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Supplementary Agenda

Item 9

for the meeting of

THE COUNTY COUNCIL

to be held on

13 DECEMBER 2022

9 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

(Pages 5
- 48)

1. The Leader of the Council or the appropriate Member of the Cabinet or the Chairman of a Committee to answer any questions on any matter relating to the powers and duties of the County Council, or which affects the county.
2. Cabinet Member Briefings on their portfolios.

There will be an opportunity for Members to ask questions.

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SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2022****QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED UNDER THE PROVISIONS
OF STANDING ORDER 10.1****MATT FURNISS, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE
AND GROWTH****1. JOANNE SEXTON (ASHFORD) TO ASK:**

On 3 November, Surrey County Council launched a consultation about its bus strategy. In the following two months, residents of Surrey are asked about their bus routes and infrastructure investments in their areas. Prior to the launch of the consultation, Members of this Council were not consulted to provide feedback on Surrey's bus strategy that is currently under development. A more inclusive process would have been beneficial as it would have ensured that Members could have given this Council their local insight, after all we should be working in the interests of all residents, not just those elected by the Conservative Party.

- A. Why was there no Member engagement before the consultation was launched?
- B. Can we have reassurances from the Cabinet Member that in the future they will formulate a joined-up way of working and consult with all political parties for the best interests of OUR residents.

RESPONSE:

On 25 October the Cabinet agreed that a public consultation be carried out to obtain the views of residents and stakeholders on the future bus network in Surrey, with the findings and proposed next steps to be presented to a meeting of the Cabinet in early 2023.

In advance of this, on 3 October an all-Member Development Session was held. This session provided Members with an update the Council's response to the challenges set by Government through the National Bus Strategy, 'Bus Back Better'. This session followed a number of reports to both Cabinet and the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee on the National Bus Strategy since publication in March 2020. This is not therefore recent news.

The all-Member Development Session gave an overview of the proposed Enhanced Partnership between the Council and local bus operators that aims to improve bus services for residents. Importantly, the session set out our plans to consult residents and stakeholders on proposals for a future financially sustainable bus network that will be fit for the future and more responsive to transformed travel patterns following

the Covid-19 pandemic. Members were also briefed on our £50m investment programme that is delivering more zero emission buses, more bus priority measures to ensure buses run on time and more real time passenger information so residents can make better informed travel decisions. Our proposals to introduce more Digital Demand Responsive Transport services were also set out, explaining how flexible, shared minibus services modelled on the Surrey Connect project successfully operating in Mole Valley could provide better travel options in some parts of the county.

This demonstrates that Members have been fully appraised of all our work relating to the National Bus Strategy, including the current future bus network consultation.

The consultation remains live until 6 January, so once again I would ask all Members to promote this throughout their Division to ensure that as many residents as possible can have their say on the future bus network in Surrey, including our substantial programme of investment.

DENISE TURNER-STEWART, DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

2. CATHERINE POWELL (FARNHAM NORTH) TO ASK:

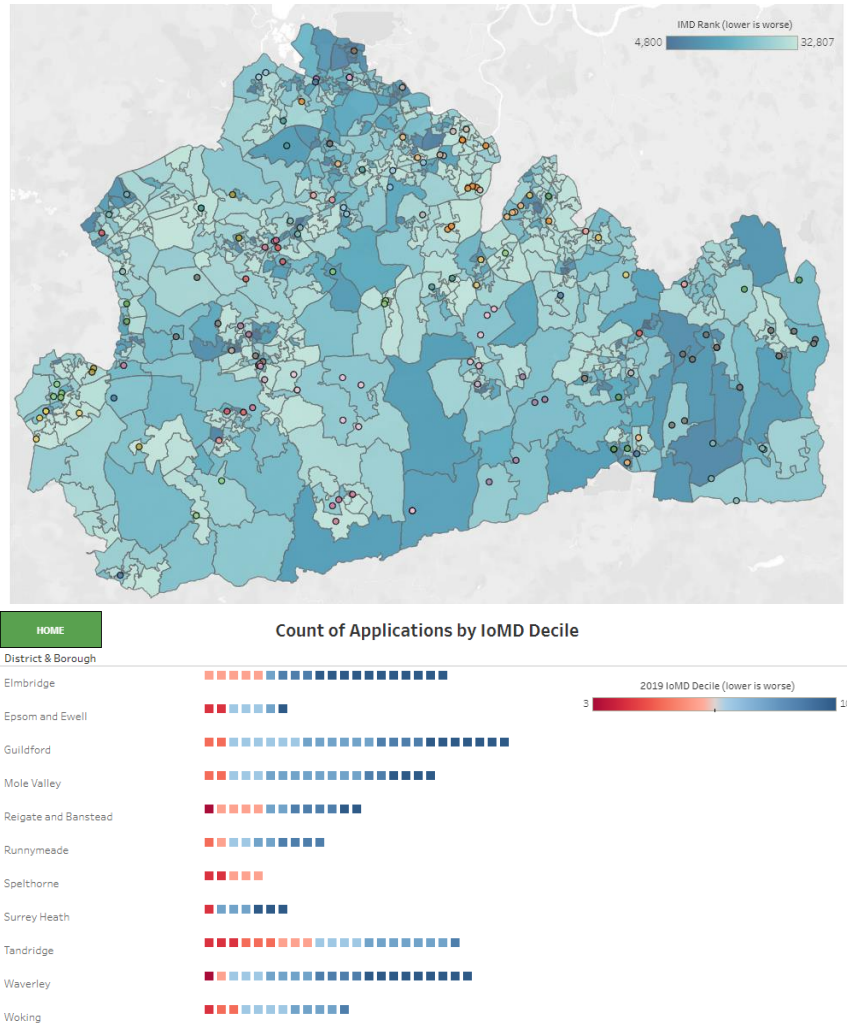
At the July 2021 Council meeting I asked a supplementary question to Mark Nuti, Cabinet Member for communities, the public record of the meeting includes this (copied below for ease of access):

“(Q5) Catherine Powell asked whether the Cabinet Member could provide the Council with a map of the applications for Your Fund Surrey (YFS) overlaid on a colour-coded map of the Lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) to highlight the deprived areas at greatest risk of being left behind, so intervention can be targeted. She further asked whether the Cabinet Member could provide a list of all of the applications that had been made to YFS including an additional column on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.”

In October 2021, I sent a reminder that this request had still not been fulfilled. I then sent a further reminder in December 2021.

On 17 December 2021 I finally received a response with a link to a map that showed the requested information, see below and a table by District and Borough, also see below.

Map



Since the release of the data in December 2021, I have continued to be concerned that the application process and its associated complexities would favour applications from wealthier areas and inhibit applications from the very poorest areas in Surrey.

I was therefore confused to say the least by some of the statements by members of the Cabinet and other Councillors that there were actually more submissions from the poorest. Including this statement: *“The five lowest deprivation deciles in Surrey account for 62% of applications to date and over 50% of projects funded”* from Councillor Turner-Stewart

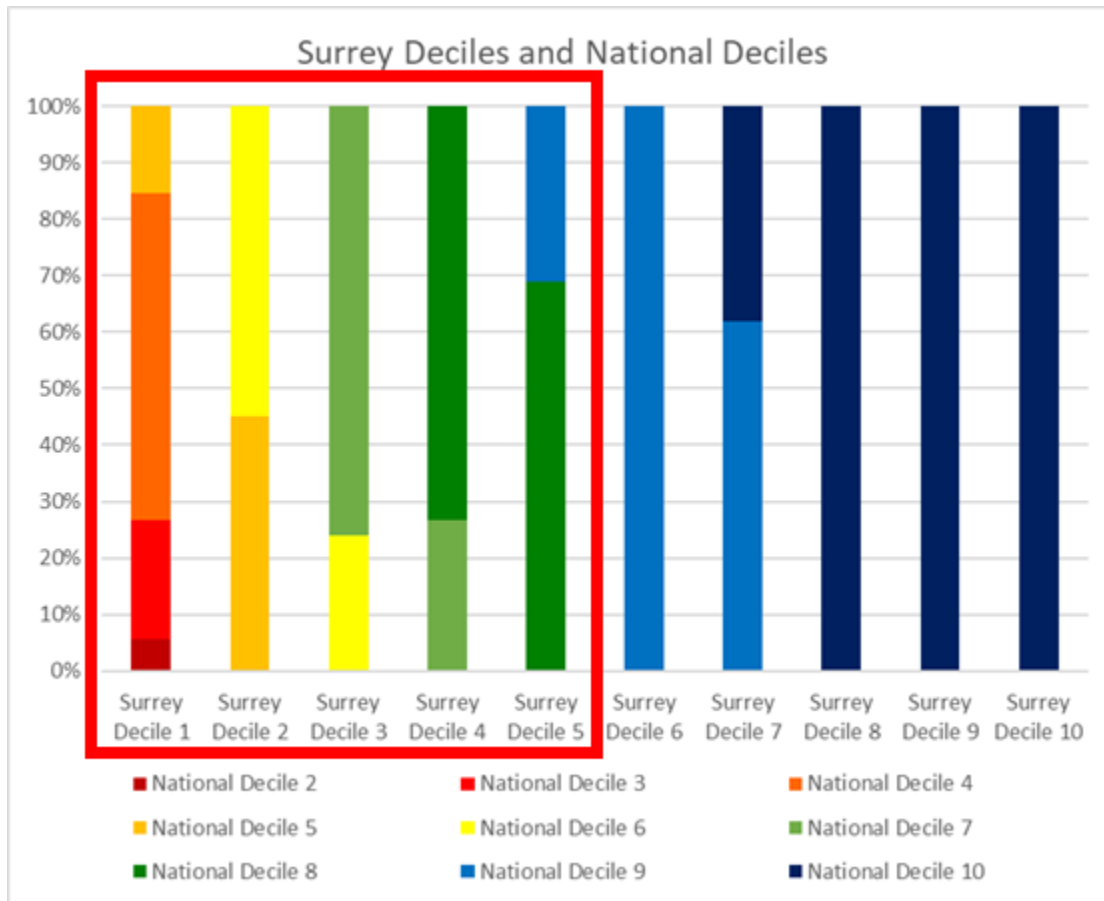
I have since discovered that in October this year 2022, the Your Fund Surrey Team created and started up use Surrey Deciles for the Index of Multiple Deprivation rather than the National Deciles.

Seen the comparison of the two below. You will note that all of the LSOAs that are in the bottom 50% nationally are in the bottom 20% within Surrey and the top 50% in Surrey are all the top 20% nationally. Therefore, by saying that 62% of the applications and 50% of the projects funded are from the five lowest deprivation

deciles in Surrey is a little meaningless as a deprivation measure as some of the LSOAs in are in National decile 9.

Please can the Cabinet Member advise why the decision was made to move to using Surrey Deciles and advise how looking at the lowest 5 Surrey Deciles really provides any measure of Deprivation?

Table



RESPONSE:

Surrey Deciles is just one way of presenting data drawn from the national Index of Multiple Deprivation data (IMD), which it is not intended to replace. The Surrey Deciles are based on the scores and ranks of the national IMD; Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) remain in the same order in Surrey Deciles as they are in the national index, however, it provides a Surrey-wide context and more nuanced approach to the presentation of this national data by focusing upon the 709 LSOAs in the County, rather than the 32,844 in England.

Making reference to the lower five Surrey Deciles simply provides one view that reflects activity in Your Fund Surrey (YFS) for the most deprived half of LSOAs in the county. National LSOA data can fail to reflect relative deprivation within the county. The Surrey Deciles, whilst not an absolute measure, do help serve as a useful comparator tool.

Whilst YFS is not a targeted fund, it is recognised that some communities would benefit from additional support to progress ideas through to funding and County Councillors have a key role to play in relation to this. Community Link Officers (CLOs) are working alongside County Councillors and communities across Surrey but prioritising work in areas experiencing the greatest challenges, identified as Key Neighbourhoods.

NATALIE BRAMHALL, CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY AND WASTE

3. TIM HALL (LEATHERHEAD AND FETCHAM EAST) TO ASK:

Could the Cabinet Member please update the Council on the Maintenance Strategy and Repair Plans for the Mansion, Church Street, Leatherhead?

Also, any plans to make more use of this historic and much loved building, as it is centrally located in the county and would be a practical location for meetings and hotdesking etc. with excellent car parking and within walking distance of public transport?

RESPONSE:

The Mansion will undergo improvement works, including redecoration and replacement of floor coverings, to repair damage caused by several leaks over the years. The works, which are currently being specified, have been included in this year's Capex improvement programme and are forecast to commence in Q1 2023.

The Mansion provides accommodation for the Libraries and Registration Services, as well as space for teams from the Adult Social Care and Children, Families and Learning Services. We are reviewing usage of the site as part of emerging Service strategies to assess opportunities to increase alternative/additional uses for the site; alternative or additional uses will be determined and aligned with Service requirements as well as delivering value for money.

TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

4. EBER KINGTON (EWELL COURT, AURIOL & CUDDINGTON) TO ASK:

The Government has announced that it is to put forward an amendment to its own Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill to protect district council functions in county deals, which does suggest that Government Ministers are acutely aware of the dangers posed by overzealous county councils that are seeking to go beyond their statutory powers, resulting in the infringement of the sovereignty of district and borough councils.

Given the over extension of this Council's remit into the district and borough housing and planning statutory powers, as evidenced by recent Surrey County Council actions and pronouncements, and criticised by the Leaders of all Borough and District Councils, will you cease these unwelcome and unsolicited policy interventions and focus this Council's spending on its own services which, as we all know, are under severe financial pressure?

RESPONSE:

The acute housing challenges faced by residents across Surrey are evident for all to see. Affordability, underoccupancy, quality and access to housing are all national issues, felt more acutely in Surrey, as demonstrated by the baseline assessment that has been undertaken, with the support of district and borough councils through the Surrey Delivery Board.

Businesses, public sector employers, and health partners have all raised serious concerns regarding a range of housing issues in Surrey and highlighted the need to take action, together, if these challenges are to be met.

The County Council is a provider and commissioner of housing and accommodation and plays a key role in promoting economic development and sustainable growth. While fully acknowledging the statutory housing and planning responsibilities of district and borough councils, the County Council has a remit to seek to work with others to better address the housing issues that affect so many Surrey residents.

The identification of strategic priorities for action will of course have due regard to district and borough housing and planning statutory powers, Local Plans and Local Plan preparation processes and will not result in the infringement of the sovereignty of district and borough councils.

We owe it to the homeless of Surrey, vulnerable people struggling with accommodation, young and low-waged residents who are not able to afford to live in Surrey and employers who are not able to recruit because staff are not able to afford to move to Surrey, to do whatever we can, together, to help them. This is what the work of identifying strategic priorities for housing, accommodation, and homes, is aiming to do.

We will continue to seek to work with like-minded organisations to achieve this, including continuing to engage with those district and borough councils that share our ambition.

TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

5. ROBERT EVANS (STANWELL AND STANWELL MOOR) TO ASK:

How many known food banks are there across the eleven boroughs and districts in Surrey?

RESPONSE:

There are 29 known foodbanks operating in Surrey, along with the 16 additional community fridges and community stores across Surrey too.

DENISE TURNER-STEWART, DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

6. WILL FORSTER (WOKING SOUTH) TO ASK:

How many staff work in Registration Services, how long does it normally take to register a death, birth, and marriage, and what are the longest waits people have had?

RESPONSE:

The Surrey Registration & Nationality service is one of the busiest in the country with circa 18,000 births, 11,000 deaths and 3,300 marriages and civil ceremonies per year. This places Surrey in the top three councils nationally for birth registrations and the top five councils nationally for death registrations. The service has 151 employees in total. This is equivalent to 49 FTE because many staff work part time.

Legally, a birth registration must take place within 42 days of birth and a death registration must take place within 5 days of death. Our target is to offer customers an appointment within an average of 2 days for a death registration, and 10 days for birth registration and a marriage or civil partnership notification. We are pleased to say that appointments are being offered well within our target timeframes: for example:

- A parent can obtain an appointment within 24 hours for a birth registration
- A bereaved family can obtain an appointment within 48 hours for a death registration
- A couple can obtain an appointment within 3 working days for a marriage or civil partnership notification

There were points earlier this year where waiting times for appointments were longer than we would have liked and in excess of the timescales above. This was primarily due to the ongoing impact of the Covid19 pandemic on a face-to-face frontline service, which led to some capacity issues within our workforce. These challenges have been successfully addressed. Indeed, the General Register Office (GRO) recognised how well the service had coped moving from the pressures of operating during a pandemic towards more conventional working practices, awarding a 'high' level of assurance and stating that "The work of Surrey Registration Service to maintain high standards of service delivery during this period should be commended."

We are committed to ensuring the Registration Service is sufficiently resourced to cope with ongoing demand and we are prioritising appointment availability because we know how important it is to offer customers timely appointments, so we can support them in the best way we can during key moments in their lives.

SINEAD MOONEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

7. LIZ TOWNSEND (CRANLEIGH & EWHURST) TO ASK:

Following the news that the County Council was ordered to pay £15,000 compensation to an unaccompanied asylum-seeking child, for whom it had failed to provide adequate and suitable care, can the Cabinet Member explain what accommodation strategy has been put in place to ensure that this does not happen again and whether there is a plan B if the Council fails to attract more foster carers?

RESPONSE:

The issues identified related to practice from 2016 with a complaint being raised in 2020 and the Ombudsman's decision being made in September 2022.

Since that time Surrey has developed a comprehensive sufficiency strategy which identifies the activity required to ensure that appropriate care arrangements are provided for Surrey children and care leavers. This is available for Members to review.

We recognised some time ago that services for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children required improvement and in n 2019 we established a new team which specialises in working with this group of young people. This team has allowed us to develop a consistent response to the increased numbers of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children arriving in Surrey. The team are provided with specialist training including in how to conduct age assessments. The increase in numbers will continue, given the international situation and the role of the National Transfer Scheme in ensuring young people are placed across Local Authorities and into appropriate accommodation. Care arrangements are made based on the identified needs of young people and if those needs change it's not unusual for there to be a change in accommodation arrangements to one more suitable for the young person's needs.

There is significant activity within the Fostering Service to both improve retention and to recruit new carers. Surrey is reviewing its remuneration and support to foster carers, both to attract new carers and to enable existing foster carers to extend the number and/or age range of children they can support and to provide enhanced support to meet children who may have additional risks or vulnerabilities. There is a particular emphasis on providing care for teenagers with our proposals for both remuneration and enhanced support workers. An improved remuneration package for foster carers is being presented to Cabinet in early 2023.

We also now have specialist foster carers aligned with our Extended Hope service who are able to provide specialist care for children who have mental health needs and who are leaving hospital. They work closely with health and social care services to provide support to the child and to think about what the longer-term accommodation and care needs may be for the child.

The in-house fostering service also has an increasing number of fostering households who have experience in supporting unaccompanied children and they

have been working over the past few months with the social work teams to develop a practice handbook for foster carers which gives them a wealth of information specifically relevant to caring for unaccompanied young people. There is also a dedicated foster carers support group for carers of unaccompanied children. Despite the increases in demand for accommodation for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, Surrey has continued to place children promptly in both foster care and supported accommodation both within Surrey and via our Commissioning Alliance framework which was relaunched in April 2022. The framework has led to an increase in the number of providers and supported accommodation for Surrey children.

CLARE CURRAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING

8. HAZEL WATSON (DORKING HILLS) TO ASK:

- A. I would like to thank the Cabinet Member for committing to advertise the Adult Education courses held at East Surrey College in Redhill on behalf of the County Council directly on the County Council's website can an update be given as to when the East Surrey courses will be included on the drop down menu on the website along with the courses provided in West Surrey?
- B. Can the Cabinet Member, given that this Council supports equal access to such courses for all Surrey residents, now confirm how residents from Westcott, and indeed from her own division of Bookham, can have equal access to these courses as residents of Redhill given the lack of public transport in the evenings from / to these villages to / from Redhill and explain how, given this lack of public transport, equal access can be achieved if all in person adult education courses in East Surrey are held in Redhill and not distributed to centres in towns around the east of the county in the same way that the equivalent courses are distributed around various centres in towns in the west of the county?

RESPONSE:

- A. As background, there are no Adult Education courses held at East Surrey College in Redhill delivered on behalf of the County Council. As a County Council, we have no statutory powers to influence or direct how East Surrey College delivers its adult learning nor do we give it any adult learning funding from County Council finances. The funding is provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) on behalf of the Department for Education and they oversee and monitor the curriculum offer provided by any adult learning provision. East Surrey College has the freedom and flexibility to deliver its adult learning as it deems appropriate; they are only officially answerable to the ESFA. The funding received is called the Adult Education Budget or AEB.

Surrey Adult Learning is the deliverer of adult learning for Surrey County Council in the west and north of the county and receives AEB from the ESFA. To reduce the incentives for Surrey Adult Learning and East Surrey College to compete against each other for adult learners, there has been an informal voluntary agreement for the last ten years to concentrate on different parts of

the County. That agreement has been impacted as we have both started to attract more remote or distant learners from any part of the county or region and that is why we have very different curriculum offers. Recently, East Surrey College and Surrey Adult Learning have initiated collaborative work to identify how we can better harmonise and integrate our curriculum offer to meet the needs of adult learners throughout the whole of Surrey.

In answer to your question, we have provided a link for East Surrey College on the Surrey Adult Learning website; unfortunately, this is not reciprocated by East Surrey College. To see the East Surrey College courses, the learners need to access the East Surrey College website.

- B. In light of the context, as explained above, it is for East Surrey College to provide the appropriate provision within its AEB funding for residents in Westcott, Bookham and the east of the county. To discuss the strategic direction of adult learning in Surrey we have arranged termly meetings with the Principal of Surrey Adult Learning, the Principal of East Surrey College and the Cabinet Member for Education and Learning.

CLARE CURRAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING

9. LANCE SPENCER (GOLDSWORTH EAST AND HORSELL VILLAGE) TO ASK:

There appear to be significant delays in creating Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for children that have additional needs. It would appear that where the parents threaten legal action that the EHCP timescales are reduced.

- A. How many children are currently waiting to have their EHCP produced?
- B. How many have exceeded the 20 weeks limit?
- C. How many parents have written to the Council threatening legal proceedings to accelerate the EHCP for their children?

RESPONSE:

- A. Our records indicate that at present there are 988 active EHCP requests.
- B. Of these, 284 requests are known to be over the 20-week period.
- C. We do not collect this data in this way. We are aware that there are delays in the EHC needs assessment process, primarily as a result of delayed mandatory psychological advice into the statutory process due to a shortage of Educational Psychologists. We operate a risk-based process to ensure that those children who are at greatest risk have the assessments completed as soon as possible. This process is not influenced by the threat of legal proceedings.

CLARE CURRAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING

10. FIONA WHITE (GUILDFORD WEST) TO ASK:

The County Council has confirmed recently that in response to a bid for £57m to finance the SEND capital programme, it will only receive £8m from the Government. To plug some of that gap the County Council has also said that it has submitted an application to the Free School Funding scheme. Given that the capital programme is essential to (1) increasing the number of in county SEND placements to reduce expenditure and (2) necessary for adhering to the conditions of the Education Safety Valve agreement with the Department for Education (DfE) would the Cabinet Member please confirm:

- A. The number, type, and area of the proposed new schools that form the bid, as well as the level of funding being sought.
- B. What other options are being considered to make up the shortfall?

RESPONSE:

- A. Surrey County Council has submitted two Free School bids to the Department for Education (DfE), for two Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Designated Specialist Free Schools.

The first bid is for an SEMH Free School in the North of the County, to offer up to 170 co-educational places for children and young people aged between 11 and 19 years old. Potential sites in Esher and Camberley will be considered as part of the bid assessment.

The second bid is for an SEMH Free School in the South East of the County, to offer up to 150 co-educational places for children and young people aged between 11 and 16 years old. Potential sites in Banstead will be considered as part of the bid assessment.

The Free School bid model does not involve local authorities seeking funding as the development of any successful bids will be “free” of the local authority and delivered by the DfE. We estimate that each bid could be worth in the region of £20m, but the actual costs could vary significantly depending on site requirements and design considerations.

- B. In addition to the Free School bids, additional funding sources including Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), Section 106 and grant from the DfE Schools Rebuilding Programme are being considered. As well as pursuing additional income, the cost of each scheme will continue to be reviewed to determine any opportunities for value engineering on schemes. Should these not cover the shortfall there may need to be consideration around additional borrowing as part of the wider capital programme in order to deliver the planned number of places.

**(A.) SINEAD MOONEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES /
(B.) NATALIE BRAMHALL, CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY AND WASTE**

11. JONATHAN ESSEX (REDHILL EAST) TO ASK:

- A. Surrey Developers Forum has been established with Surrey County Council (SCC) and all boroughs and districts members, alongside a number of large housing developers.

What role does SCC play in the forum, and what meetings has it attended over the past year and where are these meetings minuted?

- B. Furthermore, when a piece of land is no longer required by Surrey County Council what is the process whereby the land and property department decide what to do with that land, and what is the way that the public are able to participate in that process of sale? For land that remains with the County Council but no longer is needed for the same purpose, how can the public participate in deciding the new purpose?

RESPONSE:

- A. The independent Surrey Development Forum includes thirty private sector members including developers, planning consultants, lawyers, public relations consultants, all eleven District and Borough Councils and the County Council. The purpose of the Forum is to share best practice and to promote understanding across all sectors by learning about each other's challenges and experiences. It meets up to six times a year and Homes England, Natural England and Highways England also regularly attend. Additionally, the Forum holds an annual skills-sharing workshop on common issues and an annual conference to which council chief officers and planning portfolio holders and representatives from community groups are invited.

Heads of Planning from the District and Borough Councils and senior officers from the County Council's Infrastructure, Planning and Major Projects and Environment services normally attend the meetings. SCC officers have given presentations on topics including biodiversity net gain, climate change, Healthy Streets for Surrey Design Guide, the Surrey Infrastructure Plan and elderly persons accommodation needs. The secretariat for the Forum is provided by Cratus Communications, supported by officers. The meetings are not recorded or formally minuted.

- B. Once an asset is formally declared surplus to all "operational" service requirements, there are two principal outcomes: a. "disposal" on the open market or b. "retention", so the Council can pursue an investment or strategic opportunity. The latter outcomes are guided by Cabinet Member led decisions.

Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to vacate and release sites provided that the best consideration reasonably obtainable is achieved. The Council is required to openly market any assets being

disposed of. All stakeholders can participate and bid, and final recommendations are reported to the Cabinet Member.

In terms of “deciding new purposes”, this is largely a town planning led matter where the public have full rights to review proposals being consulted upon.

NATALIE BRAMHALL, CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY AND WASTE

12. CATHERINE BAART (EARLSWOOD AND REIGATE SOUTH) TO ASK:

At the October Resources and Performance Select Committee it was noted that an Energy Task Force had been set up by the County Council to conserve energy across the operational and office estate of the County Council.

What measures have been put in place and what savings are predicted this winter (i.e. financial year) as a result?

RESPONSE:

The Council has committed to conserving energy on the operational and office estate to reduce energy expenditure as well as reduce carbon emissions to meet the Council’s net zero carbon 2030 target.

The Energy Task Force, working alongside the Greener Futures team and the Green Champions programme to ensure that messaging to staff and Service users is aligned, has developed an Action Plan of three workstreams to assess, monitor and action a wide range of solutions and practises for energy conservation across the operational and office estate, including:

Workstream 1: Operational: making no or low-cost changes to the way that building services provide heat, light and fresh air to Council buildings. This includes a range of measures from assessing hours buildings are used to ensure that buildings are heated at appropriate times and carrying out regular checks and maintenance of systems for optimum output, to sharing energy data with building users and facility managers to actively engage them with monitoring energy usage.

Workstream 2: Minor Investment: measures which can be implemented quickly and may require a small amount of capital, such as installing sensors and remote systems to monitor CO₂ and temperature levels so ventilation and heating can be more tightly controlled in a safe manner. Grid Edge Artificial Intelligence, an application which helps identify interventions to improve performance of more sophisticated heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems in larger buildings, has been successfully trialled. There’s also a Programme of Energy Conservation Measures, which dovetails with the Greener Futures grant-funded programme for improving building insulation, installing LED lighting and automatic heating and lighting controls.

Workstream 3: Behavioural: encouraging and educating all staff and building users to increase energy use awareness and adopt more energy conscious ways of working. This ranges from simply re-arranging office furniture and lay-outs to

developing a network of “Energy Champions” to work alongside Facility Managers to promote energy-conscious behaviour and energy efficient practises.

The Council anticipates saving approximately £135,000 by the end of this financial year. However, there will still be pressure on the revenue budget due to the current high prices of gas and electricity.

MATT FURNISS, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH

13. MARK SUGDEN (HINCHLEY WOOD, CLAYGATE AND OXSHOTT) TO ASK:

Given the decision by the Mayor of London to expand the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to the Greater London Boundary without addressing the recommendations proposed by Surrey County Council in the consultation response to help mitigate the impacts for a significant number of Surrey residents, communities and businesses, what measures can this Council take to support our residents and businesses who will be adversely impacted?

RESPONSE:

This Council will continue to lobby Transport for London and the Mayor of London to introduce measures that will mitigate any negative impacts on Surrey residents and businesses that ULEZ may cause when it becomes operational. Our lobbying will be focussed through the County Councils Network (CNN), Transport for South-East (TfSE) and other key partnerships to maximise the collective voice of a number of councils. Members, residents and businesses will be kept informed of progress.

The Council is also working on a number of sustainable transport programmes as part of the new Surrey Transport Plan. These include, local cycle and walking plans, liveable neighbourhood plans, bus improvement plans and electric vehicle charging infrastructure roll-out. A common aim running through all of these work programmes is providing wider travel choice to our residents. The modes being promoted are designed to fulfil our net-zero ambition and to help reduce the county’s carbon emissions, including in and especially areas of Surrey that border London.

DENISE TURNER-STEWART, DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

**14. CATHERINE POWELL (FARNHAM NORTH) TO ASK:
(2nd Question)**

Question (A) Context

As I understand it, 22 LSOAs (in 21 wards) have been identified by Surrey County Council to receive targeted additional efforts and investments to support community action, with the objective of reducing health inequalities, alongside other interventions.

As shown in Table 1 below, of these 22 the first 19 are ranked in positions 1 to 19 of the most deprived LSOAs across Surrey based on the overall score from the national 2019 Indices of Deprivation. They are rated decile 2 or 3 overall.

Table 1

Surrey Rank	LSOA	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Score	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)	Education, Skills and Training Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)	Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)	Children and Young People Sub-domain Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)
1	Reigate and Banstead 008A	38.264	4800	2	2	2	1
2	Woking 004F	34.717	5986	2	2	3	3
3	Guildford 012D	33.561	6441	2	1	2	1
4	Guildford 007C	33.315	6539	2	1	2	2
5	Spelthorne 001B	33.008	6666	3	2	3	1
6	Mole Valley 011D	32.548	6862	3	1	1	1
7	Reigate and Banstead 005A	31.854	7138	3	2	2	2
8	Epsom and Ewell 007A	31.234	7437	3	3	3	2
9	Spelthorne 002C	30.438	7818	3	2	2	2
10	Woking 005B	30.347	7871	3	3	3	3
11	Runnymede 002F	30.31	7886	3	1	2	1
12	Elmbridge 004B	29.583	8212	3	3	1	2
13	Reigate and Banstead 018D	29.554	8231	3	1	3	1
14	Waverley 002E	27.928	9080	3	2	3	1
15	Spelthorne 001C	27.703	9197	3	2	2	3
16	Waverley 010A	27.64	9226	3	2	3	1
17	Runnymede 006D	26.978	9605	3	2	3	2
18	Reigate and Banstead 010E	26.605	9830	3	3	4	3
19	Guildford 010C	26.597	9840	3	2	2	1

However, the other 3 LSOAs identified by Surrey are in Decile 4 and come in at positions 28, 30, and 34 in the rankings, see Table 2 below.

Table 2

Surrey Rank	LSOA	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Score	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)	Education, Skills and Training Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)	Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)	Children and Young People Sub-domain Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)
20	Runnymede 007D	26.272	10002	4	3	3	3
21	Spelthorne 008E	26.25	10013	4	3	2	3
22	Spelthorne 008B	26.229	10033	4	3	4	3
23	Spelthorne 005B	26.131	10099	4	3	3	3
24	Epsom and Ewell 002C	26.117	10110	4	2	2	1
25	Reigate and Banstead 015E	26.002	10192	4	2	3	2
26	Surrey Heath 008A	25.985	10201	4	3	4	3
27	Elmbridge 004D	25.852	10279	4	3	4	2
28	Elmbridge 008A	25.749	10336	4	3	1	2
29	Tandridge 011A	25.504	10469	4	3	5	2
30	Elmbridge 017D	25.263	10607	4	1	2	1
31	Reigate and Banstead 016E	25.253	10617	4	2	3	2
32	Epsom and Ewell 005A	24.795	10887	4	4	4	4
33	Spelthorne 002D	24.714	10938	4	3	3	3
34	Surrey Heath 004C	24.384	11138	4	1	3	1
35	Spelthorne 002B	24.351	11155	4	2	3	3
36	Woking 009C	23.832	11480	4	3	4	2
37	Guildford 005E	23.776	11520	4	2	3	1
38	Woking 004B	23.769	11525	4	3	5	5
39	Tandridge 009A	23.621	11615	4	3	3	2
40	Spelthorne 008C	23.562	11650	4	3	4	2
41	Spelthorne 002A	23.549	11655	4	2	5	1
42	Waverley 005C	23.51	11686	4	2	4	1
43	Tandridge 008D	23.375	11778	4	7	7	6
44	Spelthorne 007B	23.252	11885	4	3	3	3
45	Runnymede 009A	23.062	12009	4	3	3	3
46	Reigate and Banstead 005C	23.053	12018	4	3	4	2
47	Surrey Heath 008F	22.985	12062	4	3	4	2
48	Reigate and Banstead 008C	22.933	12101	4	4	4	3
49	Tandridge 009D	22.483	12399	4	5	5	3
50	Reigate and Banstead 005B	22.388	12474	4	3	4	2
51	Spelthorne 001A	22.329	12517	4	2	4	2
52	Reigate and Banstead 010A	22.091	12706	4	5	2	4
53	Spelthorne 007C	22.051	12737	4	3	5	2
54	Mole Valley 003D	22.047	12740	4	3	5	3
55	Spelthorne 001D	22.007	12768	4	4	6	6
56	Guildford 007A	21.973	12797	4	2	5	1
57	Tandridge 012A	21.685	13009	4	3	5	3
58	Runnymede 003B	21.65	13040	4	3	6	2
59	Elmbridge 003D	21.632	13059	4	5	4	4
60	Woking 004D	21.595	13097	4	4	5	3

Question (A)

Why are Elmbridge 008A, Elmbridge 017D and Surrey Heath 004D included in the Surrey 22 – rather than the LSOAs at positions 20, 21 & 24 overall?

Question (B) Context

As can be seen in Table 1 above, more than half of the most deprived areas in Surrey rank in the bottom 10% in the country in terms of the Children and Young People sub-domain.

This domain measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population relating to children and young people and is made up of the following indicators:

- Key Stage 2 attainment: The scaled score of pupils taking Mathematics, English reading and English grammar, punctuation and spelling Key Stage 2 exams
- Key Stage 4 attainment: The average capped points score of pupils taking Key Stage 4 (GCSE or equivalent) exams
- Secondary school absence: The proportion of authorised and unauthorised absences from secondary school
- Staying on in education post 16: The proportion of young people not staying on in school or non-advanced education above age 16
- Entry to higher education: A measure of young people aged under 21 not entering higher education.

Question (B)

Is there a reason why the national ranking of the Surrey LSOAs in terms of the Children and Young People sub domain hasn't been taken into account in identifying the top 22 LSOAs in Surrey to receive additional help?

Question (C) Context

Table 3 below shows the number of LSOAs in Surrey that are in Decile 1 (the most disadvantaged 10% in the UK) by measure. We have a high number of LSOAs in the Children and Young People Sub-Domain in Decile 1. Therefore, using this as a secondary ranking (to overall IMD ranking) would seem to make sense to ensure that "No one is left behind."

Table 3

	Number of LSOAs in Surrey in Decile 1
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Score	0
Income Rank	0
Employment Rank	0
Education, Skills and Training Rank	7
Health Deprivation and Disability Rank	0
Crime Rank	1
Barriers to Housing and Services Rank	6
Living Environment Rank	0
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) Rank	3
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People (IDAOPI) Rank	1
Children and Young People Sub-domain Rank	16
Adult Skills Sub-domain Rank	2
Geographical Barriers Sub-domain Rank	4
Wider Barriers Sub-domain Rank	1

Question (C)

Please can the Cabinet Member advise if this has been taken into consideration in selecting the Health and Wellbeing Board Key Neighbourhoods, and if not, why not?

RESPONSE:

- A. The set of 'Key Neighbourhoods' was chosen to include all areas of Surrey that were in the most deprived 30% nationally by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). They then extended this list to also include further areas that exhibited the highest deprivation for a subset that included child specific attributes.

The ward encompassing LSOA Elmbridge 008A was therefore included because this is the only LSOA ranked in Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) decile 4 *and* in decile 1 (highest 10% nationally) in the Indices of Deprivation (IoD) Supplementary Index on Income Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI).

The wards encompassing LSOA Elmbridge 017D and LSOA Surrey Heath 004D were also included in the 'Key Neighbourhoods' because these were the only Surrey LSOAs ranked in IMD decile 4 *and* in decile 1 (highest 10% nationally) in the IMD Education, Skills and Training Deprivation domain.

- B. and C.

The methodology for identifying the 'Key Neighbourhoods' is well established and is well supported by member organisations on the HWB. Membership of the Board includes the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, NHS, Surrey Police, Borough and District Councils alongside Surrey County Council elected Members and officers.

The HWB is configured as a whole Surrey system board representing services that meet the needs of a wide range of residents via the provision of interventions and/or through addressing the wider determinants of health. The HWB Board therefore approved a methodology for identifying the concise list of 'Key Neighbourhoods' using the seven domains of the Index of Multiple Deprivation; which includes the Children and Young People's sub domain.

As evidence of the validity of this approach, the prioritisation of the 'Key Neighbourhoods' within the HWB Strategy has gained significant traction across the system and will be used to change the way we work with communities and support them to lead the way in improving outcomes locally.

Reference: [Item 5 - HWS Highlight Report including Confirming the Priority Populations of Geography.pdf \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/833951/loD2019_Technical_Report.pdf

KEVIN DEANUS, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

15. EBER KINGTON (EWELL COURT, AURIOL & CUDDINGTON) TO ASK: (2nd Question)

A recent Surrey Police “Call it Out” survey of over 5,000 women, which sought their perception of safety across Surrey, highlighted women’s concerns about the lack of street lighting late at night in urban areas with just 17% of women feeling safe. At a recent meeting, the Police and Crime Commissioner expressed her own concern about this Council’s streetlight switch off policy, emphasizing that decisions to reinstate street lighting to address residents’ concerns lie with Surrey County Council not Surrey Police, and Surrey County Council should not impose a requirement for police support as an extra layer of bureaucracy behind which to hide.

Given the strong feelings of women and many men on night time and lone travel safety, will the Cabinet Member for Highways and Community Resilience put the Council’s current streetlight night-time switch-off policy out to public consultation, to test whether it has the support of more than just the Conservative Group on this Council?

RESPONSE:

The County Council always takes resident safety seriously, and much work was undertaken prior to the introduction of the part-night lighting, in order to ensure it was introduced in a manner consistent with this need to maintain the safety of our communities. Part-night lighting is not universal across the county and only applies to a limited number of roads from 1am. All town centres are excluded from the scheme, as are busy roads.

When the changes were first introduced, there were several requests for lights to be switched back on, and as a result of this feedback, some minor policy changes were made – such as ensuring all lights near and around railway stations stay on until local rail services finish. The process for considering further requests was agreed with Surrey Police and helped to ensure a consistent approach is applied across the County.

The benefits of part night lighting are not limited to saving the Surrey taxpayer money in energy costs; in fact, it plays a role in contributing to our wider Greener Futures ambitions. In 2021/22, the scheme saved 268 tonnes of carbon dioxide, the equivalent emissions estimated from over 370 average homes. The County Council will always look at developments in the industry and where they will benefit our residents, embrace these. For example, we are nearing completion of our LED conversion, upgrading approximately 90,000 streetlights to the latest and most efficient technology.

However, once the LED conversion is complete, the County Council will review part-night lighting, giving consideration to environmental and safety grounds in addition to financial benefits.

KEVIN DEANUS, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

**16. ROBERT EVANS (STANWELL AND STANWELL MOOR) TO ASK:
(2nd Question)**

- A. What lessons has the County Council learnt from the recent flooding incidents across Surrey?
- B. What measures are being put in place to coordinate the work of the different agencies involved to alleviate future such problems?

RESPONSE:

- A. The importance of the relevant authorities working together to respond to instances of flooding in a coordinated way has been a lesson learnt from previous floods and is an essential part of ensuring residents are kept safe and are supported during and after such events. This was again highlighted during the recent flooding incidents across Surrey during October and November where the County Council, Borough and District Councils, the Environment Agency and Thames Water worked together in response to flooding and in communicating with residents. We aim to continually improve this approach, and there will be further discussions with the Local Resilience Forum in the coming weeks.

As the lead local flood authority (LLFA) for Surrey, Surrey County Council will be carrying out investigations into a number of the recent flooding incidents. Under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, we have a duty to publish reports of investigations of flood incidents. These investigations record which authorities have powers and if they intend to use these powers to reduce the risk of flooding. Where required, these investigations are being undertaken by the Flood and Climate Resilience Team, and any lessons or recommendations identified will be published and discussed with the relevant partners.

- B. One area of concern identified relates to the notification of the Flood Alerts and Warnings to partners. It was felt the Environment Agency in the Kent and South London area covering the east of the county did not follow the agreed process for notification to Local Resilience Forum partners. This is being treated as an urgent issue by all parties involved, including colleagues in the Environment Agency, and a meeting is planned for the 15th December 2022 to look at the causes and actions required to address the notification to partners. This is seen as important as these notifications to residents and agencies are the trigger for those living or working in areas with a known risk of flooding to take action to protect their homes and property.

Additionally, internal teams are using the recent storms as examples to identify areas where they can better coordinate their work.

TIM OLIVER, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

**17. WILL FORSTER (WOKING SOUTH) TO ASK:
(2nd Question)**

As of 2 December 2022, the Council has not yet published data for the year 2021-22 on (1) remuneration details for managers levels 1-3 and (2) the number of employees earning over £50,000.

As publication is a statutory requirement, would the Leader please (1) advise why this information is not yet available and (2) commit to its publication without further delay.

RESPONSE:

There was an IT error which caused a delay. The team have corrected this now and this information can be found online: [Senior Salaries | Surrey-i \(surreyi.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreyi.gov.uk/senior-salaries)

To note our full Statement of Accounts for 2021/22 is on our website, and this information can also be found on pages 86-89: [Surrey County Council Statement of Accounts 2021/22 \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/statement-of-accounts-2021-22)

MARK NUTI, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULTS AND HEALTH

**18. LANCE SPENCER (GOLDSWORTH EAST AND HORSELL VILLAGE) TO ASK:
(2nd Question)**

There appears to be significant delays in adults being assessed for Autism. A current example is where an adult has been advised the wait for assessment will be three years.

What action can Surrey County Council take to get Autism assessments expedited for residents, and what support can they provide in the interim where extensive delays are expected.

RESPONSE:

We believe the question raised regarding significant delays in adults being assessed for Autism refers to the length of time it takes for an adult to receive a diagnosis of Autism. Responsibility for diagnosis sits with Surrey & Borders Partnership Trust, who are commissioned by the ICS, and as a system we are looking to address delays.

Jacqui Renfree, Associate Director for Learning Disabilities at Surrey & Borders, has provided the following information:

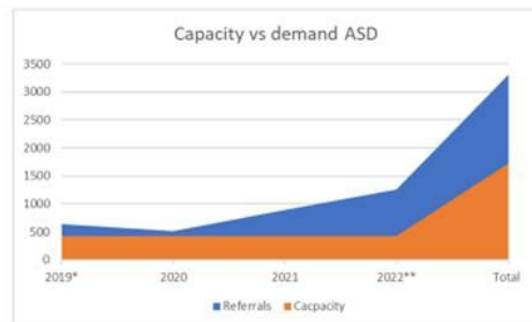
Please see data below that has been collated with Health Dynamics as part of a deep dive ... SABP are currently contacting people referred in November 2019 to offer an assessment appointment, there are approximately 2600 people on their waiting list and about 250 referrals still to be processed.

Capacity vs demand ASD Surrey

(Slides from the June 2022 workshop)

- 2019* based on 9 month average referral rate added for 3 months as a trend added to actual rate
- 2022* based on first three month average for 9 months as trend added to actual rate

	Referrals	Capacity
2019*	638	432
2020	520	432
2021	891	432
2022**	1262	432
Total	3311	1728

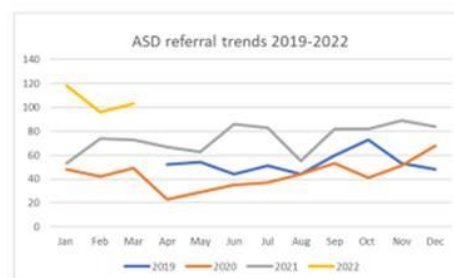


BOB Methodology developed by Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire Joint Integrated Care System in partnership with Health Dynamics

ASD referral trends 2019-2022

(Slides from the June 2022 workshop)

- Referral rates have almost increased 3 fold since 2019
- Capacity has not increased at the same rate. (current capacity 36 per month in Surrey)
- Post covid increase significant
- Unclear why
- Some waiting will not just be ASD but other NDD also
- Increase in MH needs will also be factor



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	
2019					52	54	44	51	44	60	73	53	48	479
2020	48	42	49	23	29	35	37	44	53	41	51	68	520	
2021	53	74	73	67	63	86	83	55	82	82	89	84	891	
2022	118	96	103										317	

BOB Methodology developed by Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire Joint Integrated Care System in partnership with Health Dynamics

In relation to people with a confirmed diagnosis of Autism experiencing a delay in receiving an Adult Social Care Assessment, we do have people waiting for assessments, but the wait is likely to be no more than 6 months and will be prioritised based on need and risk. Individuals receive advice from duty and are signposted to other services in the interim.

SINEAD MOONEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

19. JONATHAN ESSEX (REDHILL EAST) TO ASK: (2nd Question)

- A. Will the County Council commit that at least 50% of housing developed on Surrey County Council sites sold for development will be for social rental?
- B. Building on the commitment for at least 50% to be social housing in the earlier joint venture with Places for People and the recognition of the need for homes for social rental, is building for social rental in the emerging housing strategy?

RESPONSE:

- A. Affordable Housing policies, and how the allocation is split between the typologies of affordable housing, are determined by the Local Planning Authority within each of the eleven District and Borough Councils (D&Bs) across the county. Surrey County Council supports and abides with Local Planning Authority Affordable Housing policies, which range from 30 - 40% of developments across the District and Borough Councils.
- B. The strategic priorities for action arising from the baseline assessment and engagement work on housing, accommodation and homes are under development. The baseline assessment indicated that the availability of low-cost, affordable housing was a key issue in Surrey.

CLARE CURRAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING

20. CATHERINE BAART (EARLSWOOD AND REIGATE SOUTH) TO ASK: (2nd Question)

At the Council meeting in March it was confirmed that 67% of annual EHCP reviews were up to date or due that month, but that due to data recording quality issues this was thought to be an underestimate. Please provide latest figures to show:

- A. The number and % of annual EHCP reviews which are now up to date, or due this month;
- B. for EHCP reviews not up to date, a breakdown of how far outside the legal time limits they are; and
- C. the number and % of first time EHCP requests received since March 2022 which have been completed within time limits, and a breakdown of those EHCP requests not completed within time limits.

RESPONSE:

- A. At the start of the term our data showed that 59% of plans had an up-to-date annual review in place or were due within the next month (6,445 of 10,963). This is a reduction which reflects the availability of staff over the summer period.

Successful recent recruitment should lead to an improvement in this area by the end of this term.

- B. The statutory expectation is that all plans are reviewed annually. Of the 4517 plans that were overdue (41% of plans due an annual review), 2566 were overdue by 6 months or less (23% of annual reviews due), which means that we had completed 9011 (82%) of annual reviews on time or within 18 months. There were 1849 (17%) more than 6 months overdue.
- C. The cumulative percentage of plans completed within 20 weeks from January to August 2022 was 37%. The transfer of data from Capita One to EYES means that it is not yet possible to report on the Sept – November 2022 period. It is planned for this transfer to be completed by the end of December 2022 to enable full reporting for the period from the new year.

DENISE TURNER-STEWART, DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

**21. CATHERINE POWELL (FARNHAM NORTH) TO ASK:
(3rd Question)**

Surrey County Council is now funding 4 LACs (Local Area Co-ordinators) across Surrey, three in Surrey Heartlands and one in Frimley, see Table 1 below.

Table 1

Area	Lowest Decile LSOA locally	National Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Decile	National Health Deprivation and Disability Decile	Electoral Division	Councillor
Sheerwater	Woking 004F	2	3	Woking North	Riasat Khan
Hurst Green	Tandridge 007D	5	7	Oxted	Cameron McIntosh
Horley	Reigate and Banstead 018D	3	3	Horley East	Jordan Beech
Old Dean and St Michaels	Surrey Heath 004C	4	7	Camberley East	Trefor Hogg

An analysis of the data seems to show that there are many other areas that rank lower in terms of Health Deprivation and Disabilities. See the Table 2 below.

Table 2

Surrey Rank	Surrey Decile	LSOA	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Score	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Rank (where 1 is most deprived)	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)	Health Deprivation and Disability Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)	
1	1	Reigate and Banstead 008A	38.264	4800	2	2	
2	1	Woking 004F	34.717	5986	2	3	LAC appointed
3	1	Guildford 012D	33.561	6441	2	3	
4	1	Guildford 007C	33.315	6539	2	4	
5	1	Spelthorne 001B	33.008	6666	3	4	
6	1	Mole Valley 011D	32.548	6862	3	4	
7	1	Reigate and Banstead 005A	31.854	7138	3	3	
8	1	Epsom and Ewell 007A	31.234	7437	3	4	
9	1	Spelthorne 002C	30.438	7818	3	3	
10	1	Woking 005B	30.347	7871	3	3	
11	1	Runnymede 002F	30.31	7886	3	3	
12	1	Elmbridge 004B	29.583	8212	3	7	
13	1	Reigate and Banstead 018D	29.554	8231	3	3	LAC appointed
14	1	Waverley 002E	27.928	9080	3	4	
15	1	Spelthorne 001C	27.703	9197	3	6	
16	1	Waverley 010A	27.64	9226	3	5	
17	1	Runnymede 006D	26.978	9605	3	4	
18	1	Reigate and Banstead 010E	26.605	9830	3	3	
19	1	Guildford 010C	26.597	9840	3	4	
20	1	Runnymede 007D	26.272	10002	4	5	
21	1	Spelthorne 008E	26.25	10013	4	4	
22	1	Spelthorne 008B	26.229	10033	4	4	
23	1	Spelthorne 005B	26.131	10099	4	5	
24	1	Epsom and Ewell 002C	26.117	10110	4	7	
25	1	Reigate and Banstead 015E	26.002	10192	4	5	
26	1	Surrey Heath 008A	25.985	10201	4	3	
27	1	Elmbridge 004D	25.852	10279	4	5	
28	1	Elmbridge 008A	25.749	10336	4	6	
29	1	Tandridge 011A	25.504	10469	4	7	
30	1	Elmbridge 017D	25.263	10607	4	9	
31	1	Reigate and Banstead 016E	25.253	10617	4	5	
32	1	Epsom and Ewell 005A	24.795	10887	4	5	
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37	1	Guildford 005E	23.776	11520	4	5	
38	1	Woking 004B	23.769	11525	4	5	
39	1	Tandridge 009A	23.621	11615	4	5	
40	1	Spelthorne 008C	23.562	11650	4	7	
41	1	Spelthorne 002A	23.549	11655	4	8	
42	1	Waverley 005C	23.51	11686	4	5	
43	1	Tandridge 008D	23.375	11778	4	8	
44	1	Spelthorne 007B	23.252	11885	4	7	
45	1	Runnymede 009A	23.062	12009	4	6	
46	1	Reigate and Banstead 005C	23.053	12018	4	4	
47	1	Surrey Heath 008F	22.985	12062	4	6	
48	1	Reigate and Banstead 008C	22.933	12101	4	3	
49	1	Tandridge 009D	22.483	12399	4	5	
50	1	Reigate and Banstead 005B	22.388	12474	4	5	
51	1	Spelthorne 001A	22.329	12517	4	6	
52	1	Reigate and Banstead 010A	22.091	12706	4	4	
53	1	Spelthorne 007C	22.051	12737	4	5	
54	1	Mole Valley 003D	22.047	12740	4	3	
55	1	Spelthorne 001D	22.007	12768	4	7	
56	1	Guildford 007A	21.973	12797	4	5	
57	1	Tandridge 012A	21.685	13009	4	7	
58	1	Runnymede 003B	21.65	13040	4	4	
59	1	Elmbridge 003D	21.632	13059	4	5	
60	1	Woking 004D	21.595	13097	4	5	

As I understand it Surrey County Council is now looking to Surrey Heartlands and Frimley to fund a similar number of LAC posts.

Please can you advise one what basis these locations where chosen?

RESPONSE:

We have been introducing local area coordination in four initial areas of the county with transformation funding. This approach has a robust evidence base showing its positive impact for residents at risk of being left behind. Positive stories are already emerging in Surrey about how local area coordination is complementing existing local support and services.

We wanted to target the approach in some key areas of the county, with a view to expanding to other areas where partnership funding and support make this feasible.

In determining the initial locations, several important factors were carefully considered. This included the Health and Wellbeing Key Neighbourhoods, data on health, disability and deprivation, as well as local insight and intelligence gleaned from people working in local areas (including SCC staff, GPs, local councillors, district/borough teams)

As this approach is very much a partnership endeavour, we also take into consideration where partners express a clear interest in implementing and embedding this approach.

CLARE CURRAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING

22. WILL FORSTER (WOKING SOUTH) TO ASK: (3rd Question)

A recent report to Cabinet on schools' budgets confirmed that the Education Safety Valve includes a requirement to transfer of 1.0% of the total Schools budget (estimated at £7.8m) to the high needs block to support that agreement. The same report also states that the Schools' Forum had expressed concerns that this was "unaffordable in the current climate".

Will the Cabinet Member set out how this funding reduction will impact Surrey's schools whose budgets are already under extreme pressure?

RESPONSE:

The proposed 1% Schools Block transfer is expected to contribute £7.8m towards the High Needs Block deficit. The specific proposals for Surrey's 2023/24 1% Schools Block Transfer are:

- Maintain the National Funding Formula (NFF) minimum per pupil funding level
- Set the minimum funding guarantee (MFG) at the maximum permissible level of 0.5%
- Pass on the extra 1.9% increase in deprivation factors in the NFF i.e. deprivation factors would increase by 1.9% more than non-deprivation factors
- Use a ceiling to offset any cost increases which become apparent in December due to data updates in the Oct 2022 data

All mainstream schools were supplied with illustrations of the impact of the options considered for delivering the block transfer (as described above) plus an illustration of a funding scenario without a block transfer, but otherwise with the same principles (i.e. maximum level of MFG, 1.9% higher increase in deprivation factors).

The headline from consultation with Surrey Schools is that from a response rate of 29% (114 schools), Surrey Schools voted against the proposed 1% block transfer (by 61-49). Surrey Schools Forum noted that it is not a decision for Schools Forum but noted the consultation outcome. In principle support for a block transfer was voiced by Forum members but the transfer was considered to be unaffordable in the current schools' funding and economic context which has notably worsened since the Safety Valve agreement was signed. At its meeting on 29 November, Cabinet agreed the recommendation to approve the proposed transfer, subject to the necessary confirmation from the Secretary of State.

Since this consultation took place, in his Autumn Statement, the Chancellor announced an additional £2.3bn of funding for schools in both 2023/24 and 2024/25 to reflect the additional cost pressures being experienced. Full details of what this will mean for Surrey Schools are expected in late December, but this funding will be over and above the proposed formulae approved by Cabinet.

NATALIE BRAMHALL, CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY AND WASTE

23. JONATHAN ESSEX (REDHILL EAST) TO ASK: (3rd Question)

Please confirm the status of the Eco Park sinking fund, and whether the Council has received the full grant payments due for the Eco Park from the government?

RESPONSE:

The Council holds an allocated reserve against possible future waste management costs. The current value of that fund is just over £22m. The Council's waste PFI contract has received government support from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) in the form of Waste Infrastructure Grant payments (previously called 'PFI Credits') since its inception. By mutual agreement, grant payments were suspended while the Eco Park was developed, and they currently remain suspended. The Council is in ongoing discussions with DEFRA regarding those unpaid grant payments.

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CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Denise Turner Stewart

PORTFOLIO: Deputy Leader, and Communities and Community Safety

In the current climate, residents are vulnerable to both direct and indirect consequences of the cost-of-living crisis and our services have been working together, and with partners, to support and protect communities.

Trading Standards: continues to deliver award-winning scam prevention initiative *Friends Against Scams* and has trained over 22,000 people, recently to include awareness of modern slavery and loan sharks. Over £1.3m has been saved for residents in the first six months of the year, and in the latest two successful convictions of fraudulent traders, over £300,000 was returned to residents with custodial sentences for the fraudsters. The service has installed 507 telephone call blockers, and 43 doorbell cameras, protecting the most vulnerable and blocking over 25,000 scam and nuisance calls already this year. Information on Christmas scams has also been made available to residents on Surrey County Council's (SCC's) website [here](#). Over 40,000 unsafe products have been removed from the marketplace and over 70,000 illicit cigarettes and illegal vapes seized, also helping to support legitimate businesses.

Libraries: are supporting residents with their 'Warm Welcome'; a universal offer providing tea, coffee and activities in the library allowing people to stay there to keep warm. Free wash kits will be available for anyone struggling to buy necessities, supporting our period dignity initiative. Two digital support workers are now on board to provide extra resource in libraries; working alongside staff and our digital buddies, they will support communities and ensure we continue to promote services from relevant organisations including Citizen's Advice, signpost to local organisations including food banks, and, through the Family Information Service and MoneyHelper online. Some libraries will also include desks from local banks to provide residents who may be digitally excluded with in-person support. In addition to the Warm Welcome, 17 selected libraries will offer enhanced Warm Hubs, providing additional volunteer-run advice sessions on saving energy, home insulation etc. This second offer has been advertised on the SCC website and is in the Directory of Support distributed to all homes in Surrey.

Surrey Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS): are working closely with Trading Standards and will be issuing messages around buying counterfeit appliances, which can be fire hazards, and running electric blanket testing sessions in Ewell, Staines, and Redhill, sharing safety advice and information. The service has launched a Cost-of-Living campaign working closely with the Fire Investigation and wider Community Safety Team to promote the safe use of household appliances and safe home heating. The campaign aims to prevent an increase in house fires, but it is also signposting to the wider SCC messaging which enables grant funding and other money saving tips. SFRS are working with a range of community groups and other SCC services to share these messages, for example a leaflet will be in all of the Warm Hub bags with joint messaging from SFRS and Public Health. More information can be found [here](#) in a Surrey Matters podcast for residents including energy saving advice, home heating safety and scam awareness. SFRS will also attend the majority of the Warm Hub sessions run by libraries, with a visible physical presence to promote and support home fire safety messages to those most vulnerable.

Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS): are working with partners to distribute the Household Support Fund to reach some of our most vulnerable residents. SCC have given Citizens Advice charities an additional £580,000 to ensure welfare, debt, and budgeting advice is ramped up until April 2024. In the last six months they have seen 1800 clients and bought in £500,000 additional income for residents. Charities are struggling with their own inflation challenges, so we have given £130,000 to the Community Foundation for Surrey, match funded, and open to charities to apply to for help with winter pressures.

Community Engagement: have launched new [local area webpages](#) to give residents data about their communities, spotlight events and initiatives taking place, signpost to available funding and connect them with their County Councillor and Community Link Officer (CLO) who can support neighbourhoods to thrive. Our fifth Let's Talk community engagement event took place at the Warm Hub in Merland Rise Church in Reigate and Banstead in November. CLOs were able to support the Warm Hub and help at the food bank held at the same venue earlier that morning. One resident commented, "Really lovely event - appreciate there being activities for kids. The most I've had to do with the council - a lovely bunch, who clearly care about the community". A further six Let's Talk events are planned in Key Neighbourhoods between January and March 2023. I visited Ripley Village Hall in Guildford and the Old Woking Community Centre this month. Both have received Your Fund Surrey grants to carry out much needed improvements. I encourage County Councillors who have not yet fully used their Members' Community Allocation to consider supporting initiatives that address the cost-of-living challenges and help ensure no-one is left behind.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Rebecca Paul

PORTFOLIO: Levelling Up

County Deal Update: The County Deal for Surrey report was brought to Cabinet in October, outlining a core set of proposals being recommended for inclusion in Surrey's County Deal. The core proposals were approved by Cabinet, who also endorsed the Council's plan to begin preparations for the integration of Surrey-wide Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) functions and explore appropriate governance arrangements for each of the proposals. Discussions with local government partners will continue to ensure that all residents, partners, and stakeholders benefit from a County Deal for Surrey.

The announcement of Suffolk, Norfolk, Cornwall, and Northeast England County Deals being agreed, or in the late stages of negotiations, during the government's Autumn Statement reaffirms their commitment to progress devolution across the country. Surrey County Council will continue to work with partners to develop the details of a County Deal for Surrey ahead of an invitation to begin negotiations with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

Update on Levelling Up Data Metrics: Work is underway to examine how to implement various alternative national frameworks for Levelling Up metrics into the Surrey context. Finding a practical framework of metrics is fundamental to ensure that we can measure inequalities in our county and help guide evidence-based decision-making on interventions and investments. We have determined that no set framework is ideal, and instead we are looking to develop a bespoke set of consistent measures for Surrey, based on the kinds of information and hard data we can obtain at an appropriately local level.

These will be deliberately tied to areas of focus for inequalities and barriers to achieving potential, and directorates have been asked to make the case for the focus areas on which make the most impact. Bringing together these two strands of work early in the new year will enable Cabinet to prioritise specific policy interventions in the focus areas, which will ultimately lead to change we can measure consistently year-on-year.

Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Update - Results of Home Office Accessibility Audit: Over the summer the Surrey County Council website was subject to a website accessibility audit by the Cabinet Office. We are pleased to report that our response to the audit has been accepted and the audit closed. Cabinet Office have, however, reminded us that the website may still be subject to further audit in future and that we must stay compliant with regulations going forward, including new, stricter regulations that are due to come into force shortly.

In order to ensure this, we have employed a short-term post of Project Manager for the Digital Accessibility Project. The post holder will review progress so far, ensure we are prepared to meet the new accessibility regulations, and work across the Council to ensure we continue to make progress. This will include reviewing training for staff, making sure that future web content is created in accessible formats, and working with procurement and IT colleagues to improve processes so that when we purchase new third party systems and applications that they also meet the required standards.

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: David Lewis

PORTFOLIO: Finance and Resources

2022/23 Budget Update: At Month 7, the Council is forecasting a deficit of £24.7m against Directorate revenue budgets. It is recognised that the economic climate and rising inflation provides significant challenge to the delivery of our services within available budget and the impacts of these are being monitored closely. Due to the scale of the forecast overspend, Budget Recovery Plans are being developed within Directorates and to date £8.5m of mitigations have been put in place and are included in the above forecast position. Cabinet Members will continue to work with Directorates and Finance to mitigate the budget position. The Capital Programme spend forecast at M7 is £221.8m, an overachievement of £6m against the budget. This is the net effect of acceleration in some areas and slippage against other schemes. The capital budget will be re-set at month 9 to reflect additional capital approvals made by Cabinet and revised profiling projections. The main drivers of the forecast revenue overspend position relate to Home to School Travel Assistance (H2STA) and demand/cost pressures in Adults Social Care (ASC).

H2STA: The projected overspend has decreased by £2m this month to £13m. It relates to demand pressures from continuing increases in Education and Health Care Plans, although these have not translated into similar increases in pupil numbers using the more expensive vehicles, resulting in the forecast overspend for the full year beginning to decline, compounded by high fuel costs and other inflationary pressures. A H2STA Improvement Programme has been set up with an Oversight Board chaired by the Cabinet Member, to drive progress and ensure clear action plans and accountability.

ASC: A £5m overspend relates to pressure on the care package budget of £15.2m due to forecast non-achievement of efficiencies relating to market pressures and capacity challenges (for which the service is working on mitigations), increased costs of care, in part due to higher acuity of care needs, growing post pandemic demand and rising assessed fees & charges debt. This is offset by underspends in other areas of £3.8m (mainly relating to staffing underspends) and the Directorates budget recovery plan which equates to £6.4m.

2023/24 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy to 2027/28: The Draft budget was agreed by Cabinet on 29 November. There are a number of specific challenges faced by the Council in setting next year's budget, including high inflation, the impact of policy changes, continued demand for services and the cost-of-living crisis. While the Autumn Statement provided insight into the level of funding, we can expect next year details and confirmed amounts will not be available until the Local Government Finance Settlement expected on 21 December. Despite the identification of a significant level of efficiencies, the Draft Budget set out a remaining budget gap to close of £14.4m for 23/24, rising over the medium term. Scrutiny of the draft budget proposals by Select Committees is taking place in early December and a consultation with residents is also live. The final budget will be presented to Cabinet and Council in January and February 2023 respectively.

New External Auditors: Under the recent national procurement exercise undertaken by Public Sector Audit Appointment (PSAA), the Council's external auditor will change to Ernst & Young from 2023/24 for a five-year period. Scale fees for 2023/24 will be confirmed in November 2023 after consultation. A significant increase in fees is anticipated for the 2022/23 audit, reflecting the significant tensions and pressures in the wider audit market and evolving arrangements in the local audit system.

Internal Audit: At the end of the second quarter Orbis Internal Audit had completed 53% of its annual plan. Two Partial Assurance audits were reported in November (Planning, and performance metrics with Pension Administration), both with agreed action to address the weaknesses identified. The Audit & Governance Committee received a summary of all the audits completed in the quarter, alongside grant certification, school audits, and counter-fraud activity. In January the Chief Internal Auditor will report to A & G Committee on the outcome of recent assessment against professional standards.

Digital Business & Insights (DB&I): The programme to replace our ERP has been replanned with a new go live date of June 2023. The replan has taken account of both the lessons learnt so far, and work completed.

Digital: Further work has been undertaken to embed the Digital model which consists of sequential stages: engagement, discovery, design, development, and delivery. This model aims to bring together existing organisational change practices with human centre design techniques to modernise and enhance service delivery through innovative uses of digital, data and technology.

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Natalie Bramhall

PORTFOLIO: Property and Waste

CAPITAL PROJECTS:

- **Caterham Downs** - The project which successfully transformed a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community (GRT) site back to Countryside was awarded a prestigious Gold International Green Apple Award.
- **Children's Homes** - Epsom and Walton are on schedule to complete in February 2023.
- **SBN** - Delivery of 3 key projects at Oakwood, Cranleigh and Buckland providing 243 places will complete end of this year.
- **Reigate Priory Junior School** - Planning application submitted to Reg 3. Targeted for January 2023 Planning and Regulatory Committee.
- **St Peters and St Pauls CE Primary** - Application to December Planning and Regulatory Committee.
- **SFRS** - New Stations at Lingfield and Chobham to December Cabinet.
- **SFRS Fire House and Training Facility** - Approved by Property Panel, design and costing underway.
- **Hubs: Sunbury** - public engagement event to be held in December.
- **Weybridge** - design work continues.
- **Staines** - formally confirmed as a hub, the design process continues.
- **Pendell GRT Site** - In response to planning application, Reg 3 have confirmed several considerations with preliminary advice that the application is finely balanced. Target January 2023 Planning and Regulatory Committee.
- **Libraries Transformation Programme** - Design process is underway for five libraries. Investigations continue for cost and delivery timescale reduction opportunities.
- **Extra Care Housing (DBFO)** - Planning application for Pond Meadow under consideration by Reg 3. Tender process for Bentley Centre, Brockhurst, Lakeside, Pinehurst, and Salisbury Road, has initially identified 4 potential bidders.

Property Strategy and Planning: Land and Property, with Corporate Parenting colleagues in Children, Families and Lifelong Learning, have been awarded Department for Education funding of £835k towards the development of a new Children's Home in Dorking, to provide 6 specialist spaces. Works at Ruth House, a specialist residential home in Woking, to refurb sensory and play areas, was successfully completed with the home able to remain fully operational during the works.

Agile Office Estate: Progress continues to modernise and rationalise the Council's corporate office workspace. A report being submitted to Cabinet in December seeks approval for NW and SW quadrants for two, smaller, flexible core workspaces which will ratify the four-hub strategy.

Coroners: The strategic case outlining Service requirements and the case for change has been completed, resulting in the development of two viable solutions to deliver the new mortuary facilities.

Facilities Management: Overall significant progress in addressing the budgetary challenges on reactive spend. Regarding procurement of new contracts, responses to Hard and Soft Services Supplier Questionnaires are being evaluated with a short list of 6 being invited to the ITT stage from December. Timetable for commencement of the new contract is scheduled for October 2023.

Procurement of new Forward Maintenance Replacement (FMR) framework: Commencement in January to coordinate with the new Hard services contract. The Capital Maintenance FMR Programme progresses well, with 51 projects completed this financial year, 29 in construction and an additional 9 being mobilised. Energy Management initiatives are in progress to reduce energy consumption in highest using buildings. A 5% reduction against target was achieved YTD across the Corporate office estate.

Property Management: The team is focusing on identifying and progressing surplus declarations and core disposals to deliver capital receipts. This is set against a background of ongoing requests for retention of some assets to support service transformation programmes. For Coxbridge Farm, Farnham marketing has closed for bids on this planned disposal, which has secured several significant bids from major housebuilders well above the forecast. Report to Cabinet will be taken forward in early 2023.

Capital Receipts Programme 2022/23 – 2025/26: Continues to indicate approx. £90m of sales with this financial year now forecasting approx. £44m. Marketing activity for Consort House, Redhill, continues on both

freehold or leasehold basis as we relocate staff to Woodhatch Place. Marketing for Rookery Way, Staines, has commenced on this development site. For Dormers, Caterham, activity is being reviewed with interest from the District Council.

Waste: The Resources and Waste Strategy is expected to alter the way waste is managed. A new interim waste strategy SEP 2025 has been developed by Surrey Environmental Partnership to cover the period until legislative changes take place. This is due to be signed off by end of 2022/23. It focusses on closer working between the County, Districts and Boroughs to improve recycling levels. Surrey Eco Park is now operational, and both the gasifier and anaerobic digester are treating waste to generate electricity and avoid landfill.

In anticipation of both the disaggregation of services away from a single provider and the implementation of the Resources and Waste Strategy, the waste service has developed a *Strategic Infrastructure Plan*. This sets out the proposed activities required to improve resilience to imminent changes in waste policy, provide security of bulking and treatment outlets, reduce the dependency on third-party outsourcing, and ensure value for money. The plan is expected to be presented to Cabinet in March 2023.

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Matt Furniss

PORTFOLIO: Transport, Infrastructure and Growth

Transport: Our Future Bus Network public consultation went live on 3 November. This will help shape what Surrey's bus network will look like, as we need to be more innovative and invest in the right initiatives and places to grow patronage whilst adapting and right sizing the network where post-Covid travel patterns have fundamentally changed. Our Enhanced Partnership with bus operators also went live on 3 November, with an update of our Bus Service Improvement Plan completed for the Department for Transport.

Airports: Gatwick Airport Limited (GAL) carried out a further targeted statutory consultation in Summer 2022, mainly relating to updated road designs for their expansion plans. GAL are proposing to submit their Development Consent Order application for the Gatwick Northern Runway Project to the Planning Inspectorate for examination in March 2023.

Airports including Gatwick, Heathrow, Farnborough and Biggin Hill are continuing their work to deliver redesigned airspace structure and route networks as required by the national Airspace Modernisation Strategy. We are also continuing to make the case for a Southern Rail Link to Heathrow, recently presenting the findings of work commissioned on behalf of Heathrow Strategic Planning Group to the Heathrow Area Transport Forum Conference.

5G Rollout: Against the Government's ambition of 85% gigabit capable coverage by the end of 2025 and 'nationwide' by 2030, Surrey's fixed coverage is tracking well at nearly 76%. The Government's Project Gigabit Programme has been set up to target gaps where there are no gigabit infrastructure plans by commercial providers with procurement timescales for Surrey yet to be confirmed. Alongside this, SCC is entering into agreements to enable installation of 4G/5G small cells on Highways assets to facilitate fast and reliable mobile coverage which will help provide the additional capacity needed in the coming years for things like smart devices, medical sensors, and fitness trackers.

Economic Growth: Work continues across the Economy and Growth programme, with recent activities including a response to Government's call for Investment Zone proposals and the ramping up of activities through the Innovation Working Group.

Skills & Apprenticeships: On 10 November, SCC hosted the inaugural Surrey Skills Summit, bringing together local business leaders, employers, colleges, universities, skills providers, and local government officials to help us take the next step in collaborating to create a more inclusive and dynamic skills system in Surrey. This event was also the backdrop for the launch of the Surrey Skills Plan, developed by Surrey County Council's Skills Leadership Forum on behalf of the One Surrey Growth Board.

The Plan sets out the actions needed to create a demand-driven skills system that will power economic growth. It leverages Surrey's existing advantages in terms of talent, business base and geography while recognising the needs of all businesses and maximising inclusion. Our next steps are to take the priority ambitions and turn them into reality, focusing on key areas of greater business and education collaboration through a Festival of Skills, enhanced careers information and guidance and maximising the role we have as an organisation of scale and scope to positively impact skills and employment outcomes for our residents.

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Kevin Deanus

PORTFOLIO: Highways and Community Resilience

Coroners Services: In 2022, so far, the Coroner's Service has received 2,908 referrals, which is comparable with previous years. The service has historically experienced high staff turnover, which has created challenges in managing referrals, supporting the dependent judicial function and managing contact with families in a timely way. Recognising the importance of having a stable workforce to deliver the best possible experience for bereaved families, six additional Coroner's officers have been recruited into the team over the past six months to reduce the average case load per officer and create increased capacity within the team. We have seen an ongoing improvement in the management of initial referrals. Recent performance statistics show that, on average, these are now allocated to a Coroner's Officer in under two days and, importantly, that families are being contacted within half a day of a referral being made. Referrals to a Coroner for a decision on whether a post-mortem, investigation, or inquest, is needed now also take place in under two day. A shortage of Pathologists remains a national challenge and that, along with hospital mortuary capacity issues, can lead to delays with post-mortems.

Following the decommissioning of the Headley Court temporary mortuary that was established during the pandemic, a new temporary body storage facility has been established in Bagshot. This will be handed over to the service in early December, providing vital additional capacity over the winter months when hospital mortuaries experience increased pressure. This will mean that even if hospital mortuaries are at capacity, people who die within the community and are referred to the Coroner can be stored with dignity and respect while any necessary investigations into the cause of death are undertaken.

Recent Heavy Rain/Flooding: Over the last two months, there have been prolonged periods of rainfall across Surrey with communities across the county experiencing surface water flooding. Communities particularly affected include Haslemere, Stanwell, and Smallfield, although other areas also had issues. We have been working alongside other organisations to respond to these instances of flooding and the focus of officers is now on carrying out investigations into the circumstances, meeting with residents to gather information.

Work continues in delivering Property Flood Resilience (PFR) measures to individual properties in the Caterham on the Hill area as part of our capital investment following the devastating floods in 2016. The natural flood management project in Horsell Common is nearing completion which has seen the construction of new wetland areas which help reduce flood risk in Woking. The scheme is also creating an amazing new habitat made up of three large ponds for wildlife and recycled plastic boardwalks for increased public access for education and recreation as well as improving a popular commuting route.

The River Thames Scheme project team has been holding public consultation events in Runnymede, Spelthorne and Elmbridge which will run until 20 December. These events have given residents the opportunity to find out more about the scheme but also to have their say on what they would like to see included as part of the scheme in terms of green open space, recreation, active travel, and environment. It has also attracted media coverage including from BBC London News: [England's largest flood defence scheme begins - YouTube](#). This highlights the multiple opportunities that come with the scheme as well as the discovery of a rare mayfly identified during environmental surveys that are taking place ([River Thames: Rare species found as flood defences considered - BBC News](#)).

Emergency Management and Resilience Team: The direction for planning for the organisation's resilience has shifted to the risks and threats for the winter period focusing on the likelihood of severe weather events linked to a changing climate and the global financial crisis.

This includes, but is not limited, to the following areas of work:

- The cost of living for our staff and residents
- Industrial action affecting delivery of a Group A service to residents
- Risk to utility supply, focusing on electricity provision
- Extreme weather including flooding and storms
- Ongoing impacts from COVID-19 and other seasonal respiratory diseases
- Any new restrictions for avian flu and the ongoing risk of outbreaks in wild and domestic flocks
- The risk of continued protracted and concurrent incidents

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Jordan Beech

PORTFOLIO: Highways

LED rollout: The rollout continues successfully with over 76,000 units converted by the end of August. Works continue and despite there being a worldwide shortage of some of the electrical components, we are on target to complete the project in spring 23. The average energy saving per converted lantern is 70%, with an excess of 3200 tonnes of carbon saved so far.

Road and Pavement Programme Update: The planned maintenance programmes for roads and pavements is still in progress. This financial year to date we have designed and delivered almost 300 schemes, including major road resurfacing, patching, local structural repairs, surface treatments and pavement works. The team have worked incredibly hard alongside our new term maintenance contractor and are now starting to design and prepare for next year's planned maintenance programme.

Parking Enforcement: The current parking enforcement agency agreements with District and Borough (D&B) councils are ending March 2023 and from April 2023 parking enforcement will be managed jointly by Surrey County Council and a new service provider. The changes, utilising a single countywide enforcement contract, are intended to bring about a more effective service across the county for a more competitive cost than that provided by the existing nine district and borough teams.

Preparations for the changes are making good progress, on the 20 December, Cabinet will be considering the award of a contract following a successful procurement process that took place in the Autumn. Contract mobilisation will begin from January with detailed preparations being made during February and March. Discussions are currently taking place with the current D&B enforcement teams to help ensure a smooth transition of the service from April next year. Existing enforcement staff could be transferred from them to either SCC or the new service provider depending on their work activities, with their pay and conditions protected by TUPE regulations. More detailed communications about the changes for staff, Members and Surrey residents will start from January when the new service provider is appointed.

Environmental Maintenance: Officers have identified the most appropriate contractors to take over the service and provide a smooth transition from April 2023 – it is expected formal orders will be issued in the next few weeks. Our website will be updated to ensure residents know who to contact if they have any concerns. Bi-weekly communications continue to be issues to all District and Boroughs to help ensure all parties are kept up to date with officers having had productive conversations with them. They are working to finalise details such as maps of areas to cut and potential staffing transfer. Discussions have also taken place with both Surrey County Council procurement and a range of contractors from one of our existing framework contracts

Preparing for Winter: The last winter season finished in April, and Surrey Officers have been working with our new Ringway colleagues throughout the summer maintaining equipment and preparing for this coming season. On the weekend of 22 October, Ringway undertook driver training and familiarisation with their runs. Salt deliveries have been delivered through the summer and all 4 salt barns are full with 12,600 ton of salt. Our 1,800 grit bins have been inspected through the summer and the main fills have been completed, with a follow up phase of works in progress (which includes any outstanding member funded bins). Each of our farmer and third party partners has been contacted and arrangements made for their ploughs to be maintained and for salt to be delivered. Salt deliveries to the eleven Districts and Boroughs have also been arranged so they can support efforts to keep the network safe from snow and ice. The Ringway operations team are monitoring forecasts and the first gritting runs have taken place.

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Marisa Heath

PORTFOLIO: Environment

Local Nature Recovery Strategies: I am very excited about the Council's new responsibility under the Environment Act to lead on developing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy and the work ahead of us through this strategy to establish priorities for nature and map these across the county, through a collaborative and evidence-based process over the next twelve months. The strategy aims to make spaces for nature bigger, better, and more joined up. This is a significant opportunity, with Biodiversity Net Gain in planning and the transition to the new farming outcome-based incentive payment schemes known as ELMs (Environmental Land Management Schemes), being the key funding and delivery mechanisms for the strategy.

Conservation: The Council has been working with Natural England to explore designating a new Super National Nature Reserve in West Surrey to protect Surrey's extended areas of heathland habitat outside the Thames Basin Heaths area which is a vital habitat for ground nesting birds and other heathland habitats in Surrey are protected at an international level. Heathlands are prone to bush fires during episodes of extreme heat as Surrey experienced this summer. The project will test the viability of 'wetting up' or raising the water levels on heath to provide it with a greater level of protection from fires.

Restoration: The Council continue to support Surrey Wildlife Trust to conduct important conservation work on the protected land it owns. 98% of the sites are in favourable or improving condition which is testament to the conscientious work carried out by the Trust. Volunteers from the Council's Green Champions Network will be helping with conservation work on the Basingstoke Canal this month to clear pennywort, a highly invasive non-native floating plant that can grow up to 20cm a day drawing light and oxygen from the canal's wildlife. A cross Council team has also been working with Contractors to restore a brownfield site at Caterham Downs to clean the soil and restore over two acres of chalk downland and has won a Green Apple award for its results.

Increasing Biodiversity: The Horsell Common project has seen the construction of new wetlands which help reduce flood risk in Woking as well as an amazing new habitat made up of three large ponds and a wooden boardwalk for increased public access for recreation which improves a popular commuting route. The works are planned to be complete this Autumn. The service manages the grounds of over 260 operational sites of which over six hectares of land has been set aside for meadow creation. Next year this will be extended to plant or restore hedges on site.

Climate Change and Adaption Strategy: Although the existing Surrey Climate Change Strategy and Greener Futures programmes acknowledge the need for climate change resilience it is important that we work with our partners to develop a collective strategy and action plan to ensure Surrey adapts to the already changing climate.

This strategy is under development, being written in-house by two key Climate Change Adaptation specialists, with a draft due in early 2023. A strategic cross-sectoral workshop has taken place this month at the WWF Living Planet Centre with key technical officers from SCC, Districts and Boroughs and lead partner organisations. Below is the word-cloud from participants regarding what they would like to see Surrey be like in 2050:

- The Strategy is identifying high level pathways to ensure that we are resilient and adapting to increased flooding, droughts, heatwaves, wildfires, and other knock-on impacts, such as food security, disease burden and impacts on agriculture and other sectors. High level discussions on trade-offs and financing will need to take place in the coming years. Strong governance, and partnerships will be key in ensuring that we can work collectively across organisations to ensure a resilient and climate adapted Surrey into the future.
- An Action Plan will be included with the Strategy and across SCC directorates more detailed risk assessments will need to take place.
- This work was further outlined during the recent Members Seminar on Monday 28 November.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Paul Deach

PORTFOLIO: Environment

Communication & Engagement: Communications activities have most recently been focused on support for residents amid the cost-of-living crisis and using this engagement to also deliver greener future objectives. Campaigns have featured energy saving tips, promotion of the sustainable warmth grant and the launch of warm hubs. The objectives of these campaigns are to:

- Mitigate the impact of inflation and cost of living for Surrey's residents, particularly those most at risk of food and fuel poverty over the winter
- Increase resident understanding of financial and welfare support available
- Increase uptake of, and access to, support available
- Encourage behaviour change to reduce bills, protect the environment, improve health & wellbeing
- Increase awareness of SCC support and delivery.

A broad range of communication channels have been used to deliver messages including media, social media, google advertising, articles in D&B/Parish and other magazines, our website, hard-copy publicity materials in food banks, libraries, GPs etc and advertising at shopping centres, railway stations and bus stops. Some recent communication highlights:

- **Sustainable Warmth Grant** – Following distribution of a Directory of Support to every Surrey household and 45, 000 flyers to targeted locations, calls to Action Surrey about the grant rose by a third in just 5 days and have continued to grow. Additionally, 15, 000 people have been reached so far on social media. The response is well-beyond what is expected at this stage.
- **Warm Hubs** – while it is early days for warm hubs, over 6, 600 people have seen our social media posts and 362 have clicked through for more information already.
- **Greener Matters Newsletter** – recently re-branded and promoted. This has led to a 113% increase in subscribers.
- Promoting this weekend's tree giveaway at selected libraries has so far been seen by over 32,000 people on Facebook alone.
- Highlighting our work at Horsell Common in Woking to alleviate flooding which was featured on BBC Surrey and in the Woking News and Mail.

Land Management: The Council owns 17 farms, and the service has recently been asked by the Property team to help support positive outcomes for both farmers and natural capital. A more sustainable approach to land management is being trialled on at least five of our farms by adopting regenerative farming practices and reviewing the investment potential with tenant farmers for projects such as solar panels and anaerobic digestion.

At Norbury Park we have agreed a vision for the estate which prioritises maximising natural capital in the park. The vision will now be followed by the collation of data to support a holistic approach to land management which enables growth in its carbon sequestration and nature conservation value to drive a new approach to decision making which favours investment in natural capital as well as increasing farmer's income from new market schemes such as carbon credits and biodiversity net gain, and new food markets such plant-based protein.

Our Target to Plant 1.2 million Trees: The Council continues to make excellent progress in its ambition to plant a tree for every resident by 2030. In 2021/22, £296,000 funding was secured and over 90,000 trees were planted in Surrey. This year we secured £448,000 in match funding to plant a further 108,000 trees and by the end of 2024, we are estimating we'll have over 540,000 trees planted in Surrey.

Newlands Corner: This year the service has completed the refurbishment of the Discovery Centre at Newlands Corner which provides electronic displays on nature and recreation at all SCC's Countryside Sites. Next year, new features will include a section on the ancient yew trees at Newlands Corner and how visitors can support their protection. The service has also been working in partnership with the Council's Youth Teams to reopen the Sawmill at Norbury Park as part of a woodland hub focused on supporting woodland management on the estate.

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Mark Nuti

PORTFOLIO: Adults and Health

Adult Social Care (ASC) Charging and Fair Cost of Care Reforms: On 17 November, the Government announced a 2-year delay for the reforms with a proposed new implementation date of October 2025. SCC lobbied hard for a delay as the proposed implementation timetable and funding levels were unworkable. Building on existing ASC digital transformation and re-purposing work on reforms we will use automation to create efficiencies, increase opportunities for self-service, redesign customer pathways and join up data insights across customer experience and ASC.

Care Quality Commission (CQC) Assurance: In the Health and Care Act 2022, there's a new duty for the CQC to introduce an inspection regime for Local Authority Adult Social Care statutory functions with a single word rating outcome. Local Authorities will receive a rating based on CQC's four-point ratings scale (outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate). We have a planned Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Review taking place w/c 27 March 2023 to give us their feedback on our preparation for CQC inspection readiness. For the Peer Review, we will collate policies/processes, data, and evidence, complete a self-assessment, and facilitate LGA case file audits and lived experience interviews. The Peer Review will also look at the collaboration across the Council in partnership with ASC and will help CLT drive more cross cutting projects. We will develop an action plan to respond to the recommendations arising from the Peer Review to improve our offer to local residents further.

Delivering the Accommodation with Care and Support Strategy: Work continues to deliver affordable Extra Care Housing (ECH) at Pond Meadow, Guildford. Our strategic partner, Pond Meadow Ltd, submitted their detailed planning application in September 2022 and we expect a decision by the end of 2022. We are entering the second stage of the tender process to identify a strategic partner to deliver affordable ECH at five sites across Surrey. Outline Planning Applications will be submitted for these sites and local community engagement on our plans are being undertaken. We continue to progress delivery plans for Supported Independent Living (SIL) and have completed the tender process to implement a new Approved Provider List (APL) for SIL. Contracts through the APL will commence at the start of 2023.

Discharge to Assess (D2A): A model is in place across Surrey supporting discharges from the acute hospitals. On 16 November DHSC published details of the £500m hospital discharge funding for winter 2022/23. SCC is receiving £3.3m, Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Board (ICB) £5m, and Frimley ICB £0.9m. Further funding was also announced for the next two years and although we await funding allocations, we expect this new funding will enable the D2A model that partners agreed when previous national funding ended on 31 March 2022 to continue on a sustainable footing in future years. We are also working with Impower in two acute hospitals (Royal Surrey and East Surrey) to understand the flow and usage of community hospitals and whether there are opportunities to reduce/improve flow in and out.

Senior Management Team Restructure: Liz Bruce, Joint Executive Director Adult Social Care and Integrated Commissioning, has made changes to the Senior Management Team in ASC to establish a more balanced line management structure. As part of this, Bal Kaur has been appointed as Interim Director of Integration, Health, and Care & Director of Adult Social Services (DASS), and a new Director of Disabilities and Health Partnerships is in the process of being recruited.

Public Health: Strategic oversight of the Surrey Health and wellbeing strategy continues with the latest summary of delivery across different partners available via the quarterly highlight reports at <https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/about/highlight-reports>. Some further priorities for the next quarter for the Public Health team include:

- Delivery on phase one Health in all Policies action plan
- Engagement on Food Strategy
- In collaboration with partners finalise and publish: Updated Suicide prevention strategy and protocol; Children and Young People Emotional Health and Wellbeing strategy and a Breast-feeding strategy
- Working with partners publish and / or begin development of JSNA chapters including Screening services; Substance use; Mental health of both adults and children & young people in Surrey; Economy and employment; Housing and housing-related support; People with learning disabilities; Children and young people with additional need; Migrant Health (Rapid Needs Assessment)
- Engagement with partners on sustainability planning for ongoing local approach to Multiple Disadvantage post March 2024
- Production of 2023/24 Public Health Service Plan

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Clare Curran

PORTFOLIO: Education and Learning

Surrey Education Strategy to 2030: I am pleased that work on the Surrey Education Strategy which includes the School Organisation Plan and Sustainability Strategy is progressing well and I will present this to Cabinet in January. The School Organisation Plan sets out the policies and principles underpinning both mainstream and specialist school organisation in Surrey. It highlights the likely demand for school places projected over a 10-year period and sets out potential changes in school organisation required to meet the council's statutory duty to provide sufficient places. The Sustainability Strategy is intended to support the Skills Strategy and Plan launched on 10 November 2022 at the Skills Summit. It will also set out the implications of the White and Green Papers for Surrey education settings and for learners and the key challenges for Surrey in terms of levelling up education outcomes.

Although I am the Cabinet Member for Education and Learning, it is important to remember that local authorities do not run schools; Headteachers are accountable to School Governors. Our role as a local authority and mine as Cabinet Member is to be a 'Champion for all Learners' in Surrey. To fulfil this, we continue to work with key stakeholders to shape a shared set of ambitions for learners of all ages in Surrey which support the delivery of the Community Vision 2030 to ensure that no one is left behind.

Update on SEND improvement work and our Safety Valve Agreement: Surrey's Additional Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board conducted a self-evaluation exercise, reflecting on areas of strength and development. Importantly this activity included a strong use of data and insight and was carried out with third sector and user voice partners (Family Voice Surrey, Surrey Youth Focus and ATLAS) who held a mirror up to our partnership evaluation. This is now informing the refresh of our Partnership, Inclusion and Additional Needs Strategy, which is being co-produced with partners, families, and communities. The draft strategy will be reviewed by the Partnership Board and the Select Committee, and I look forward to bringing it to Cabinet early next year for endorsement and support. Our key priorities for Additional Needs and Disabilities improvement include improving sufficiency and improving inclusion and progress in these areas is outlined below:

Sufficiency: As of September 2022, around 800 new specialist school places for children had been provided across Surrey through 35 capital projects. This has created more than 280 additional places for academic year 2022/2023 and includes places that have also now been phased in from projects delivered in 2020 and 2021. Five 2022 projects have final works deliverable between Dec 2022 and early spring 2023, but September 2022 and January 2023 place availability has been secured. 14 more projects are on track for delivery 2023/24, and these will deliver around 350 more new places, of which 190 are expected to be available for September 2023. The impact of improved sufficiency can be seen not just in the new specialist places that children and young people are benefiting from, but also the reduced use of non-maintained independent specialist schools from 12.5% in 2020 to 9% this year, which means that we are enabling more children and young people with additional needs and disabilities to be educated closer to their homes and communities whilst also securing better value for money for this council.

Inclusion: Our work with schools to strengthen inclusion is embedding, with improvements to the Local Offer information, a new Request for Support option for families and professionals seeking help and advice, and the launch of new Ordinarily Available Provision guidance this term. This information and guidance has been co-produced with partners and the roll-out has considered the importance of the role that schools' Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCOs) play in helping schools and families alike to navigate support. Although only introduced recently, we are starting to see growth in requests for support which we hope will reduce the rate of growth in demand for EHC assessments. We will be monitoring this closely and adjusting our offers as appropriate.

Safety Valve Agreement: Surrey's Safety Valve Agreement is completely aligned with Additional Needs and Disabilities strategy and transformation plans, so it includes initiatives already described, as well as others such as the Team Around the School pilot which is being evaluated to inform future plans. Despite significant national risks, such as workforce shortages and inflationary pressures, Surrey remains on track with the financial trajectory agreed with the Department for Education (DfE). This projects that the council will reach a position of financial sustainability in 2026/27. So far this year we have submitted two Safety Valve monitoring reports, and both have been approved by the DfE, so we have received payments to reduce the High Needs

Block deficit. By the end of the year, we expect to have received £52m in Safety Valve payments from government.

Home to School Travel Assistance: The home to school transport service came under immense pressure to process higher numbers of applications this academic year. At the time of writing, there are 24 active applications. There are 48 active stage 1 appeals in progress. All 25 stage 2 appeals in progress are being heard in line with SLAs. A significant programme of improvement is underway, to address the underlying challenges experienced this year, so that we can learn from these and implement major changes to improve this service for the academic year 2023/24. These will focus primarily on the customer journey and service improvement to ensure that all applications are processed and delivered promptly, and that transport is in place for eligible children and young people when they need it to get to school or college.

CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Sinead Mooney

PORTFOLIO: Children and Families

Achieving Excellence & Children's Social Care Transformation: The last six weeks have involved a review of the way we are structuring our transformation activity across children's services to ensure we are prioritising improvements in the right areas and delivering the best value for our residents. To achieve our ambition of delivering excellent services for children and families, we need to work together to deliver step-changes in three core domains – practice, sufficiency, and workforce – and invest in data and systems that will enable us to improve faster. We are bringing together all existing children's social care transformation activity under these four pillars. In order to provide more robust oversight and scrutiny of children's social care, and the ambitious transformation plans over the next three years, a new Transformation Assurance Board has been established to help ensure SCC is working towards achieving excellence in the services it provides to children, parents, carers and families. This board has cross-party membership where Members and officers will work together to inquire and understand, set ambition, champion and challenge our portfolio of transformation work to improve children's social care.

Budget: At the end of October, Children, Families and Lifelong Learning were predicting a £22.1m overspend on business as usual budgets:

- £13m overspend on Home to School Travel Assistance. This is a result of the full year impact of the pressure identified in the second half of 2021/22 and continued increasing pressures on fuel prices and inflation. EHCP projections for a further increase of 9% in September have not translated into similar increases in pupils on the more expensive vehicles so the forecast is beginning to reduce.
- £4.4m forecast overspend for external Children Looked After (CLA) placements. Budgeted reductions in residential placements through the Big Fostering partnership and additional in-house provision have not occurred. In addition, average costs have increased by over 8% since the start of the year.
- £2.5m overspend on Children with Disabilities (CWD) Care - this is a residual pressure from 2021/22 due to high levels of demand for direct payments and personal support.
- £2.2m overspend relating to social work staffing – this relates to the double funding of the assessed and supported year in employment (ASYE) social work cohort where agency staff are used for three months while ASYE's gradually build up their caseload. There are also additional staffing costs in fostering due to the level of agency staff.

In order to mitigate part of this overspend budget recovery plans identified COVID relates costs of £3.6m which could be funded through grant and £0.8m of reductions in the DSG High Needs Block offsetting reserve contribution which would reduce the overspend to £17.6m.

Accommodation, Housing and Homes Strategy: Further to the need identified for a county-wide strategic approach to housing, while recognising existing statutory duties, responsibilities and sovereignty, a baseline assessment of the current state of housing, accommodation and homes in Surrey has been prepared and used as the basis for four themed workshops and engagement with stakeholders. This has included my meetings with District and Borough lead Councillors for Housing and Planning. A Housing Summit was held on 8 December at Woodhatch Place, where in excess of 150 stakeholders took part in discussion, debate and networking as a contribution to the development of strategic priorities for action. A report setting these out will come to Cabinet at its meeting in February.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI): Progress towards achieving the EDI action plan continues across the workstreams with activity being monitored by the Programme Board. The Staff Networks continue to raise awareness, create opportunities for staff to come together and to advance equality and inclusion. The MEGA and DENIS networks have held insightful and inspiring events for Black History Month and Disability History Month respectively, and work is continuing to develop an allyship programme. The Reverse Mentoring Scheme, where senior colleagues are mentored by front-line staff or more junior colleagues who may come from underrepresented groups and experience the workplace differently, was relaunched. Members of CLT have been matched with their mentors and will be starting their work together in coming weeks. We have launched guidance for staff experiencing discrimination that was written in partnership with staff and Trade Unions to ensure that managers and staff are equipped to address unacceptable behaviour in the course of their work with residents. The Cabinet Office has signed off the work required to fulfil the requirements identified in the web accessibility audit. Looking forward to 2023, we will be launching our ED&I Community of Practice where we will be sharing and driving good practice across the organisation. We will also work collaboratively with colleagues within SCC and with our VCFS and statutory partners to develop and implement the ED&I strategy. We are also looking forward to having a peer review of our ED&I, facilitated by the LGA in summer 2023 to help us further drive the work.

DEPUTY CABINET MEMBER BRIEFING TO COUNTY COUNCIL

NAME: Maureen Attewell

PORTFOLIO: Children and Families

Youth Offending: The Surrey Youth Offending Service has been progressing at a steady rate since the start of its improvement journey in September 2019, after being rated inadequate by Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Probation. It has re-asserted a clear Youth Justice Service identity with practitioners who are skilled, committed, and resourceful.

The aim moving forward is to collaboratively work with more partners to enrich the offence free lifestyle of children in Surrey. Examples of some of this work are outlined below:

- **CYP Haven** - Is a partnership between SCC and the Surrey and Borders Partnership. It provides a safe space for children and young people aged 10-18 to talk about worries and mental health in a confidential, friendly, and supportive environment. There are four sites operating across the county (Redhill, Epsom, Guildford, and Staines).
- **Open Access Youth Work** - Open access youth work is provision that a young person may access regardless of their background, needs or position in society and is based on voluntary participation. Many professionals work with young people, but principally, only in youth work is it the choice of the young person to engage with the professional. Projects include: Young Carers LGBT+ SEND; Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme; Well-Being (Mental Health) Detached (Street/ Estate Based) and Outreach (Community wide); Educational Residential (UK & Overseas); Youth Clubs (Evenings) Employability; Education and Training Intervention and Prevention Workshops; School Based Workshops /Provision Drop In One to One/ Group Work Support; Gangs /Knife Crime/ Drugs Workshops; Outdoor Education that also includes: Forest School Sports "Get Active" Healthy Options Sex, Relationships & Education (SRE) Workshops and appointments.
- **Engage Project** - Engage has responsibility to keep case holders informed and work with the professional network to complement existing planning with meaningful and engaging activities, drawing from the wider Surrey youth work offer and utilising, for example, the Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development sites and Surrey's portfolio of Youth Centres and projects, such as, the Woking and Epsom Carpentry Workshops, Walton Cycle Workshop, and the CYP Mental Health Havens.
- **The IMAGINE Project** - Is a horticultural-based social-innovation initiative. This involves reclaiming disused and/ or underutilised parcels of land, remediating these from states of neglect and repurposing them as community grow zones/allotments. Targeted young people are invited to contribute to this effort and in many senses, to shape it. Local partners and select community groups also participate which allows for a unique collaborative and co-production opportunity. Youth Work Practitioners guide and support young people through this process and help manage the integration of the project with their orders.
- **The Skill Mill Project** - This is a multi-award-winning social enterprise which provides employment opportunities for young people aged between sixteen and eighteen. They employ only ex-offenders, actively reducing reoffending whilst increasing engagement, participation, employability, and educational levels of the young people to increase their life chances.

Turnaround Funding: Surrey has been successful in Turnaround grant funding of £71,699 for this financial year (22/23), £193,573 in 23/24 and £193,467 in 24/25, funding to work with 152 children over the three years, based on a 'base unit' of c. £2,900 per child. This includes mobilisation funding of £10,796 for the Surrey Youth Offending Team (YOT) in FY 22/23, to be spent on the activities required for us to start delivering Turnaround. The overall aims of the Turnaround programme are to:

- achieve positive outcomes for children with the ultimate aim of preventing them going on to offend
- build on work already done to ensure all children on the cusp of the youth justice system are consistently offered a needs assessment and the opportunity for support
- improve the socio-emotional, mental health and wellbeing of children
- improve the integration and partnership working between YOTs and other statutory services to support children

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