

Services for Young People in Epsom & Ewell Performance Summary 2014/15

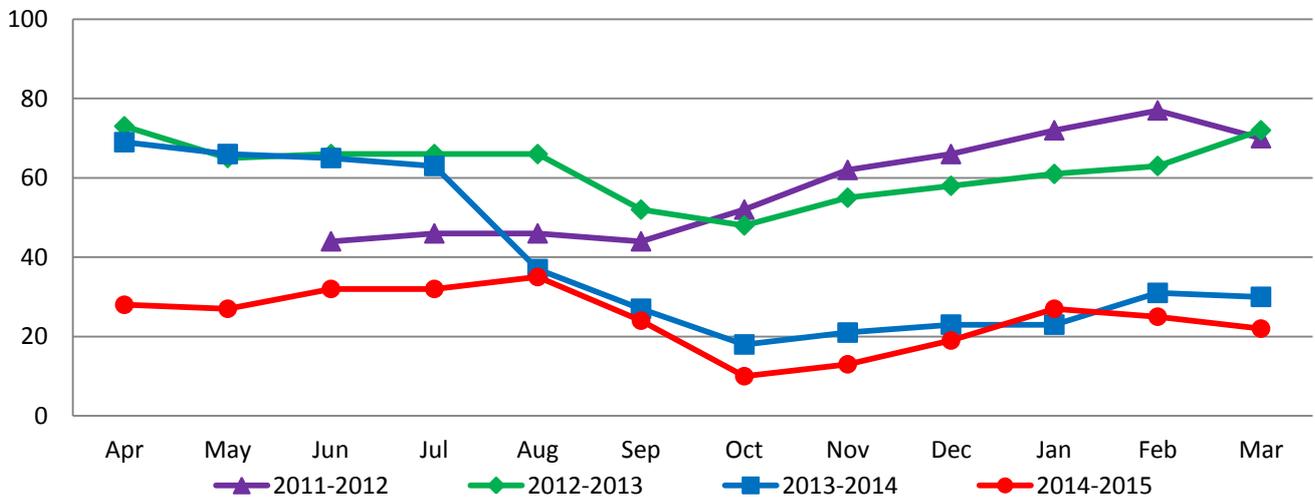
Countywide overview

In 2014-15 Surrey had the second lowest proportion of young people who were not in education, employment or training (NEET) of all local authorities in the country and the lowest of any large authority, with only 1.7% of young people NEET compared to 1.8% in 2013/14.

Local performance story in Epsom & Ewell

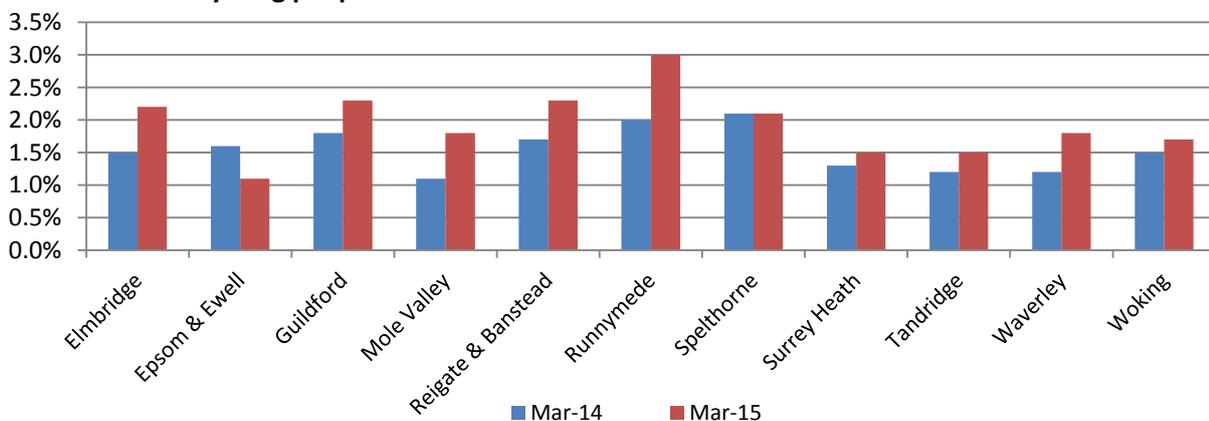
The reason for this report is to tell the local story of how Services for Young people, working with our partners, has been making a difference to young people in Epsom & Ewell.

Number of young people in AY 12 - 14 who are NEET in Epsom and Ewell



- In March 2015 only 23 young people were NEET compared to 30 in March 2014.
- 98.8% of young people were participating in education, training, employment or re-engagement at the end of March 2015, compared to 98.4 in March 2014.

% of young people in Years 12-14 who were NEET in Mar 2014 and Mar 2015



Youth Support Service

- 1.1% of young people in years 12-14 were NEET in March 2015 compared to 1.6% in March 2014
- Only one of the young people who are looked after by Surrey County Council and placed in Epsom & Ewell were NEET in March 2015
- Young people who were NEET had been out of education or work for an average of 63 days compared to 202 in the previous year
- 38 young people moved from NEET to PETE during the year compared 83 in the previous year
- 23.1% of young people who were NEET had been NEET before compared to 23.3% in the previous year
- 4.3% of young people were unknown in March 2015 compared to 3.4% in March 2014
- 12 first-time entrants to the youth justice system in 2014/15 compared to 15 in 2013/14 and 22 in 2012/13
- Only 8 young people sentenced to custody in Surrey during 2014/15
- 30 disposals given to young people as a result of offending in 2014/15, compared to 39 in 2013/14
- 43 Youth Restorative Interventions (YRIs) employed with young people involved in low-level offending this year, compared to 57 last year
- 15 young people at risk of homelessness supported in 2014/15
- 15 Children in Need case managed by the YSS in 2014/15

Performance narrative

The Youth Support Service Team in Epsom and Ewell has had a busy and productive year. Our new staff have settled in well and this is reflected in the positive outcomes we have seen.

Key outcomes:

- 1) NEET figures have continued to reduce - against the Surrey trend, our NEET figure has continued to fall. In all other boroughs the comparative NEET figure has increased.
- 2) We have consistently been able to report the lowest NEET figure in Surrey.
- 3) The average time spent NEET has dramatically reduced from 202 days to just 63.
- 4) Youth offending has reduced:
 - a. There are fewer first time entrants.
 - b. Numbers of Court Orders have reduced.
 - c. Numbers of YRI's have reduced.

It is encouraging that the offending figures have reduced, and this may be an indicator that the LPF contracts are beginning to have an impact. However, the numbers of court disposals remain very high in comparison to other boroughs, and the seriousness of the offending remains a significant concern.

We continue to work very closely with Police colleagues to support Priority Young People who pose the highest threat of negative impact in the community.

- 5) Vulnerable young people who would otherwise be street homeless or sofa surfing, have been supported back into the family home, or placed in safe accommodation offering them support to making a successful transition into the adult world.

- 6) Vulnerable young people and families who would have previously been supported by Children's Services under Section 17 of the Children's Act, were supported by ourselves (Targeted Support). We have experienced excellent outcomes with very few cases returning for further support.

Outlook for this year:

We are looking forward to the next twelve months, at the moment we have 23 young people about to enrol on college courses, so long as they all settle in successfully our NEET figure should drop to single figures.

The new Local Leadership and Early Help arrangements should enable us to co-ordinate work across the different groups of young people in the Borough in order to target services to the young people that need it most – when they most need it. As a result we would hope to see offending reduce and fewer families needing support further down the line.

Case Study

I recently spent an hour with a young man called Alfie whom I was seeing in order to cover a team members summer holiday. He was happy and quite content to sit and chat away. Alfie told me how he was enrolling on a General Building Course at College the following week, that he would soon be moving to the coast with his mum, and was looking forward to a fresh start.

He talked about how well he and his mum were now getting on and how he hoped to make friends who had a different outlook to people who he used to hang around with here in Epsom. He told me that he wants to earn money legitimately and doesn't want to break the law as he now realises the effect such behaviour has on both the victims, and the people around him that care for him.

Alfie and I talked about the way he used to be. When we first met him in May of 2014, he didn't want to work with us. He had been given a Youth Restorative Intervention for theft, and very early on we could see that things within the family were very strained. We continued to work with Alfie and in time we became more concerned about the family situation and Alfie became a Targeted Support case with us under Section 17 of the Children's Act.

This was just the beginning of a long process. And things did get worse before they got better. For a while Alfie became a Priority Young Person (PYP) where we worked very closely with the local Police to offer him additional support in order to reduce offending behaviour. Following a number of interventions including the Coldingly Prison Project, and regular meetings with his YSS case-worker, Alfie now has a new perspective on life and is no longer negatively effecting the people around him. He is no longer offending and relationships at home are much improved.

When I asked Alfie what was the one thing we have done that has impacted him the most, he replied "you made me understand the effect I was having on other people, and I don't want to be like that anymore".

That comment pretty much concluded our meeting, I shook Alfie's hand and wished him well with the College course and his new life down on the coast.

Commission RAG ratings explained

To summarise performance of the Centre Based Youth Work (CBYW) and Local Prevention Framework (LPF) commissions we have used a Red Amber Green (RAG) rating system to make it easier to get a sense of how a particular provider is performing. The rationale behind the RAG rating is as follows:

- Red** agreed performance not achieved and no plan in place to achieve agreed performance or mitigating factors
- Amber** agreed performance not achieved but either a robust plan in place to achieve the agreed performance, or mitigating factors as to why the performance is unlikely to be achieved
- Green** agreed performance achieved or within the tolerance zone (85% or more)

Centre Based Youth Work (£20,040 and 1.8 full-time equivalents)

Centred Based Youth Work offers open-access youth work to young people in many of the areas with the greatest need in Surrey. Management of seconded Surrey County Council staff sits with a range of local providers, who complement SCC funded delivery with matched provision in terms of funding, resources and staff and volunteer time.

Focus Youth Centre (The Youth Consortium – YMCA East Surrey)

The Focus Youth Centre has delivered one of the highest amounts of hours of youth work in the county and has also achieved Level 3 of the Surrey National Youth Agency Quality Mark. Although numbers of young people attending the centre are below the agreed performance level, it is clear that those attending the centre have received a quality service, with a very high proportion of young people engaged by the centre demonstrating distance travelled during the year.

Performance indicator	2014/15 performance					
	Agreed performance 2014/15	Actual 2014/15 performance	Achievement against agreed performance	Comparative 2013/14 performance	Direction of travel	RAG
1.1 Hours of youth work delivered from the Centre	775	980	126.5%	671	↑	Green
1.2a Young people engaged in one or more hours of youth work	300	184	61.3%	168	↑	Amber
1.2b Average hours of engagement per young person	50	34.7	69.4%	30.0	↑	Amber
1.3 Young people attending the youth club demonstrate positive 'distance travelled' by end of intervention.*	150	183	122.0%	139	↑	Green
1.5 Each Centre achieves the National Youth Agency quality kite mark within the first Contract Year, and retains this mark in each subsequent contract year	Level 3	Level 3	On track	Level 2	↑	Green
2.2 Young people who have been identified as at risk of becoming NEET who have attended the centre	50	20	40.0%	27	↓	Amber

*Distance travelled: clear and tangible development for a young person

The Edge Youth Centre (The Youth Consortium – YMCA East Surrey)

2014/15 saw significant staffing change at the Edge Youth Centre, which has led to some lower performance numbers being reporting for the year. This was also compounded by issues with data recording, particularly in relation to numbers of young people who achieve distance travelled at the centre, as well as those engaged who are identified as at risk of becoming NEET. Looking ahead, the plan for Community Youth Work in 2015/16 is to revitalise the offer at the Edge, re-distributing resources to ensure young people are well supported in this area of higher need.

Performance indicator	2014/15 performance					
	Agreed performance 2014/15	Actual 2014/15 performance	Achievement against agreed performance	Comparative 2013/14 performance	Direction of travel	RAG
1.1 Hours of youth work delivered from the Centre	500	164.5	32.8%	387	↓	Yellow
1.2a Young people engaged in one or more hours of youth work	150	102	68.2%	106	↔	Yellow
1.2b Average hours of engagement per young person	25	12.8	51.2%	23.1	↓	Yellow
1.3 Young people attending the youth club demonstrate positive 'distance travelled' by end of intervention.*	100	0	0.0%	2	↔	Red
1.5 Each Centre achieves the National Youth Agency quality kite mark within the first Contract Year, and retains this mark in each subsequent contract year	Level 1	No Level	Development needed	No Level	↔	Yellow
2.2 Young people who have been identified as at risk of becoming NEET who have attended the centre	30	0	0.0%	2	↔	Red

*Distance travelled: clear and tangible development for a young person

Local Prevention Framework (£75,500 during 2014/15)

Priorities for the Local Prevention Framework are set locally by Youth Task Groups, which involve Members, young people, partners and stakeholders. Activities commissioned often include youth work, mentoring or counselling, although a wide range of solutions have been developed across the county.

September 2014 – August 2015 (Provider - £75,500)

Performance indicator	2014/15 performance			
	Agreed performance for period September 2014 to 2015	Actual performance September 2014 to August 2015	Achievement against agreed performance	RAG
Number of young people engaged in one or more hours of preventative activity	155	244	157.4%	Green
Number of young people who took part in at least 6 hours of engagement		154		Green

*Engagement: a meaningful conversation or activity with a young person.

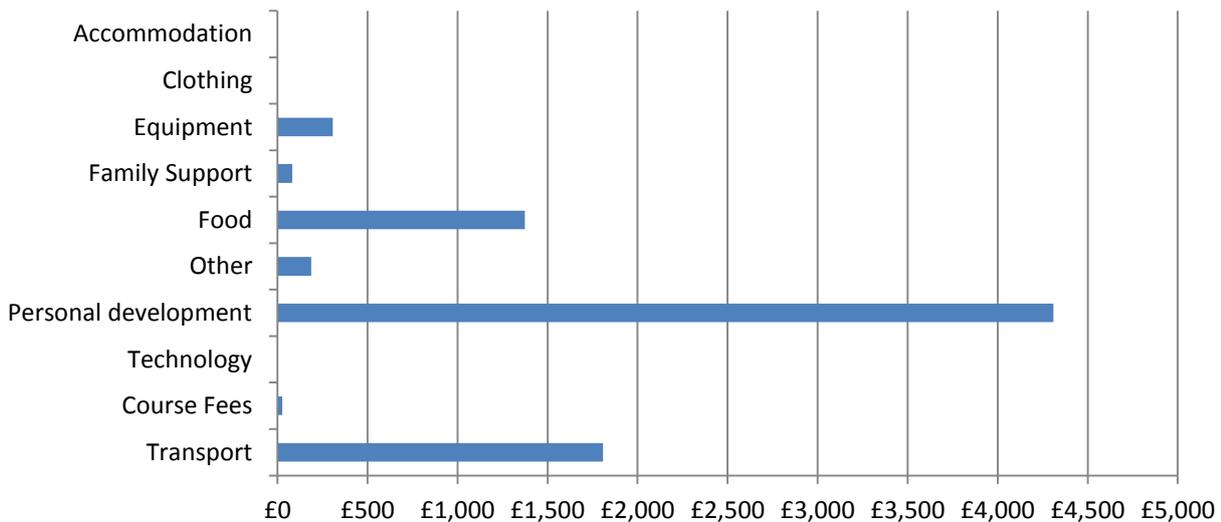
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- The Beat have exceeded their key agreed performance levels for 2014/15, engaging approaching 250 young people during the course of the year
- Over the duration of the contract 11 different activities and engagement methods have been on offer, with additional workshops to meet young people's needs.
- 101 Young People engaged in over 15 hours of youth work
- 98% of the young people worked with (that completed a survey) said over the course they agreed that their self-esteem had improved or greatly improved
- 96 % of the young people worked with (that completed a survey) agreed or strongly agreed that the course had increased their opportunities/ aspirations

Individual Prevention Grants (£8,500)

Individual Prevention Grants (IPGs) were available in 2014/15 to remove barriers to participation for young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET. Each local YSS Team had an allocated budget, set in consultation with Local Committees, to be used flexibly to respond the changing needs of young people.

IPG expenditure by type of need - Epsom and Ewell



- £ 8,094 of £8,500 (95%) of IPG funding was used to remove barriers to participation
- A total of 63 grants were given to young people with an average value of £128
- The main barriers addressed were 'Personal Development' 53% and 'Transport' 22%, "Food" 17%.

Youth Small Grants (£14,000)

Youth Small Grants were available to small voluntary, community or faith sector organisations across Surrey during 2014/15 to enable: more quality youth work to be delivered locally; more young people to participate in education, training and employment; and more young people to be kept safe from crime and anti-social behaviour. The grants were administered by Surrey Youth Focus. Please note that the Youth Small Grants programme has not continued into 2015/16 due to budget reductions.

The £14,000 allocated to Epsom & Ewell Local Committee for Youth Small Grants was allocated across 11 projects to support work with young people across Epsom & Ewell as follows:

Name of the organisation carrying out the project	Project title	Grant
1st Cuddington	Afloat Safely	£1,000
2nd Cuddington (Rowe) Scout Group	New Patrol Tent	£535
323 Epsom & Ewell Air Training Corps	Funding for New Computer System	£815
7th Epsom Scouts	Climbing equipment	£2,000
8th/14th Epsom Air Scout Group	Scout & Scout Explorer International Summer Camps 2014	£900
CAMHS Youth Advisors (CYA)	CYA Awards 2014	£150
Epsom & Ewell District Scout Council	Radios/Telephone and ancillary equipment	£5,000
Epsom and Ewell PHAB	Soft play area	£1,000
FamilyLine	I Need Help – additional volunteer training	£100
Generation Church	Community Connection Events	£1,750
The Girls Brigade Sutton District	District Training weekend	£750
	Grants	£14,000
	Allocation	£14,000
	Underspend	£0

Case Study - Epsom and Ewell PHAB

Epsom and Ewell PHAB used their £1,000 Youth Small Grant towards buying cushions and mats to create a chill out and relaxation area for children who need some quiet time or appreciate being able to stretch out rather than being confined to their wheelchairs



Since the group bought the soft play area it has been in constant use, proving to be very popular with a broad range of children, bringing an added dimension to what Phab can offer. It has made a noticeable difference in encouraging interaction between children who otherwise would not have talked to each other and has also provided a place for those who are nervous and want reassurance

The club has 120-130 members of which about 25% have special needs. On any one of our weekly club nights we typically there are 50-70 in attendance.

As the group is run entirely by volunteers

without any regular income, such funding allows them to invest in equipment that they wouldn't otherwise be able to afford but which provides a big benefit to our club.

Leader's Ready for Work Programme (£750,000 countywide)

During 2014/15 SYP received additional funding from David Hodge (Leader of SCC), to generate more individually tailored education, training and employment opportunities for young people that develop their employability. Achieving this has involved developing and embedding a range of new approaches, with three main examples below.

Re-engagement

Surrey's re-engagement programme (Ready 4 Work) is delivered in-house by the YSS and offers a bespoke local range of activities to young people who would otherwise be NEET, equipping them with the skills, attitudes and behaviours they need to 're-engage' in education, training or employment. Whilst the local offer in each area is different, the activity is underpinned by a shared employability curriculum.

- During 2014/15 this programme has engaged 930 young people across the county
- At the end of March 2015, 21 young were in re-engagement provision in Epsom & Ewell

Apprenticeships

The programme has focussed on increasing the number of Apprenticeships available to young people. As well as a number of employer engagement events and increasing apprentice recruitment by SCC and our partners, the programme has offered grants to support new employers to take on apprentices.

- 492 grants have been given to employers across the county who are now offering apprenticeship opportunities to Surrey young people
- 20 new employers in Epsom & Ewell have taken on apprentices as a result

Employment Development Officers (EDOs)

EDOs are now embedded in the YSS to develop meaningful employment and work experience opportunities for young people who would otherwise be NEET. During 2014/15 EDOs secured 81 work experience placements for young people between April 2014 and March 2015. They have also contributed to wider progression pathways for young people supported by the YSS, into things like paid employment and apprenticeships.

Year 11/12 Transition (U-Explore - £14,492)

The Year 11/12 Transition commission focuses on providing intensive support to young people in year 11 who have been identified as being at risk of becoming NEET through Surrey's partnership owned Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI). This approach identifies young people who exhibit NEET risk factors. Examples include being a looked-after child, having previously offended, participating in alternative learning programmes, having school attendance of less than 60% and being permanently excluded from school.

Young people are allocated a key worker from the January of year 11 and provided with mentoring to help them to identify a progression route following their compulsory schooling and then supported for the first term of year 12. National research indicates that young people are most vulnerable to dropping out of further education during the period leading up to Christmas, as they may struggle to keep up with the work or decide that they have chosen the wrong courses. This support takes a variety of forms and adopts a holistic approach to addressing the multiple barriers to participation for the young people, including homelessness, substance misuse, mental health issues and family breakdown.

- Supported 47 Epsom & Ewell young people in Year 11 who were identified, in partnership with local schools, as at risk of becoming NEET

- 87% success rate - 41 young people were in positive destinations at the end of January 2015

SEND (Post-16) Team

The SEND (Post 16) Team's role is to support young people with special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND) who are in education to prepare them for a successful transition to adulthood. The SEND (Post 16) Caseworkers work in schools and colleges and offer young people and their parents/carers information, advice and guidance on post 16 options in Surrey. They work with professionals from Schools and Learning, Health, Social Care, Education Providers and the Youth Support Service to ensure inclusion and participation for young people with SEND.

This year the Team have been focusing on transferring SEN Statements to the new Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for over 650 students Year 11 and Year 14 students and students in Years 13, 15 and 16 who are changing educational placement in September 2015. EHCPs are holistic, young person centred assessments, focussed on identifying the young person's current special educational needs and their current and future support requirements at colleges and sixth forms post 16. Caseworkers are trained to support young people and ensure their voice is heard at their Transfer Review Meetings and recorded in their EHCP. The young person's story, their vocational aims, aspirations, skills and achievements are all included. Outcomes are discussed with the young person and their parent/carer to ensure that the provision needed can be put in place to support them to achieve those outcomes and prepare successfully for transition to education, training or employment.

Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development (SOLD) (£7,300 countywide)

SOLD offer outdoor learning opportunities to young people across Surrey and neighbouring areas. Many of their services are traded with other external organisations and they generated income of almost £1.41M in 2014/15. As well as these wider services, SOLD has been commissioned to offer local opportunities to young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET in each of Surrey's districts and boroughs, relying on the YSS to engage young people.

- 2.4% increase in total visitors to SOLD countywide from 32,420 in 2013/14 to 33,185 in 2014/15
- 16% increase in income generated by SOLD during 2014/15
- 49% of organisations made 2 or more bookings up 7% on 2013/14
- 3% increase in the number of activity sessions
- 72 young people engaged in local SOLD sessions, referred from the YSS, meaning expenditure of £15,370 against a budget of £7,312

Performance comments

SOLD has had another year of growth, realising new developments in both products and customer base have enabled the aspirations for the year to be achieved and yet again against a back drop of challenging public finances and increasing customer demands. The work towards a self sufficient future continued, although it was agreed to defer a formal proposal to the following year once the SOLD Development Board had been established to focus and bring the work to its natural conclusion with the agreement of all the interested parties.

Some of the performance highlights from the year are summarised below:

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- SOLD secured a significant National Citizenship Service programme (NCS) contract from “The Challenge”, this saw young people aged 16-19 from across the south east take part in an intensive residential programme at High Ashurst and for the first time at Henley Fort.
- The Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) has continued to grow since SOLD first delivered a bespoke programme four years ago. The programme is commissioned by the Surrey/Sussex Rotary and this numbers rose to 64 young people aged 16 – 18 years, in addition this year included a cohort of international young people.
- School sports funding continues to be a good source of business from the primary sector, seeing a second year of increased work supporting Surrey schools with an increasing number of these schools buying into other SOLD products throughout the year.
- Demand for TAZ holiday programmes continued to increase, particularly those run at Thames Young Mariners (TYM). This year additional programmes were put on due to extra late demand and made a significant contribution to the income target of £123K a 23% increase on the previous year.
- SOLD employed 5 apprentices during the year both on the outdoor delivery and support services, this programme cost Sold circa £50K, all the apprentices secured employment upon completion.

Youth Engagement Contract (*U-Explore / The Eleven*)

The Youth Engagement Contract is a countywide service, largely delivered online and is designed to ensure young people are able to access the information, advice and guidance (IAG) that they need to make good decisions at key points in their lives. The offer comprises two main elements. The first is U-Explore, an online careers and education IAG service, whilst the second is ‘wearesurge.co.uk’, a co-produced online platform to engage young people and provide young people information in a way that is right for them.

- 69,052 young people age 13-19 in Surrey accessed information on Surge to help inform key decisions in their lives