



Monthly briefing

Information correct as of 26 February 2025

Planning for your Future Day 11 March 2025

Surrey County Council is planning an awareness day on Tuesday 11 March 2025 to provide another focal point for their ongoing Planning for your Future campaign, being run in partnership with Age UK Surrey.

This aims to:

- support self-funders, care arrangers and carers to plan early for care and help avoid decision-making at crisis point
- encourage residents to have discussions about care options and financial planning, connect to support locally and stay independent
- improve residents' confidence to navigate the health and social care system
- help ensure that professionals can support residents with accurate information, advice, and guidance

The campaign has been running since Autumn 2023 and over 2,000 people have now attended the events, which are also supported by a marketplace showcasing key preventative services.

Feedback has been consistently positive, with residents appreciating the vital information shared. People have been connected to relevant support, much of which they had not been aware of prior to the events.

Research with the Surrey Heartlands Citizens Panel in December 2024 shows that **3% more people have made plans** compared to April 2022, proof of the impact the campaign is making.

An awareness day is planned for Tuesday 11 March 2025 to provide another focal point for the ongoing campaign. Three neighbouring local authorities- Hampshire, Oxfordshire and West Berkshire - will work with Surrey County Council to amplify messages and encourage planning ahead.

There will be a range of activities taking place on the day including:

- an in-person information session at Guildford Baptist Church, from 11am to 1pm. To attend the [Planning for your future in-person information session](#), please book online
- an online webinar that is open to residents and professionals in Surrey and the three local authority areas, taking place from 7pm to 8pm. To attend the [Planning for your future online webinar](#), please book online

Making the right choice: patient campaign



A new [EDI survey](#) has recently launched which aims to collate key EDI information, with a particular focus on Race, Disability and LGBTQ+. It also asks for information about religious belief and ethnic heritage.

NHS launches first-ever breast screening campaign to help detect thousands of cancers earlier

The NHS in England has launched its first-ever [breast screening awareness campaign](#) to highlight the benefits of screening and encourage more women to make the most of regular mammograms, as figures show more than four in ten (46.3%) invited for the first time don't act on their invitation.

The campaign – supported by leading charity Breast Cancer Now – launched with a new advert across TV, radio and online to highlight that screening can detect any cancers as early as possible, while providing reassurance and relief to millions of women who get the all-clear.

New NHS estimates suggest that if screening attendance could be improved to 80% of those eligible next year (2025/26), nearly a million more women (around 925,000) could be screened, compared to 2022/23 – with over 7,500 additional breast cancers detected at an earlier stage, when they are more treatable.

Search 'NHS breast screening' to find out more.

Age Concern

[Age Concern Epsom and Ewell's befriending service](#) offers older, more isolated members of the community, much needed regular companionship and a chance to chat. Their befrienders are volunteers from all walks of life who give their time to visit someone in their own home for around an hour each week.

For further information, please contact Age Concern Epsom and Ewell:

Telephone: 01372 732456
Email: info@ageconcernepsom.org.uk

Surrey Combating Drugs Partnership annual progress report

The [Surrey Combating Drugs Partnership annual progress report](#) shows commitment and progress on preventing and reducing the harm from substance use in Surrey. The partnership is made up of strategic decision-makers across key partner organisations including the police, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, probation, health, districts and boroughs, and community and voluntary sector, and reports to the Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board.



Gambling harm 2025 campaign launched

Surrey County Council's Public Health team is running a campaign to raise awareness of gambling harm and how people can access help and support.

If you're in a role where you work directly with clients and members of the public, there are things you can do to help reduce the negative effects of harmful gambling including:

- 1.

New sessions from Marie Curie in Caterham

Marie Curie will be holding the first of four Community Meet, Learn and Connect sessions in their new Caterham office. With each event focusing on a different theme, the first session will focus on bereavement, featuring a talk from Marie Curie bereavement counsellor, Claire Collins. There will be an opportunity to meet the team, network with volunteers and discover their plans for Surrey. It will be an informal event with light refreshments.

Date: Thursday 13 March 2025

Time: 12pm to 1.30pm

Venue: Suite 2A, 2nd floor, Quadrant House South, 47 Croydon Road, Caterham, CR3 6PB

Please register as follows:

Email: EastofEnglandRegionalAdmin@mariecurie.org.uk

Flu Vaccine survey

Luminus, working with Surrey Heartlands, is keen to explore motivations to having or not having the seasonal flu vaccine and understand any reasons why eligible care home workers chose not to take up the vaccine when offered.

They have produced a [Care home workers flu vaccine survey](#), the results of which will be anonymous and not linked to the care home worker or the care home they work in. The findings of the research will help inform future communications and help understand any support needed for those who have not had the vaccine, to encourage uptake in the future.

Latest news from Healthwatch Surrey

Healthwatch Surrey January 2025 Insight Bulletin

The [Healthwatch Surrey January 2025 Insight Bulletin](#) focuses on thanks and praise, the personal service which seems to be lacking in GP practices and how hospital waiting times and waiting lists continue to impact patients.

They also highlight current projects including access to GPs for those experiencing domestic abuse,



[What we're hearing about Guildford and Waverley November 2024](#)
[What we're hearing about Surrey Heath October 2024](#)

Emotional support for people with learning disabilities

Healthwatch Surrey is exploring access to, and experiences of, emotional and mental health support for people who have a learning disability. Whilst Healthwatch Surrey is talking to people with a learning disability directly, they would also appreciate hearing the experiences of those providing support or care.

An [emotional wellbeing and mental health support online survey](#) has been launched. It is hoped the findings will help inform future service development and identify training requirements. The closing date for the survey is 16 March 2025.

For further information about this project, please contact the Healthwatch Surrey Helpdesk:

Telephone: 0303 303 0023
Text (SMS)/WhatsApp: 07592 787 533
Email: enquiries@healthwatchesurrey.co.uk

Experiences of women and girls in Surrey survey

The [Experiences of women and girls survey](#), commissioned by Surrey County Council, is open to all women and girls aged 16 and over living, working, or studying in Surrey. The survey aims to understand perspectives of those who have experienced or witnessed violence against women and girls. This research will help Surrey's Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership understand the type of support that is available, where the gaps are and understand how to improve the service for others.

[Advice and support for survivor9standpwomen and girl BDC q0.000008866 0 594.96 842.04 reW*nBT/F1](#)

Free community first aid training

The British Red Cross and Surrey Prepared are hosting free first aid training sessions which are not a formal first aid qualification but are designed to help with confidence or the ability to react immediately to an incident, injury or illness. The sessions are suitable for beginners or those with existing knowledge and will take place at Woking, Horley, Dorking and Haslemere libraries.

Places are limited and tickets will be issued on a first come, first served basis. Further information about the [community first aid training](#), including the dates, times and booking form can be found online.

Latest news from the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB)

New appointment

The SSAB is pleased to announce that Jolene Llewellyn, currently their Safeguarding Adults Review Co-ordinator, has been appointed as the new Board Manager. It is anticipated that Jolene will commence her role on 1 April 2025.

Annual Report 2023/24

The Surrey Safeguarding [Adults Board Annual Report 2023/24](#) has been published.

Domestic abuse training

Transform your training is running free (with code **SURREYDA**) Surrey domestic abuse (DA) training for professionals and volunteers working to prevent or respond to DA in Surrey. Most courses will be delivered online via Microsoft Teams.

Further details about [Surrey domestic abuse training](#), including course objectives and how to book a place is available online.



Latest news from Mary Frances Trust

Community Connections Surrey launches new partnership website

Catalyst Support, Mary Frances Trust and Waythrough have launched a new Community Connections Surrey partnership website, as well as new marketing materials as part of a brand refresh.

The Community Connections Service offers access to free mental health support to Surrey



Current open Surrey County Council consultations

Find all [open Surrey County Council consultations](#) on Surrey Says.

Submitting an article for the Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships Information and Engagement Team Briefing

If you would like us to include an article on behalf of your organisation in the next edition, please email: asc.engagement@surreycc.gov.uk

Please note that we are unable to include attachments when we circulate the briefing, so please ensure that any documents that you wish to reference are uploaded to your own organisation's website or a partner website.

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