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:

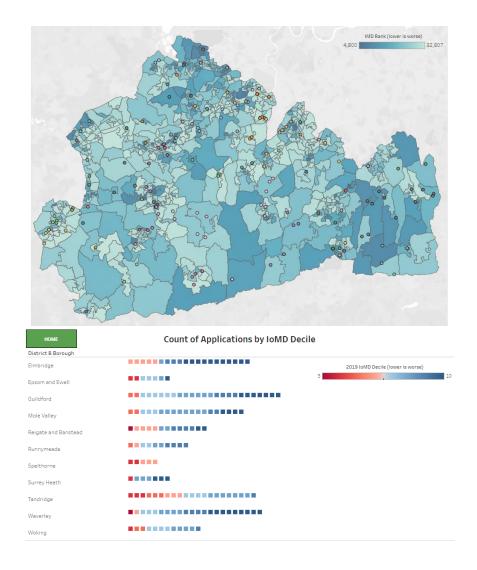
At the July 2021 Council meeting I asked a supplementary question to Mark Nuti, Cabinet Member for communities, the public record of the meeting includes this (copied below for ease of access):

"(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?



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 asylumseeking 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

	N
	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 (IDD) 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: <u>Item 5 - HWS Highlight Report including Confirming the Priority</u> 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 partnight 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: <u>Senior Salaries | Surrey-i (surreyi.gov.uk)</u>

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: <u>Surrey County Council Statement of Accounts 2021/22 (surreycc.gov.uk)</u>

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.



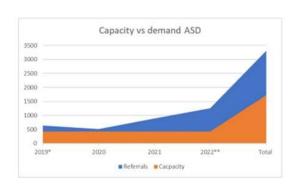
Capacity vs demand ASD Surrey

(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
202	0	520	432
202	1	891	432
2022*	•	1262	432
Tota	al	3311	1728







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

140			55.575	7.07	ferral							
120	1		_									
80 60		_	_	_	/		1		/	~		-
40	<	_	1	-		_		Š		_	><	_
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0	tan	Eeh	Sec.	400	1000	No.	Jul .	A.L.	-	Oct	10000	Paris .

Ja	n	Feb	M	tar /	Apr	May	Ju	ın	Jul	Aug		Sep	Oct		Nov	Dec	To	otal
2019					5	2	54	44		51	44		60	73	5	3	48	479
2020	48	1	42	49	2	3	29	35		37	44		3	41	5	1	68	520
2021	53	į.	74	73	6	7	63	86		83	55		32	82	8	9	84	891
2022	118	ri .	96	103														317



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

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	1	Woking 004F	34.717	5986		3	LAC appointed
3	1	Guildford 012D	33.561	6441	2	3	
4	1	Guildford 007C	33.315	6539		4	
5	1	Spelthorne 001B	33.008			4	
6	1	Mole Valley 011D	32.548	6862		4	
7	1	Reigate and Banstead 005A	31.854	7138		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	
12	1	Elmbridge 004B	29.583	8212		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		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	
33	1	Spelthorne 002D	24.714	10938	4	5	
34	1	Surrey Heath 004C	24.384	11138	4	7	LAC appointed
35	1	Spelthorne 002B	24.351	11155	4	6	
36	1	Woking 009C	23.832	11480	4	3	
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			8	
44	1	Spelthorne 007B	23.252			7	
45	1	Runnymede 009A	23.062			6	
46	1	Reigate and Banstead 005C	23.053			4	
47	1	Surrey Heath 008F	22.985			6	
48	1	Reigate and Banstead 008C	22.933			3	
49	1	Tandridge 009D	22.483			5	
50	1	Reigate and Banstead 005B	22.388			5	
51	1	Spelthorne 001A	22.329			6	
52	1	Reigate and Banstead 010A	22.091			4	
53	1	Spelthorne 007C	22.051			5	
54	1	Mole Valley 003D	22.047			3	
55	1	Spelthorne 001D	22.007			7	
56	1	Guildford 007A	21.973			5	
57	1	Tandridge 012A	21.685			7	
58	1	Runnymede 003B	21.65			4	
59	1	Elmbridge 003D	21.632			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.

