

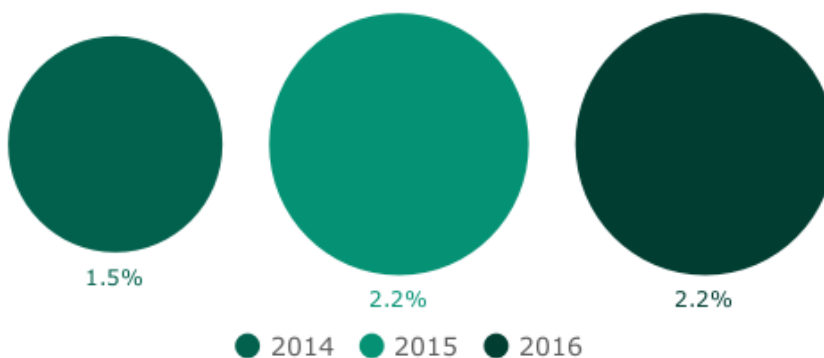


# Services for Young People in Elmbridge Performance Summary 2015/16

## Report purpose

The reason for this report is to tell the local story of how Services for Young People (SYP), working with our partners, has been making a difference to young people in Elmbridge.

## Selected Elmbridge performance headlines in 2015/16



Only 2.2% of young people in Elmbridge were NEET in March 2016, the same as the previous year.

0 young people who were looked after by Surrey County Council and placed in Elmbridge were NEET in March 2016.



 **2,387**

hours of youth work delivered by Community Youth Work in 2015/16 compare 1,176 in 2014/15



**98.3%**

of young people identified as at risk of becoming NEET and supported by the Year 11/12 Transition commission were participating in education, training or employment in Year 12

## Services for Young People: Introduction and context

In many ways 2015/16 has been a year of transition for SYP, with both planned changes to our commissioning model, to further improve young people's employability, and a changing context.

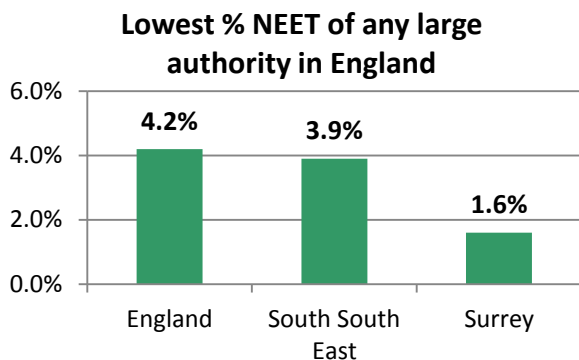
Key changes to our model have been: greater coordination of local services, through the YSS local leadership role; mobilising the new Community Youth Work Service, with 11% less budget and resources allocated in to local need; launching new Neighbourhood and 1-to-1 Local Prevention commissions in September 2015, with 10% less budget; and re-commissioning the successful Year 11/12 Transition service.

Some key changes to our context have been: four new Children's, Schools and Families (CSF) priorities of early help, safeguarding, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and future education and skills; the council's response to the 2014 Ofsted inspection of our Children's Services; and the council's SEND 2020 programme to better support and educate children and young people with SEND up to 25.

Looking ahead to 2016/17, there will be further changes, as we focus on our four key challenges. These have already begun in 2016, with Services for Young People coming together with other early help services and commissioning teams in a new Commissioning and Prevention Service. This will continue in 2016/17 to ensure we are able achieve better outcomes for children, young people and families in the future.

## Surrey's performance headlines in 2015/16

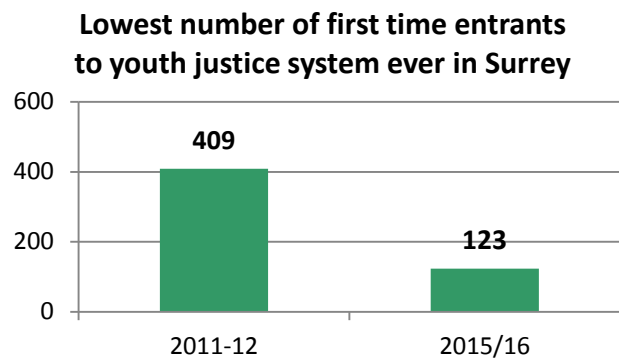
Alongside these changes, Surrey's overall performance has improved, with fewer young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), fewer first time entrants to the Youth Justice system, fewer young people sentenced to custody and fewer young people who were at risk of homelessness placed in bed and breakfast accommodation than ever before, as well as increasing numbers of young people aged 16 and 17 taking on apprenticeships.



**64% reduction** in the proportion of young people who are NEET since 2011-12.



Proportion of 16 and 17 year olds participating in apprenticeships has increased to 3.9% in December 2015 compared to 2.8% a year earlier.



**70% reduction** in the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system since 2011/12



No young people aged 16 and 17 identified as homeless in 2015/16 and only 2 of those who were at risk of being homeless were placed in bed and breakfast accommodation.

## Partnership working in Elmbridge

### **Overview of the year from SYP Local Network**

The Elmbridge SYP Network's membership in Elmbridge is made up of representatives from the following contracts, services and organisations: YSS, Community Youth Work, Local Prevention Neighbourhood (Eikon and Lifetrain) and 1-to1 (Surrey Care Trust), Year 11/12 Transition (U-Explore), housing providers (Paragon Housing), borough council (leisure services team and community partnership leads), police, Family Support programme and the Streets Apart lead.

Through the central hub role of team manager we have been able to screen cases and concerns around issues with young people in the borough and match up appropriate resources to need. This has been a real success in making sure that young people in the borough have been able to access appropriate services with the right interventions in a timely manner. We have also been able to work together as a wider borough team to share resources, identify each others strengths and expertise and manage and match up the needs of young people and their families in the borough to the relevant services.

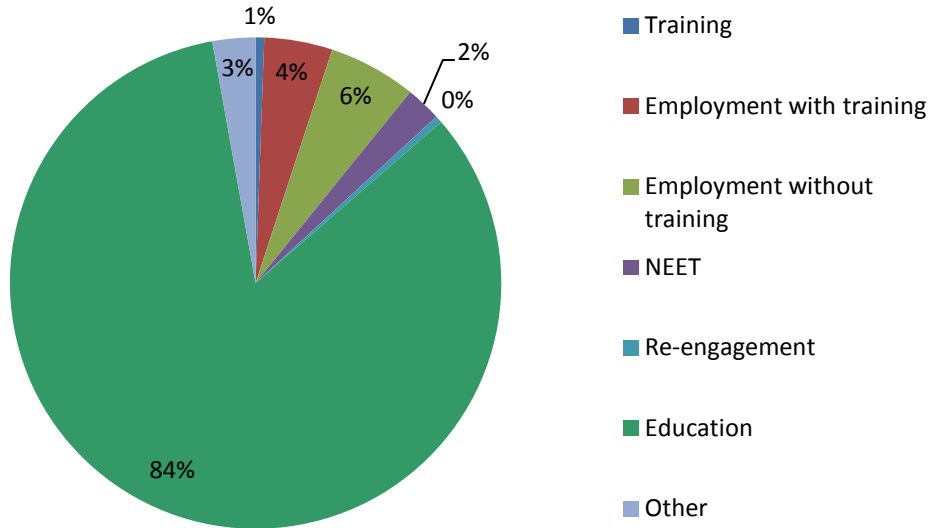
We run and coordinate a local child sexual exploitation (CSE) mapping meeting which draws together all partners and wider services within the community such as schools, police, YSS, all SYP contracts, Community Youth Work and housing. This group works together to identify and map our vulnerable young people at risk of CSE in the borough and map the perpetrators known and linked to these young people. This allows us to draw up actions for supporting and addressing the needs and vulnerabilities of these young people.

We work together as a partnership to support the goals of the Elmbridge Joint Youth Strategy across the broad spectrum of work with young people within the borough. As part of the network meeting we hold a pathway meeting to ensure smooth transition of young people between contracts and match resource to need, so that we are not letting any young people fall through the gaps between services.

We then work as a partnership to map the needs across the borough and make plans on how best to allocate resource to meet these needs, working together to support each others contracts, skills and remits. This partnership allows us to identify additional funding streams to support new pieces of work or to expand existing areas of work that are needed. We are able to capture a single voice of young people within the borough around their needs and their feedback on the services they are receiving. We have been working on producing a single youth offer to young people in the borough through the work of the Youth Strategy. We are also looking to provide a single point of promotion for all services across the borough through the Elmbridge Impact website.

## Elmbridge participation profile

This chart shows the profile of young people's participation in education, training or employment in Elmbridge at the end of March 2016.



## Youth Support Service

During 2015-2016 the YSS team in Elmbridge has seen a change of team manager in October 2015 and a new senior practitioner join the team, together with a new member of staff in January. We have worked closely with our partners throughout this time to improve the outcomes for young people within the borough. There has been great success in operating to this local central Hub model within the borough that has meant young people have been able to be linked up to access the appropriate services and intervention that they have needed in the time they have needed.

During this period we have continued to embed our partnership work with Walton Charities to roll out the Protected Work Placement programme with the support of their generous grant to support those most vulnerable young people seeking to gain a first step into employment. The programme has seen some great success with young people completing successful work placements with local employers and in some cases being taken on as permanent staff as a result of their placement.

We are also still working in partnership with our colleagues from the Family Support Programme, Surrey Care Trust and Community Youth Work to offer and deliver the Sliding Doors group work programme to support and address the risks around Child Sexual Exploitation of vulnerable young people within the borough. Additionally, we have set up and run a dedicated Pathway to Employment programme at the Walton Youth Centre every Wednesday offering young people access to 1-1 support around information advice and guidance, access to the Protected Work Placement programme and access to the CSCS Construction Skills Certificate Scheme group work sessions. These sessions support young people to gain the qualification they need to gain their health & safety card to work in the construction industry.

We are also offering, in partnership with Surrey Life Long Learning Trust, The Bike Project at Walton Youth centre, which is a social enterprise project for young people in the borough around fixing up, repairing and then selling on bikes within the borough. We have continued to offer a consistent robust case management service supporting our most vulnerable young people within the borough for our 14+ year old Child in Need young people, our NEET young people, our young people at risk of homelessness and those at risk of offending or those already within the criminal justice system as well as those young people with mental health & emotional wellbeing needs.

Finally, in April 2016 we took on part of the new CAMHS contracts and now play an integral role in identifying and supporting young people within the borough with mental health and emotional wellbeing needs to access the right support and services they need in a timely manner.

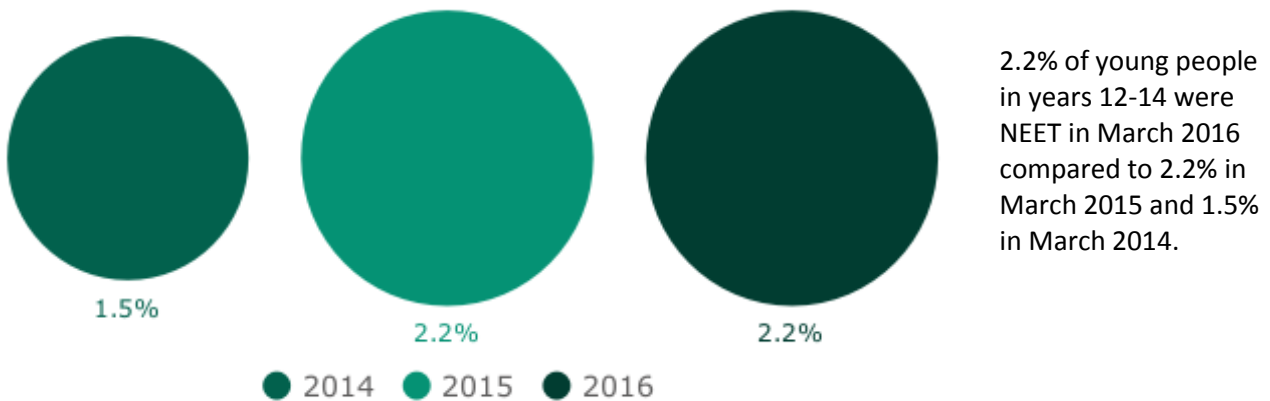
### Case Study

PM, a 17 year old, was referred to YSS as a NEET case in June 2015. PM has dyslexia, low levels of numeracy, literacy and struggles using IT. PM has problems with comprehension and understanding basic vocabulary which contributes towards her anxiety and low self-esteem. PM dropped out of Kingston College after one day as she felt overwhelmed by the number of students, and size of the campus. PM then joined N & B Training on a personal development course but, after two months, it became too much for her. These experiences badly affected PM's confidence and feelings of self-worth.

PM had expressed interest in working in caring for old people and following conversations with PM and her mum, it was agreed that we would set up a protected work placement at Whiteley Village. PM had personal barriers and challenges to overcome such as, getting up on time, catch the bus, and contacting her Manager if she was late or not going into work. PM lost her mobile phone a number of occasions (left on bus) but showed resourcefulness and managed to retrieve it from the bus company on one occasion. From the start of the placement both staff and the elderly people she was caring for warmed to her. PM's friendly disposition and willingness to help made her popular with all those she came in contact with. PM was given time and support by her manager, Agnes Field, and she responded by growing in confidence and expanding her skills.

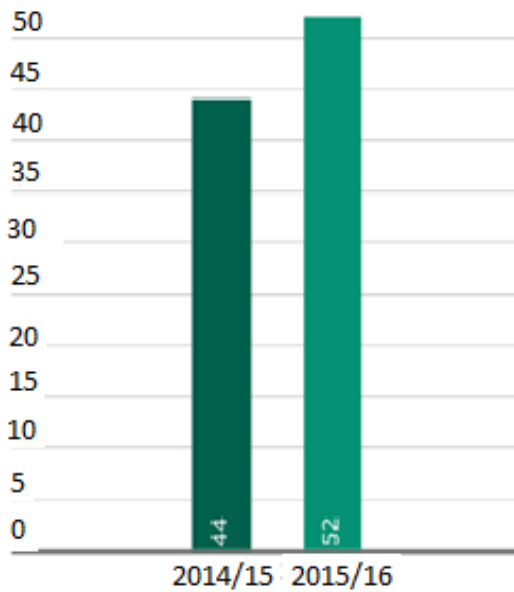
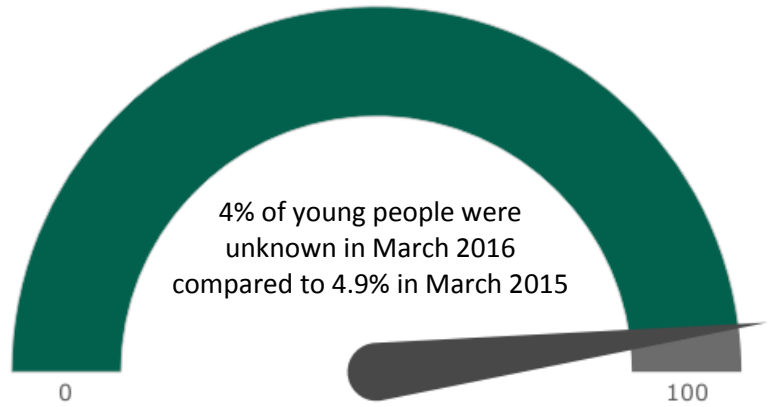
At the end of her placement PM accepted paid work as a home help assistant with the bank staff team initially for two days a week with the potential to expand this to full time work. PM is very happy at the outcome and is to date retaining her position.

### YSS performance headlines

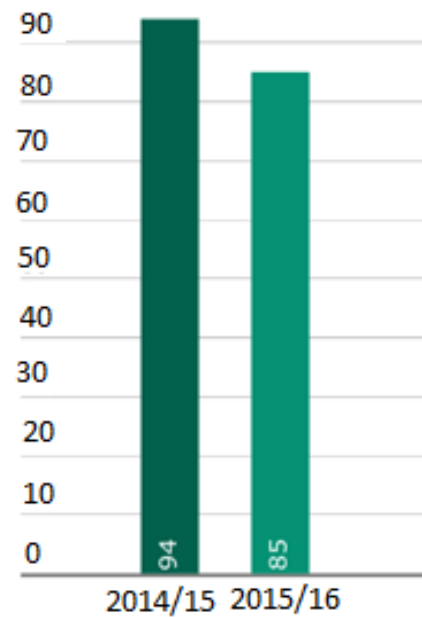




0 young people who were looked after by Surrey County Council and placed in Elmbridge were NEET in March 2016.



52 disposals were given to young people as a result of offending in 2015/16 compared to 44 in 2014/15



85 Youth Restorative Interventions (YRIs) employed with young people involved in low-level offending this year, compared to 94 last year.



**15**

young people at risk of homelessness supported in 2015/16



**48**

Children in Need case managed by the YSS in 2015/16

## Community Youth Work (£211,290)

Community Youth Work is an in-house Surrey County Council service that delivers open access youth work, targeted groups and 1-to-1 support in the borough. Its resources are allocated in response to local need, as agreed in consultation with the Youth Task Group and Local Committee.

At the end of March 2016, there were 3 full-time equivalent (FTE) JNC qualified youth workers in the borough, 1.2 FTE of Worker in Charge time and 2.27 FTE of Assistant Youth Worker time.

### Local narrative

#### **Key achievements of the service**

Across the Borough we have seen progressively increasing numbers since April 2015, including increases in target areas, such as Walton, and target groups, such as the Young Carers.

The St Johns Youth club at the Cromwell Centre has been kept running by the Community Youth Work Service, in partnership with Paragon Housing. In addition, 5 young leaders help out at the group.

An introduction of a younger age group at Molesey YC has been successful and we have strengthened connections with the local Church-led Kidzone.

Hersham Youth Centre has seen high numbers of young people at their drop-in sessions. It is the highest attended Youth Centre in the County, as well as having the most hours open.

Cobham youth work has seen a successful initial phase with the start of a 14+ youth club at Church Gate House in partnership with St Andrews Youth.

#### **Lessons learnt**

Projects can continue to be successful if the community is engaged effectively, Claygate being a prime example of this.

Creating effective partnerships, such as the one with St Andrews Church in Cobham, can be a quick and effective way of getting new youth sessions open.

#### **Areas for development in 2016-17**

Further develop Walton YC, opening two new evenings following the transition of staff from other areas.

Open a second youth club in Cobham, aimed at a 11-13 age group.

Further develop the St Johns project, working on behaviour of young people, and increase community engagement with local families.

We have begun the early stages of planning for a music studio and radio station project at Molesey YC.

We have begun to set up a young people's Forum to give feedback on local services, aimed at informing the Elmbridge Impact and Streets Apart initiatives.

Claygate Youth Club is approaching its transition into a Community-led Spoke, staffed by volunteers, which we will continue to support where needed.

Lower Green youth club is set to start on 12<sup>th</sup> April, as a partnership between us and Surrey Clubs for Young People.



## Borough headlines



# 2,387

hours of youth work delivered in 2015/16



# 1,099\*

young people engaged.

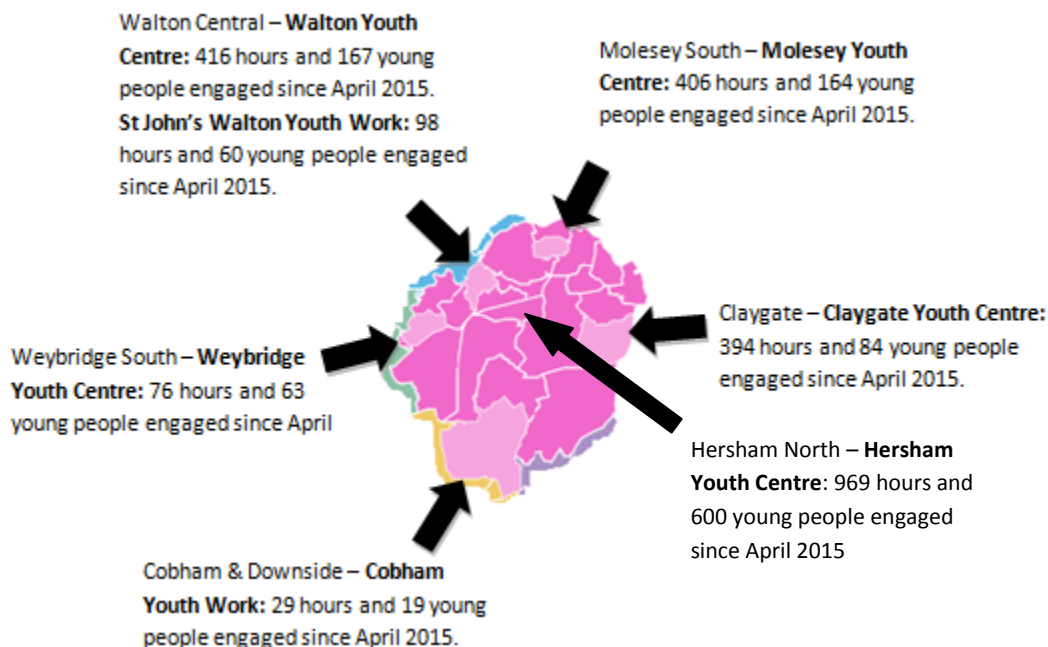


# 32.7

average hours each young person was engaged

\*Young people attending more than one youth centre only counted once, so totals from the map below will be higher than this figure

## Where does Community Youth Work deliver?



**Case Study**

Maddie (not real name) was initially referred to the Community Youth Work team through her Youth Support Worker, and began to get involved in using the music studio at Molesey Youth Centre. Soon she had also brought three friends along, and the four of them use the recording studio on a regular basis.

Maddie was seeing the YSS after having issues in school attendance and mental health-related problems with engagement. Maddie is also a young carer for a family member, along with her siblings who also regularly attend Molesey and Walton Youth Centres. In the last year Maddie has transformed in confidence through support from the staff team at Molesey YC. Maddie has increased her self-esteem through the use of music and singing, building her confidence through support from her friends and the youth workers.

Maddie has gone on to organise various events throughout the year. She is often inspired to act by events in her life, and the Molesey team has helped her achieve some of these ambitions. She coordinated a Children in Need fundraising event last year, where she and others performed songs on stage to a paying audience. She helped organise a trip to visit

## Neighbourhood Local Prevention (*Eikon and Lifetrain, £24,000 x2*)

Neighbourhood Local Prevention providers have been commissioned by Youth Task Groups to work in locally identified communities to deliver specific outcomes for young people. In Elmbridge the grant is held by Eikon, who deliver the work in partnership with Lifetrain Trust. Eikon focus on delivery of their group work Switch programme, whilst Lifetrain deliver detached youth work through the mobile bus shelter.

### Local narrative

In order to meet the youth task groups local priority outcomes Eikon and Lifetrain have been delivering two different types of intervention: Switch courses and an Outreach service.

### Grant overview - Eikon

#### SWITCH

Eikon have been commissioned to deliver bespoke targeted "Switch" courses to groups of young people, typically in 6 weekly sessions. Each course offers young people a needs-led program of engagement and learning. The course content is based around the overall borough needs identified by the Youth Task Group, the school pastoral team who refer the young people and the Eikon youth workers as they get to know the young people. It is designed to be used with young people at risk of becoming NEET and meet young people's needs through fun and educational activities to explore their attitudes and reflect on issues that affect them, enabling them to increase their knowledge and skills to move forward.

### Case Study - Eikon

E.P stood out as a young person who was able to demonstrate that she has a good understanding of what a healthy friendship ought to look like, often engaging well in group discussions with considered and thoughtful contributions albeit with some encouragement. E.P was preparing to leave her current school due to issues around unhealthy friendships. This opportunity provided her a platform to discuss any concerns relating to her transition and how she might cope with challenging issue that she might face.

Our evaluation session with E.P highlighted that she felt more positive about making and sustaining new friendships at her new school. This positive outlook was recognised by her mother who had noted a significant improvement in her confidence and self-esteem. This was demonstrated in an email that was received from E.P's mother shortly after this Switch course had ended.

*"My daughter, E, was one of your group and I just wanted to drop you a line to say how much I appreciate your support working with her. As you may know she has had a rough year at school with friendship issues and this had a huge impact on her self-esteem and self-worth, to the extent that she is leaving the school to start a fresh in a new school in September.*

*I'm so glad she had the chance to reflect with your group on some of her emotions and difficult experiences, and to have the opportunity to build some resilience to take with her into her new school. She talked positively about your groups and, whilst I try my best to give her positive message around self-worth and positive thinking at home, I know it has made a big difference hearing these messages from people who are closer to her than me in age and who can perhaps relate more closely to her experiences. She felt very much supported and I am hopeful that this experience will help her to become more confident and self-assured in her next school. Many thanks again for your valued support"*

## ITEM 9

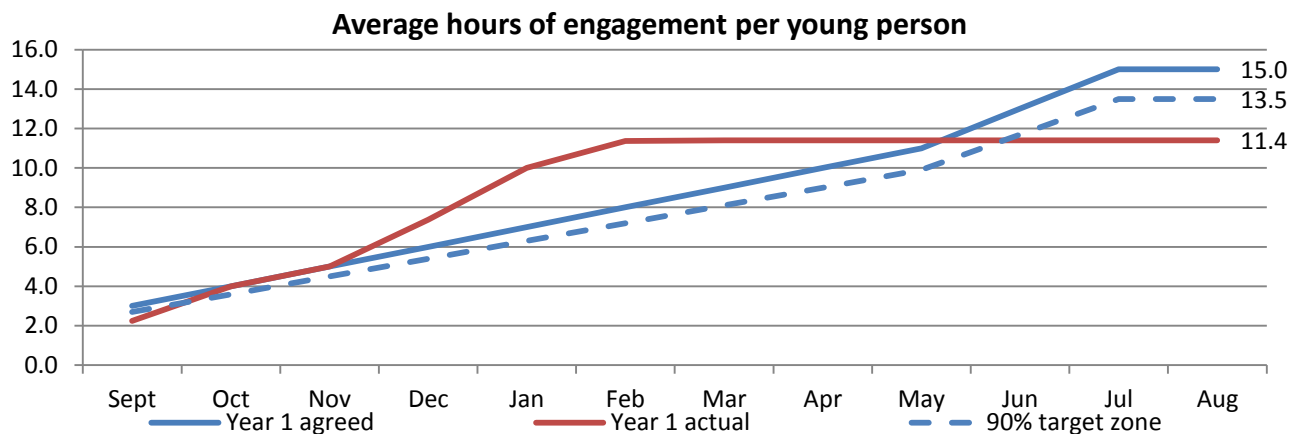
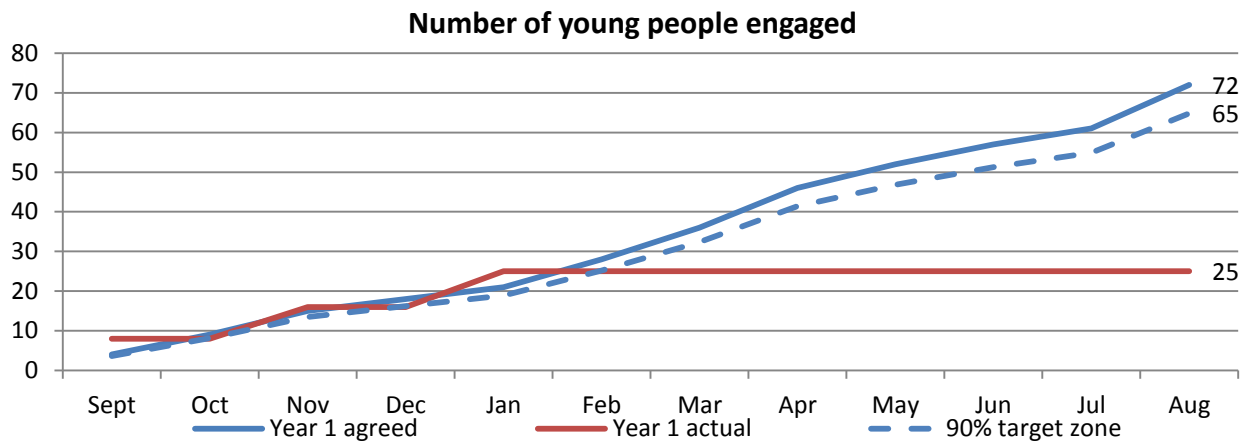
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Between September 2015 and August 2016, Eikon were commissioned to engage 72 young people in an average of 15 hours of quality activity that builds their resilience and removes barriers to their employability, their chosen approach being the Switch programme. On the charts below the solid blue line shows the agreed delivery profile, the dashed blue line shows the 90% target zone for the commission and the red line shows their actual performance during the year. These show that at the end of August 2016 they had engaged a total of 24 young people (33.3%) in 11.4 hours (76%). In response to this, Eikon has committed to deliver three additional Switch programmes in 2016/17 to make up for missed delivery this year.

The Commissioning Team and Youth Support Service are working together to identify what grant management actions need to be taken in response to this.

At the mid-point of the year (February), Eikon had successfully delivered three Switch programmes (two at Hinchley Wood and one at and were on track in terms of numbers of young people engaged and ahead of profile in terms of average hours of engagement. This delivery was supported by evidence of improved outcomes for young people through their delivery.

Despite this start, there was no provision delivered in the second half of the year, hence Eikon have not met their agreed performance levels for the year. Eikon have provided the following explanation for this and are planning to deliver three additional Switch programmes in 2016/17 in response to under-delivery in 2015/16. A planned programme at Esher High has been postponed at the request of the school until October 2016, so that it can focus on transition support for young people starting year 7. In addition to this, Eikon planned to deliver two summer programmes during July and August, in response to local feedback from young people and practitioners. Despite planning for this and having 10 signed parental consent forms, indicating young people would take part, no young people took up these opportunities.



**Grant overview – Lifetrain**

**Bus-shelter: what we do**

The ‘Bus-Shelter’ is a mobile youth centre that operates in the evenings at locations where young people gather in the Borough of Elmbridge. The youth work team focus on the needs of young people supporting those at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training). Becoming involved in the small on-board café enables young people to take responsibility of running a small enterprise, developing life and social skills and preparing them for independence and future working life. The team provides information about the impact of using drugs and alcohol and sexual health enabling them to make informed decisions around risk taking and healthy lifestyles. The team have on a number of occasions identified young people who were deemed to be at risk of child sexual exploitation and subsequently referred them to Children’s Services for specific support whilst maintaining a relationship of trust and ongoing support. Young people take the opportunity to get support with homework which is not always given at home. The lap-tops and Wi-Fi also provide the facility to undertake job searches, compile CVs and plan activities. Group and team building activities encourage co-operation and appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of others. With appropriate interventions our youth workers are able young people deal with conflict and relationship issues which are inevitably highlighted in group work. As role models the youth workers are able to bring a constructive perspective to the family issues that are often raised by young people. The team regularly address the issue of anti-social behaviour and its impact on them, their peers and their communities. The team, on a number of occasions, have referred young people to the Early Help for 1-to-1 support.

## ITEM 9

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### **The outputs:**

Between September 2015 and August 2016:

- No. of sessions: 91
- No. of young people in target group attending: 174

Sessions take place in:

- QE2 Park, Cobham
- St John's, Walton on Thames

### **The outcomes:**

- Improved mental health
- Reduced substance misuse
- Increased social skills
- Improved skills in gaining employment

### **Interventions:**

The Lifetrain Trust has been delivering the following interventions since September 15:

- Confidence/self-esteem/Anger-management aimed at coping with stress at school and home
- Education – home work support/Youth Achievement Awards/CV writing
- Discussions around substance misuse and sexual health to enable informed decision making
- Following the identification of a CSE issue discussions take place around staying safe, being aware and having positive relationships.
- Verbal bullying of a disabled group member in his absence, led to open discussions around discrimination and the impact of this on individuals.
- Social skills – running the café, team building exercises
- Encouraging positive relationships between young parents
- Involving young people in staff recruitment interviews
- Referring where appropriate young people to the Eikon 'Switch Course'.
- Life skills inc: healthy eating, time management, emotions, communication skills
- Hobbies and sport (led by the young people) to encourage positive activities expression through arts and crafts

### **Future plans:**

- Work with young people to develop more in depth workshops about healthy lifestyles, in particular substance misuse
- Increase engagement with more young people in the targeted group
- Develop contacts with schools in the Borough

### Case Study 1 - Lifetrain

'B' is a Young man aged 17 who having left care was finding it difficult to socialize, complete job applications and lacked self-confidence about ever finding work. He did not believe anyone would give him a chance and was quite quick to react angrily to the feelings of his frustration. The Team on the Bus Shelter approached him about helping them interview potential Lifetrain staff members in Elmbridge. He at first thought he would not be listened to, but through getting involved in writing interview questions, carrying out the interviews and making recommendations demonstrated his worth and boosted his self-confidence. The 2 interviewees he selected have now started their job roles. 'B' expressed the fact that he learnt a lot about how to be interviewed and was really pleased to have been taken notice of and involved at this level. He went on to complete his CV and found a part-time job role locally.

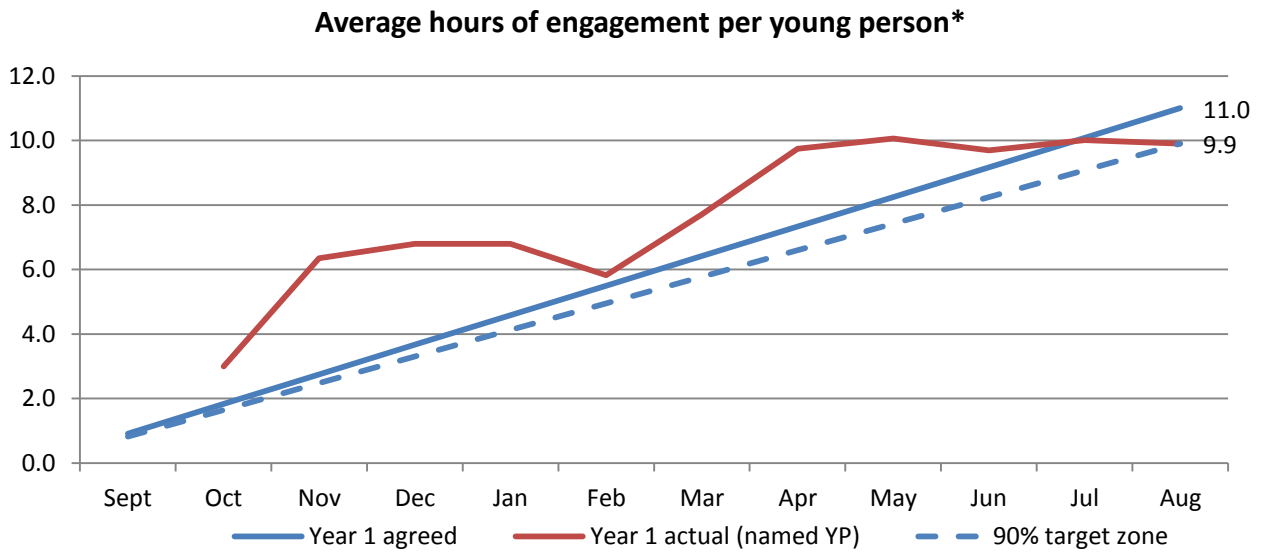
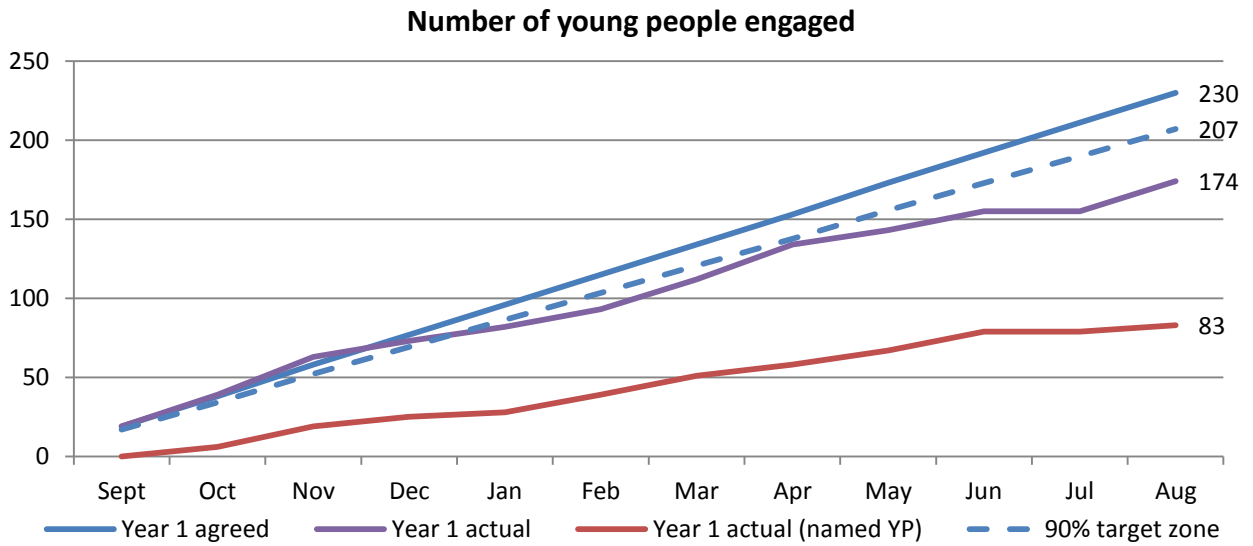
### Case Study 2 - Lifetrain

'T' is a young man of 13 who came to the Bus Shelter for several months at the beginning of the project. He had a difficult time at home as living conditions were cramped and he had nowhere to find a calm space to do his homework. He really benefited from interacting with the positive role models on the Bus and had help dealing with his relationships and social skills whilst working in a group. His home address changed when he moved in with a family member into a different Borough so the Lifetrain team liaised with social services, Youth Support Services and Family support services to ensure there was on-going support for him. 'T' has continued to stay in touch with the Bus Shelter staff who also deliver sessions in his new area. He now has some continuity with the adults in his life

### Grant performance

Lifetrain have engaged 174 young people between September 2015 and August 2016. This is 75.6% performance against the agreed performance level set out in Lifetrain's grant agreement, outside the 90-100% target zone for the commission (which would have meant engaging at least 207 young people). The Youth Task Group is asked to note that the reported figure of 174 (see purple line on chart below) for August includes 91 young people who have been engaged by Lifetrain but have not been identified. This is a much higher level than would usually be expected and is something that will be explored further at the provider's annual review meeting in September. 83 of the young people that have been worked with by Lifetrain have been identified (see red line on chart below).

These 83 young people have been engaged in an average of 9.9 hours of engagement, in line with the 90% target zone. Please note that it has not been possible to establish the average hours for those young people engaged by Lifetrain who have not been identified.



\*Please note – average hours shown here only include young people who are known to Lifetrain.

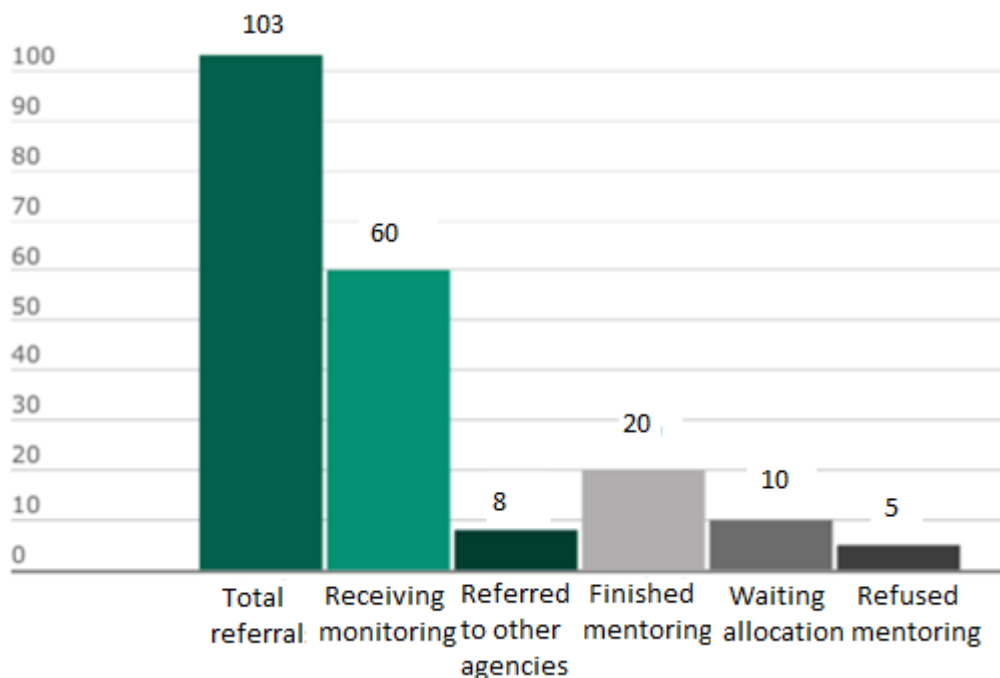


## 1-to-1 Local Prevention (*Surrey Care Trust - £65,000*)

1-to-1 Local Prevention providers have been commissioned by Youth Task Groups to deliver quality hours of 1-to-1 achieve local outcomes for young people referred to the commission as part of Surrey's Early Help system. Typical activities commissioned often include youth work, mentoring or counselling, although a wide range of solutions have been developed across the county.

The LPF contract has shown huge success in working in a multi agency approach. As part of the strategy Surrey Care Trust has developed a mentoring programme for young people in the Elmbridge and Woking boroughs that offers one to one support to young people referred through the Early Help Process. The service supports young people to step down from specialist's services or the need to step up to other statutory agencies. The mentoring coordinator is able to monitor and coordinate the service and contributes to Team Around the Family and Early Help Assessments.

The YSS and other agencies have been supportive and continually refer young people to the programme.



Surrey Care Trust works with vulnerable young people who may be having a challenging time at school/college or at home and need someone independent who isn't a family member or a teacher to listen and support them. The mentoring programme supports all our work and enables a young person to appreciate their strengths and find ways to cope with their problems. Mentoring is a simple but effective way for one person to give their support to someone else who is going through a tough time or wants encouragement in making difficult decisions. We do this by recruiting volunteer mentors and running quarterly training courses.

The volunteer induction training has a strong focus on safeguarding, boundaries, health and safety and lone working. All volunteers receive frequent supervision and monthly support groups and are required to submit regular updates on their mentoring visits. The volunteers have a named Coordinator and are provided with contact details for key staff members within the organisation. Volunteer Mentors must meet

## ITEM 9

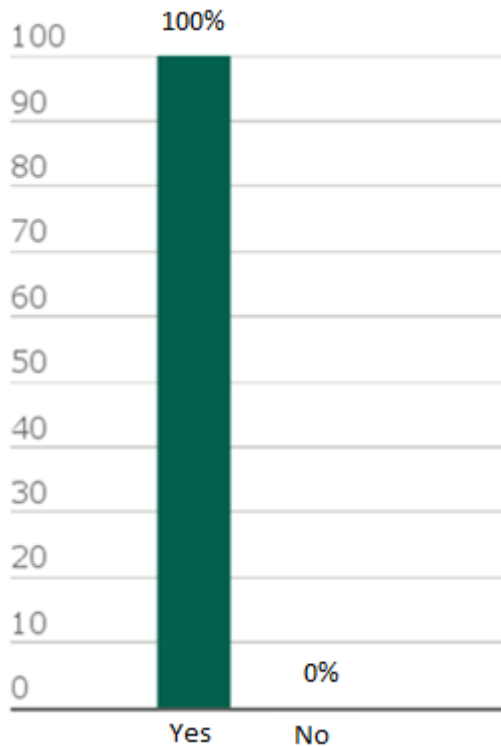
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their mentees in public places, this is usually a cafe, garden centre or leisure centre near their home. Somewhere that is safe for the young person to access.

Surrey Care Trust constantly evaluates its mentoring programme. This is evidenced through volunteer and mentee feedback, goal setting and final evaluations from both mentors and mentees (see attached). This is a rigorous system that was recently re-awarded the NCVO Mentoring and Befriending Approved Provider Standards (APS). The APS is the national quality standard developed specifically for mentoring and befriending services.

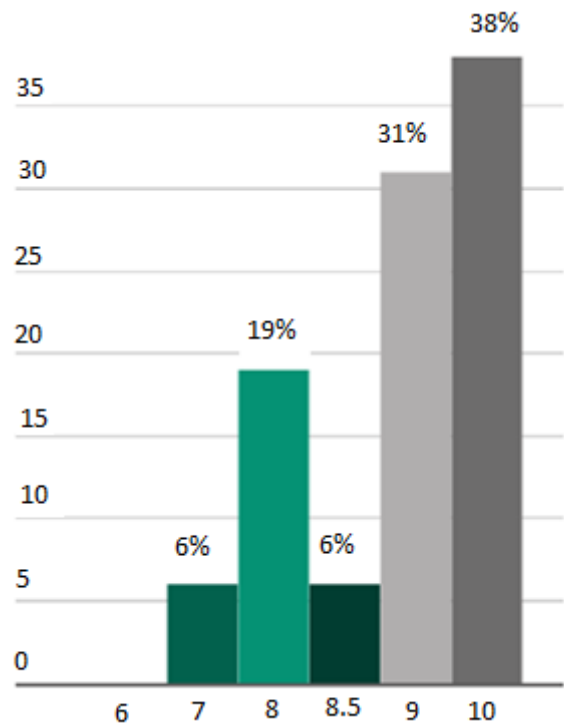
### Feedback from young people about mentoring

Would you recommend mentoring to a friend?



How much do you value your time spent with your mentor (out of 10):

(No young person gave a score lower than 7)



#### Case study

From a volunteer mentor:

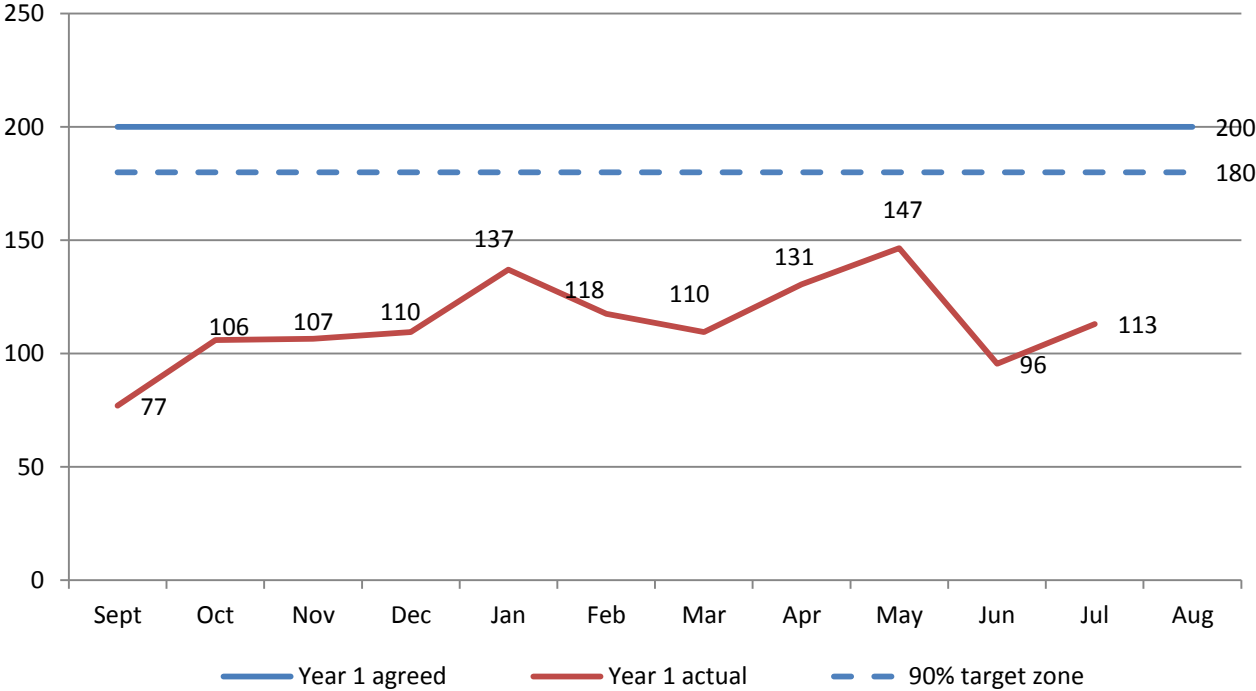
*“Our first meetings seemed to go badly – he rarely engaged in conversations – often replying to questions with one word answers and sometimes no answer at all. He did tell me some of the detail about how he was bullied – by other pupils and by his little sister. His least favourite conversations were ones about his feelings. If I asked him how he felt he would either say “I don’t know” or stop talking for some minutes.*

*These were difficult times and I often asked the mentor coordinator if I was achieving anything. It was helpful that A always said yes if I asked if he wanted to keep meeting me. He now displays a sense of humour and has more of an insight into his own character. He explained that when I asked him about his feelings he said he “didn’t know” because he “didn’t have the words to use” to explain how he felt. As to why he wanted to keep meeting with me when he seemed to get nothing out of it – he still hasn’t explained that one. However I have a theory – he wanted to keep meeting because he wanted to feel he was worth talking to.”*

**Contract performance**

Young people are referred by SCC to the 1-to-1 local prevention 1-to-1 service and SCT have responded well to these referrals during the year. They were quick to begin delivery of the new service in September 2015, with a good number of hours delivered in September and have consistently been above 100 hours each month. As the data shows, however, they are not yet delivering at full capacity, which would be between 180 and 200 hours per month. The onus therefore remains on SCC to generate further referrals of young people to access the service. Surrey’s early help arrangements are currently being changed to ensure more children, young people and families receive the support they need. As a result of these changes, it is expected that referrals to SCT will increase further.

**Number of hours of 1-to-1 delivered during 2015/16**



## Year 11/12 Transition (*U-Explore* - £26,349)

The Year 11/12 Transition commission, funded by Surrey County Council, 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.



**98.3% of young people supported in  
Year 11 remained in positive  
destinations at the end of March  
2016**

## Countywide updates

### SEND (Post-16) Team *(Surrey County Council)*

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.

A particular area of focus in 2015/16 has been building on initial work to implement the new Education, Health and Care Plans for children and young people, to ensure processes are effective, efficient and that the voice of children, young people and families is listened to.

### 16-19 Education and Skills *(Surrey County Council)*

Plans for Surrey's £13m University Technical College (UTC) have made major strides during 2015-16. Highlights include: designing a computer science and engineering curriculum; developing a marketing and communications strategy; and procuring a contractor for the work. The UTC is being developed by Surrey County Council with Royal Holloway University, IT management consultancy CGI, Guildford Education Partnership (a multi-academy trust) and Guildford College. The UTC will be based in the Park Barn area of north Guildford, but have a Surrey-wide remit.

### Online Youth Platform *(Surrey County Council)*

U-Explore delivered online careers and education IAG to young people in Surrey for the 9 months to December 2015, when the contract came to an end. The decision not to re-commission was largely due to the availability of newly developed free resources, many of which schools and colleges were already using, that provided a similar service, although it is recognised that these were not exactly the same.

SCC has continued to deliver '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. During 2015/2016 we have continued to review the provision in response to the needs and concerns of young people to ensure we are getting the best outcomes, and we are anticipating more developments in 2016/2017.



*Content from wearesurge.co.uk reached people on 344,096 occasions in 2015/2016.*

## Youth Collective *(Surrey County Council)*

Surrey's Youth Collective is a Youth Council for young people in Surrey. It was formed in 2014 and was set up as a result of eager young people within Surrey who questioned why young people were not represented at Council level. Their interest in setting up a youth council came at a pivotal point and has been integrated into the new 2015 to 2020 commissions for Services for Young People in Surrey, with the aim of encouraging young people to participate within their community.

Surrey's Youth Collective is a group of young people who live, go to school and/or work in Surrey aged between 11 to 19, or 25 if they have special educational needs, and want to instigate positive change within their community. 11 are democratically elected to represent each of Surrey's boroughs and districts and are joined by appointed young people to represent particular groups.

Youth Collective aims to tackle issues and improve services that are important to young people in Surrey. By working alongside Surrey County Council, the Collective provides an opportunity for young people to make positive change not only for those involved but the whole community.

During 2015/16 Surrey's Youth Collective become members of the British Youth Council and 5 UK Youth Parliament representatives were elected to represent Surrey in Youth Parliament. Their work during 2015/2016 was to encourage young people, local schools and youth organisations to take part in 'Make Your Mark' campaign voting on the 10 issues that were important to young people in Surrey. In late summer 2015, Surrey received the highest participation in voting that we have ever had in Make Your Mark due to the engagement of Youth Collective members.

Surrey's 5 UK Youth Parliament representatives attended the Annual Sitting on 13th November 2015 in the House of Commons presided over by Speaker John Bercow to debate and ultimately vote on the issue of most concern to young people nationally and represent the voice of all of Surrey's young people.

The Youth Collective through their Youth Voice work within Surrey continue to influence and bring awareness of issues important to young people and their community and feedback insight. During 2016/2017 they aim to develop their work further by engaging more young people in community related concerns.

## Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development (SOLD) *(Surrey County Council)*

SOLD offer outdoor learning opportunities to young people across Surrey and neighbouring areas. In 2015/16 they became self-funding and continue to provide opportunities in Surrey.