 years of age and over, seven days a week from 8am to 8pm. It is based within three areas across Surrey Downs: Epsom, East Elmbridge and Dorking. Surrey Downs has launched a [video](#) explaining the service and its benefits.

This service is delivered by a local, multidisciplinary team and aims to give patients the most appropriate support in their home, or usual place of residence, to prevent unnecessary hospital admission. Within two hours of being referred, the UCR team carries out a thorough assessment of the patient's health and social care needs and puts into place a personalised care plan and support measures to support, where possible, the patient to remain at home.

Surrey Coalition: Report on Cost of Living Crisis

Surrey Coalition of Disabled People has been gathering feedback from their members on how the cost of living crisis is impacting them. Key highlights include:

- 97% stated that the cost of living crisis has affected them;
- 76% have not used their heating;
- 45% have gone without food.

For further information or to access the full report please visit:

Website: [Surrey Coalition](#)

Latest from Catalyst

Butterflies for HOPE Project

Local Surrey mental health and wellbeing charity, Catalyst has teamed up with Surrey County Council to help spread HOPE and awareness across the county.

Catalyst clients have recently crocheted 170 little butterflies at their wellbeing drop-ins. They plan to distribute these within the local community. The special thing about these butterflies is they feature a QR code on the back. If you find a butterfly, scan the QR code and you will be taken to a page on their website where a message of hope

is published? for others to see.

For further information or to add a message of home please visit:

Website: [Catalyst Butterflies for hope](#)

Activity Timetable

Catalyst provides a range of activities from social drop-in's, football for wellbeing, gym and swim sessions along with peer support groups.

To check their latest events and activities please visit: **Website:**

[Catalyst Activity Timetable](#)

Surrey Libraires Digital Welfare Support Project

The Digital Welfare Support Project is a community outreach programme that is closing the digital divide and reducing isolation in Surrey.

It began by identifying and targeting areas of the county where digital deprivation is highest, cultivating community links and providing IT skills sessions to those most in need.

The experienced and dedicated Digital Welfare Support Officers have put together a programme of events and opportunities to offer foundational knowledge of essential digital skills. These include Digital drop in events and courses as well as one to one support.

For further information or for up-to-date list of all their events please visit: **Website:** [Surrey Libraries Events](#).

Can You Help Give A Snapshot Of Rural Surrey?

Surrey Community Action, part of rural consultancy Cirican, are working on behalf of Surrey County Council to produce a Snapshot of Rural Surrey. They particularly want to hear about the experience of people who might face additional challenges in their rural experience, for example young people, older people, Disabled people, people from minoritised communities, people experiencing financial hardship, or people experiencing ill-health.

They have developed a [survey](#) that asks some basic questions about people's experience of living in rural Surrey. It should take no more than 10 minutes to complete, and anyone who completes the survey has the chance to win one of two £50 vouchers.

East Surrey Place Seeking Residents To Join Their Citizen Group

The Citizen Group supports in the co-design of services across East Surrey Place. Working alongside healthcare professionals from the start of a project's planning stages through to implementation, offering sense checks throughout. The group helps reviews project documents, giving feedback and perspectives from the viewpoint of the public, patients, and the local community.

For further information or if you are interested in joining please

contact: **Email:** Rebekka.francis@nhs.net

Surrey And Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Appoint New Chief Medical Officer

Surrey and Borders NHS Foundation Partnership Trust has appointed Dr Emma Whicher as Chief Medical Officer.

Dr Whicher is a consultant psychiatrist with broad experience in medical leadership. She has previously worked as the Medical Director of South West London and St George's NHS Mental Health Trust, as London Regional Medical Director at NHS Improvement (NHSI) and as Medical Director at North Middlesex University Hospital, as part of the leadership team that led their response to Covid. Most recently she has been working as Clinical Director of Transformation at North London Partners Integrated Care System, leading the transformation of paediatric, maternity and neonatal services in that part of London.

Support Available From The Macular Society

Nearly 1.5m people in the UK have macular disease. It affects people of all ages. Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the most common condition, generally affecting people over the age of 55. AMD is the biggest cause of sight loss in the UK, affecting more than 700,000 people. The Macula is responsible for our central vision, most of our colour vision and the fine detail of what we see.

The Macular Society is a charity dedicated to helping individuals living with a macular condition providing peer support groups that meet across Surrey, free counselling for people with a macular condition, online and over the phone peer support groups and befriending.

For further information or if you want to find out more about the groups in Surrey, please contact Stella Black, regional manager for the South East. **Email:** stella.black@macularsociety.org **Telephone:** 01306 644 908.

Join the Include Choir in Epsom

The Include Choir Epsom meets on **Tuesday** evenings between **6-7.30pm** at **Blenheim High School** and resumes on 18 April. [The Include choir](#) provides social, musical and volunteering opportunities for residents aged 16+. It also teaches inclusive communication skills including Makaton.

For further information or to join please contact: **Website:** [Include](#)
Email: includechoir@include.org. **Telephone/SMS:** 07446 897835.

Mindfulness & Meditation for Everyday Life

Mindfulness and meditation simply mean paying attention to our experience in the present moment, on purpose and with an attitude of

kindly acceptance. This easy, enjoyable session will invite you to 'dip into the present moment' with simple exercises to focus and gain your attention and useful techniques for use in everyday life to reduce stress and enhance wellbeing. A time to be a human being, not a human doing!

Suzette Jones is a Registered Nurse with a career of over thirty-five years working extensively with a wide variety of people who have health problems, mental illness and/ or a learning disability in hospital and community settings.

This workshop will be held at Clandon Natural Burial Ground on Monday, 24 April from 10.00 am until 12.00 pm. Booking via [eventbrite](#) is essential.

For further information please contact: **Email:** admin@briggistrust.com

Sight For Surrey: Let's Talk Tech Talking Books Webinar

If you have a vision impairment and are finding it difficult to read books then come and join Sight for Surrey's free online webinar on Wednesday 26 April and learn how to access the various methods of listening to talking books. Topics covered will include Reading Services by the RNIB, Amazon's Audible service, In Your Pocket by RealSam, and a range of devices for playing talking books on.

For further information or to book a place please contact Sight for Surrey **Email:** info@sightforsurrey.org.uk **Telephone:** 01372 377701

Mary Frances Trust – April courses

Upcoming courses starting in April include; Music and mood, Spring nature nurture group, Defining mental health, Anxious head to happy head and Decluttering.

To attend any of their activities, you need to [register as a client](#) of Mary Frances Trust. Once you are a registered client, you can book your place on any of their activities.

For further information or to book please contact: **Website:** [Mary Frances Trust](#) **Email:** info@maryfrancestrust.org.uk **Telephone:** 01372 375 400 **SMS:** 07929 024 722.

Open Spaces in Runnymede

Currently, Runnymede Borough Council is in the process of reviewing its previous (2016) [Open Space Study](#), and they want to know if there are any publicly accessible open spaces in their assessment that they have missed. As part of the [survey](#) there is a map of all of the spaces they have currently identified as easily / freely accessible, and you will be able to add any further suggestions.

Alongside this, they also want to get your views about the Borough's open spaces, including:

- How often do you use Runnymede's open spaces?
- What do you use them for?
- Which ones do you use?
- How could they be improved?
- What types of sports / activities do you do?

The [survey](#) will close on Friday 7th April 2023.

Tandridge's Vision for Volunteering

In 2022 Tandridge's [Vision for Volunteering](#) was launched. The document explores what they must do to encourage more people to volunteer and how some people may wish to volunteer differently.

With funding from NAVCA (National Association for Voluntary and Community Action) and DCMS (Department of Culture Media and Sport), Tandridge Voluntary Action is hosting a special half-day session for all interested in volunteering in Tandridge.

Suitable for volunteers, volunteer managers, or an organisation just interested in making the most of volunteering opportunities.

Together you will look at what Tandridge needs and what other local areas are doing and explore how best to promote and support volunteers in Tandridge.

For further information or to book please contact: **Email:** info@tva.org.uk **Eventbrite:** [Tandridge's Vision for Volunteering](#)