

Community Partnerships

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

January 2024

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Our community centres are getting busier and busier, benefiting both long term users and new users

Our Community Development Team are central to NHS Place based working 'at neighbourhood' in both East Surrey and Surrey Downs

We have delivered a new NHS funded grant programme 'Banstead Neighbourhood Fund' (£79K) for Surrey Downs and provided active monitoring to the 'Creating Healthy Communities Fund' (£134k) for East Surrey Place.

We have supported the voluntary sector to respond to cost-of-living pressures. We are distributing £400k of the Household Support Fund round 4 via voluntary sector partners to benefit residents.

Our partnership networks and relationships are robust and mature.

Community Centres Statistics

Catering income
£77k in 22/23 to
£124k in 23/24 (Forecast)

This is an increase of income of
£47k in one year



In the past year **16,000**
teas and coffees have
been served

Users of the centres
107k in 23/24
(Forecast **160k**)



Over **500** Christmas dinners
served in Dec 23
Many to the vulnerable
and elderly

Overall income
£186k in 21/22
£248k in 22/23
£353k in 23/24 (Forecast)
This is an increase of income of
£100k in one year



Spaces hired in 23/24
totalling **5,000hrs**
(Forecast **8,000hrs**)

Community Centre Events



Community Centre Case Study

East Surrey Place Funding

In 22/23 and 23/24 funding has been available from NHS East Surrey Place to increase the number of health and wellbeing projects that are delivered with and by local communities in Horley and Woodhatch Community Centres.

With this funding, Horley Community Centre have supported the African community by providing the space to enable health partners to run support clinics such as health checks for men and ladies, Covid boosters and flu jabs. In addition to health checks, the group use the centre to bring together the African Community for health talks, talks of interest, events and celebrations such as international women's day and black lives matter. The group also organise food distribution for the community. Around 50 to 80 people from all ages attend each event.



Facilitating and Supporting

Staff volunteering policy

Enabling staff to volunteer and support local organisations.

Leading and facilitating thematic groups

Older People Forum and Working Groups

Employment and Skills Group

Re-launching 'Get Connected' network for organisations working with young people

Supporting the voluntary sector

Providing in-kind support

Advice and guidance

Listening and planning

Survey and listening event with the VCFS in summer 2023

Updated approach to our main VCS grants (£184k annually) to increase transparency

Developed a draft 2024/25 workplan and seeking views from the sector



Cost of Living

Food Poverty

- We continue to support 5 Food Clubs across the borough to provide low-cost food to people struggling with the cost of living with around 8,000 visits to the Food Clubs being made in 2023.
- Through the Food Clubs, residents have engaged with a wide range of support organisations including Citizen's Advice Reigate & Banstead, SES Water and the Henry Smith Charity

Fuel Poverty

- We piloted a scheme to provide energy saving devices to households as well as top ups through UK Shared Prosperity funding. Following the success of this pilot which supported 63 households to reduce their energy costs we are repeating this scheme over winter 23/24

Household Support Fund – Round 4

- Worked with over 20 organisations across the voluntary sector to enable the Household Support Fund (£400k) to reach residents in need, through vouchers for food and fuel, advice, hot meals, and direct financial support for practical items.
- Uptake of the support has been particularly high this winter, in comparison to previous rounds of funding, with organisations evidencing the significant benefit this support brings to residents' lives.

Additional Support

- Working with Raven HT and the Good Company, we have been looking at developing a 'pantry' in Banstead. This will extend the offer around food and fuel support in the north of the borough and be funded through the UK Shared Prosperity fund

Case Study – Whitebushes

Through engagement with the community, Charlie (our Woodhatch & Whitebushes CDW) has been able to support the development of a number of projects on the Whitebushes estate including a regular football group (working with Redhill Football Club), a community garden and a resident group to tackle issues on the estate. Charlie has built strong relationships with local members, businesses and community groups as well as with residents, helping to increase the sense of community in an area that had little in the way of physical community assets.



Listening to our Communities Case Study

Redhill West Action Plan

Engagement Events with Partners and Community



Feedback from 24 organisations via RWPN on needs, barriers and solutions for key priority areas: cost of living, health creation, community activities and connections.



351 responses about top three most relevant issues to 91 residents engaged over three community events in Timperley Gardens, Rivers & Flowers estates and The Dome.



72 responses from 11 to 16-year-olds through online escape room feedback at the Surrey Youth Arts and Culture Festival in Redhill.



This engagement helps ensure the Community Development Team respond to the needs of local people



Our Role in Place Based Working

- Community Partnerships is leading the Council's collaboration "at place" with local NHS partners.
- R&B falls into East Surrey Place (south of M25) and Surrey Downs Place (north of M25)
- This collaboration is both strategic (e.g. through leadership of the East Surrey Place Prevention & Communities Priority) and local (e.g. through our Community Development Team's close collaboration with local GPs and supporting Neighbourhood Networks)
- This benefits the wellbeing of our residents and helps to focus NHS resources on preventing ill health
- These videos bring to life what the team does:
 - [Introduction to Community Development](#)
 - [Collaboration between community development and Growing Health Together in East Surrey](#)
 - [Preston football project](#)

