

Health and Wellbeing Board Paper

1. Reference information

Paper tracking information	
Title:	Surrey 2030 Economic Strategy Statement and One Surrey Growth Board Update
Related Health and Wellbeing Priority:	Relates to all HWB outcomes – specifically to Priority Three
Author:	Dawn Redpath, Director for Economy and Growth (SCC)
Sponsor:	Mr Tim Oliver - HWB Chairman and Leader of Surrey County Council (SCC)
Paper date:	3 December 2020
Related papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surrey Place Ambition (July 2019) - ARUP Baseline Research (March 2020) - ARUP COVID-19 Economic Impact Assessment (June 2020) - ARUP Infrastructure Plan (June 2020) - University of Surrey Cluster Research (Nov 2020)

7

2. Executive summary

Towards the end of 2019, Surrey’s position as an economic leader within the South East and wider UK was beginning to show signs of relative decline with its GVA growth rate being slower than overall UK and England growth in the period since 2014. The impacts of the COVID pandemic on both the economy and lives of Surrey residents and businesses have further exacerbated this situation and with EU exit on the horizon, Surrey’s economic situation is far from certain.

Surrey County Council (SCC) has responded directly to this situation, engaging Lord Philip Hammond to Chair the Surrey Future Economic Commission late in 2019, leading on the development of a 2030 Economic Strategy Statement and setting up the One Surrey Growth Board. Together these pieces of work will directly support SCC’s Strategic Priority to ‘Grow a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit’ whilst also supporting the Priority of ‘Tackling Health Inequality’.

This paper forms a summary update of that work and sets out alignment with the Board’s objectives and specifically Priority 3 of the HWB Strategy: supporting people in Surrey to fulfil their potential by ‘enabling citizens to generate aspirations and fulfil their potential by helping them to develop the necessary skills needed to succeed in life’.

3. Recommendations

That the Health and Wellbeing Board note the progress being made in supporting a more sustainable and inclusive whole-Surrey economy focusing on the links that good quality employment can have on health and wellbeing outcomes as well as the direct relationship between the economic strategy work and HWB Priority 3.

4. Reason for Recommendations

To update the Board on work being undertaken to support Surrey's economy, growth and inclusion which, in turn, supports the HWB Strategy.

5. Detail

This report updates the Board on three main areas of development:

- i. Findings from the Surrey Future Economic Commission and associated research by the University of Surrey and ARUP;
- ii. Surrey 2030 Economic Strategy Statement as a response to the findings and associated research;
- iii. The One Surrey Growth Board as the mechanism for development and delivery through a Growth Proposition.

i. Surrey Future Economy Commission

Key findings were presented to the One Surrey Growth Board by Lord Hammond at meeting held on 1 October 2020. The recommendations focused on the following areas:

- Despite recent relative decline, Surrey had key strengths which it should build from in areas of comparative advantage in industries related to its strong business base in the **knowledge economy** particularly in relation to the healthcare economy;
- That Surrey's growth would be constrained by the imbalance in its demography, especially in relation to retention of our **young people**;
- Need to address key **structural issues** related to housing affordability, transport and digital infrastructure and the impacts of the pandemic on the aviation sector;
- That action should be taken on a whole Surrey basis to promote **Surrey as the powerhouse of the wider UK economy** at a geospatial, thematic or structural level.

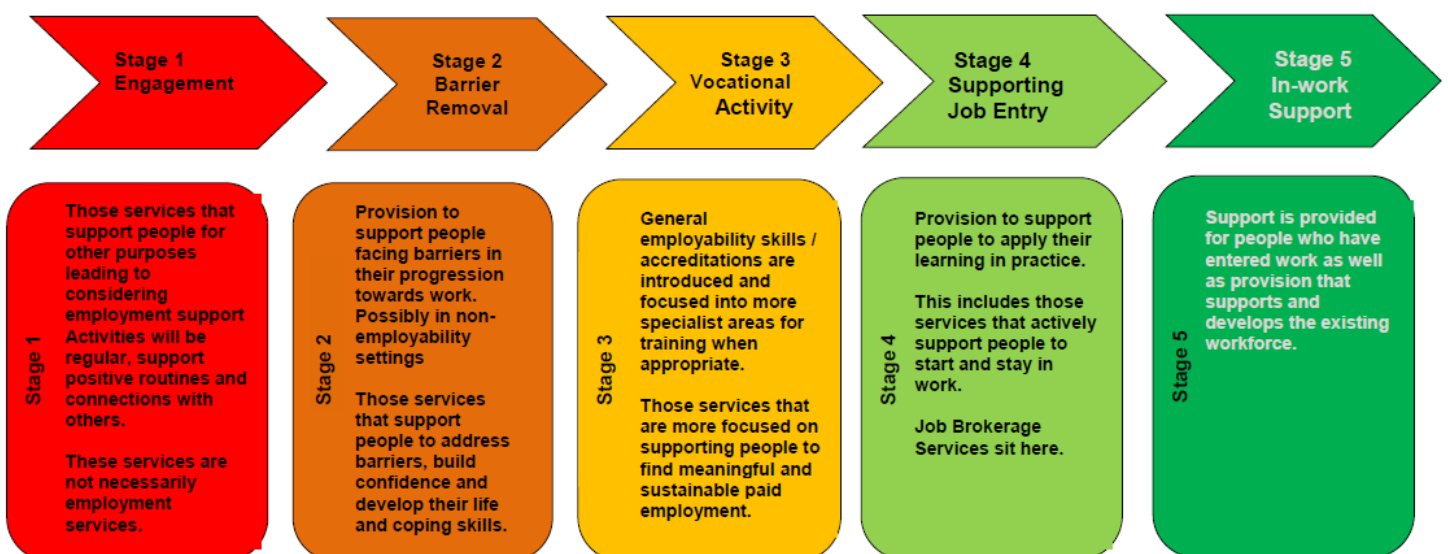
ii. Surrey 2030 Economic Strategy Statement

The Strategy Statement builds from the research and recommendations of the Surrey Future Economy Commission including additional reports and information such as Surrey's emerging Digital Infrastructure Strategy and

Skills and Inclusion Framework. The Strategy Statement will form the underpinning focus for the economic element of the One Surrey Plan for Growth. Key elements include:

- Surrey’s leading position as an **innovative and productive economy** with nationally significant innovation assets underpinned by excellent connectivity and workforce skills which present substantial strengths on which we can build;
- **Growing the leading edge:** Our economy will need to demonstrate resilience and adaptability in the exploitation of new technologies’;
- **A whole-place approach to quality places** from our outstanding natural environment to the unique assets within our towns and villages we want to support economic place enhancement developing thriving hyper-local connected centres;
- **Improving connectivity for the next generation:** relating to both transport and digital and supporting wider sustainability and inclusion objectives;
- **Maximising opportunities** through a diverse economic system & housing supply and inclusive skills focused interventions with a dedicated approach to skills and inclusion coming forward separately aligned to and directly supporting Priority 3 of HWB Strategy;
- **Green economy:** supporting the ambitions of Surrey’s Greener Future and capitalising on the opportunities presented through our approach to innovation and our economic clusters.

This Strategy will be underpinned by the development of Surrey’s Skills and Inclusion Framework, supported by the Employment and Skills Board. The Framework is set within a ‘demand-led’ approach which has set out three target areas for intervention: **inclusion, high-volume need and high-level skills**. The Framework also introduces the Five Stage Skills System as a model for understanding Surrey’s provision. The Five-Stage pipeline approach is set out below and stakeholders are currently being consulted on its use in the Surrey context.



Project examples:

Inclusion: *Those furthest away from the labour market who have potential but lack work opportunity as well as those from diverse backgrounds.*

SCC believes it can play a key role in developing interventions for Surrey residents excluded from the labour market. Examples of target groups who are hoped to be targeted through this strand are: our young people leaving care, young people with an EHCP, those transitioning to adult social care and people with a mild mental health condition and learning difficulties. Providing work experience opportunities, traineeships and targeted employability support, we will be able to support people from Stage 1 of their journey through to Stage 5.

The Employment and Skills Board is also developing the Hidden Talent programme in support of the above, asking employers to develop local solutions to help Surrey employers engage with people who can make a valuable contribution to their business but face barriers to employment.

High volume support: *High numbers of residents unemployed due to the pandemic, particularly young people but also adult re-trainers with low level skills / qualifications.*

This grouping of people will be able to take up many of the government support programme opportunities available through the 2020 Plan for Jobs, for example Kickstart (for 16 – 24 year olds on Universal Credit, it pays wages for 6 months at 100% NMW – 25+ hours a week). The need for intervention here is to firstly make sure that Surrey gets maximum benefit through to residents but also to consider what happens at transitional points into and out of the programmes. The Surrey Employment and Skills Board has established a sub-group to look at this issue, raising awareness among employers, identifying gaps and lobbying for additional support and business-friendly interventions.

Kickstart is being delivered through Chambers of Commerce, Surrey Chamber has done very well so far and secured over 200 placements. In addition to this SCC is looking to offer 30 placements itself for Surrey residents, if health colleagues would also like to get involved then please contact dawn.redpath@surreycc.gov.uk.

High level skills

Through the Employment and Skills Board, McLaren has identified issues relating to losing talent through restructuring and are keen to develop local solutions to sharing the skilled talent we have within Surrey. They also have a keen interest in the use of the apprenticeship levy and are taking a key role in supporting an advocacy position on the changes employers need to take place to make use of the levy more meaningful.

SCC already have a Graduate Management Trainee programme in place and are looking at other ways of making the most of our position as a key employer in the area.

iii. One Surrey Growth Board

The One Surrey Growth Board was set up in summer 2020 with the objective of acting as the voice for the whole Surrey economy and place. It provides a single Surrey perspective across the range of interests which underpin growth and includes representation from key stakeholders, including business.

The main aim of the Growth Board is to respond to key economic challenges and opportunities that Surrey has. It brings together public and private stakeholders and provides leadership and streamlined governance across Surrey. The Growth Board will ensure alignment of spatial, economic and infrastructure plans for Surrey in order to safeguard and maintain Surrey’s quality of life and a growing sustainable and inclusive economy.

The Growth Board is also responsible for developing a Surrey-wide Plan for Growth which will be used to underpin our vision for long term growth funding including a potential Growth Deal with Government, the key elements of this proposition are set out below. The work of the Growth Board provides the ‘Place’ context for Surrey alongside the ‘People’ focused HWB Strategy, specifically Priority 3 of the HWB Strategy ‘Enabling citizens to generate aspirations and fulfil their potential by helping them to develop the necessary skills needed to succeed in life’.

The key elements of the emerging Growth Plan are set out below. Not only will a sustainable economy support people to secure quality employment, linked directly to better household income and therefore better health and wellbeing outcomes but the ambitions of the Plan also relate to healthy, green infrastructure within place planning and the importance of a skills system that can support all Surrey residents to fulfil their full potential.

-  Surrey as economic leader with resilience and potential to recover quickly;
-  Local leadership of cross-county transport infrastructure at scale needed to release housing development (accelerated and affordable)
-  Potential to release growth through investment in digital infrastructure;
-  SCC capital investment programme, credible delivery vehicles & wider public sector levers;
-  Need to include green infrastructure within place-planning;
-  Local jobs for local people through targeted skills interventions linked to high value economy & aviation impacts
-  Hyper-local, 20-minute towns and targeted community networks
-  Opportunity to be underpinned by new Surrey brand narrative

6. Timescale and delivery plan

Consultation on the 2030 Strategy Statement is underway and the Health and Wellbeing Board will receive the Statement directly for comment; the Statement will continue to develop into a targeted programme of work throughout 2021 and the Board is invited to be fully engaged in that process, particularly the work to deliver activity within the Skills and Inclusion Framework.

The One Surrey Growth Board will receive the draft Growth Plan at its next meeting on 17 December 2020, the proposition for engaging with Government will be developed early in 2021.

7. How is this being communicated?

ICS Lead, Dr Claire Fuller represents health and wellbeing interests on the board and Mr Tim Oliver is the Chairman of both the Health and Wellbeing Board and the One Surrey Growth Board. Updates on both the 2030 Strategy and the work on the Skills and Inclusion Framework will be brought back to the Board and progress on the Growth Proposition will also be given.

8. Next steps

- The Health and Wellbeing Board to receive regular updates on progress.

List of Annexes:

Annex 1 - Economic Strategy and One Surrey Growth Board - update to the Health and Wellbeing Board