

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE - TANDRIDGE**Friday 5 December 2008****Place:** Council Offices, Oxted**Time:** 10:15am**Organisation:****Surrey Primary Care Trust****Attendees:**

Report from Janet Lambley – Locum Public Health Consultant

What role does your organisation play in improving community Health?

Surrey Primary Care Trust (PCT) is responsible for supporting, maintaining and improving the health of the population of Surrey. It does this by:

- commissioning health care from health care providers including hospitals
- ensuring that independent contractors including general practitioners, dentists, opticians and pharmacists, provide high quality services for their patients and customers.
- employing therapists and nurses including district nurses community matrons, specialist nurses and community public health nurses, including health visitors and school nurses.

Recent successes:

During 2008:

- 25/26 primary schools are participating in the National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP); 18/26 (69%) have achieved the National Healthy Schools standard (NHSS)
- 3/3 secondary schools are participating in NHSP; 1/3 has achieved the standard
- 3/3 special schools are participating in NHSP; 2/3 have achieved the standard
- Altogether 21 (66%) schools in Tandridge have met the NHSS, meaning that their pupils and staff can benefit from school environments that promote health. The national target is for 75% of schools to have reached NHSS by December 2008.
- Hillcroft School, Caterham and St Catherine's, Bletchingley have taken part this year in the Happy 2B Healthy project which involves parents and children in healthy eating and physical activity.
- Funding from the PCT / TDC / SCC has enabled the Action for Life (AFL) Walking for Health scheme to continue to thrive in Tandridge. AFL offers 5 weekly supervised walks throughout the District in last winter's programme. Two 'pram walks' for young parents are established in Hurst Green and Lingfield
- Surrey's Big Drink Debate, an on-line survey of people's attitudes to and knowledge of alcohol took place between March and September. Surrey PCT will publish a detailed report which will support development of Surrey's strategy for reducing alcohol-related harm.

In January 2008:

- a Baby Café, providing peer and professional support for breastfeeding opened at the Ark in Caterham and is attracting increasing numbers of mothers seeking support to continue breastfeeding their babies. This success is the result of a partnership between the NHS, the National Childbirth Trust, the local Schools Confederation and Tandridge Leisure Ltd which provides the premises.
- A Drop In service for young people, providing advice on sexual and mental health, smoking and drug misuse, opened at Harry's Youth Club in Oxted. This service depends on a partnership between the NHS, Surrey Youth Development Service and the voluntary sector and was commended in the Surrey Joint Assessment Review (JAR) report.

Planned initiatives:

- With support from the PCT Public Health Team, Tandridge District Council will sign up to the Mindful Employer Charter, pledging to support employees who have suffered mental health problems.
- The First Steps website (an initiative to provide accessible advice on mental health for employees and employers) will be promoted across Surrey.

Challenges:

- Continued budget restraints call for creativity in partnership working lest they make it difficult to sustain some projects and to fund planned new projects.
- Good communication between the PCT, district and county council.

Aspirations for the Future:

The Surrey Strategy for Health Improvement covers several specific multi- agency strategies:

- Obesity
- Mental well-being
- Parenting
- Teenage pregnancy
- Sexual health
- Tobacco control
- Alcohol

We would appreciate Members' support in implementing these strategies, for example by aligning local priorities with them to support and encourage:

- 'active travel', that is walking and cycling to schools and workplaces in Tandridge by promotion and lobbying for better road planning
- the Walking For Health scheme in Tandridge through funding and promotion
- young people to take part in physical activities through lobbying and supporting the Youth Development Service
- additional Baby Cafes in Tandridge (proposed locations are in Lingfield and Hurst Green) through lobbying and funding
- parenting education through lobbying and funding or premises
- employers to adopt policies supporting HSE stress management standards, work-life balance and staff who develop mental health problems
- schools to achieve the NHSP standards for promoting emotional health of pupils and staff.
- better access to childcare for teenage parents.