

Briefing for local stakeholders with an interest in social care, health and communities

Adult Social Care | Information and Engagement Team



Monthly briefing

Information correct as of 24 May 2021

Coronavirus roadmap – changes from 17 May

This week marked a new point in the roadmap with the easing of some restrictions. The government has now eased the limits on seeing friends and family, wherever possible allowing people to decide on the appropriate level of risk for their circumstances. A full list of changes and what people can and can't do can be found on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

Changes to vaccination services from Epsom Racecourse

The Epsom Racecourse vaccination service has relocated to Sandown Park and started running from Monday 17 May 2021.

The GP-led vaccination service previously based at Epsom Racecourse, which is managed by the GP Health Partners has also relocated to Leatherhead Hospital, with sessions being run on weekdays 4-8pm and Saturdays and Sundays 8am-6pm, for people who are eligible and who have been invited by text or telephone. Vaccines will only be available for those who have booked an appointment.

Spring Bank Holiday Pharmacy opening hours

The [NHS](https://www.nhs.uk) has published details of which pharmacies are open over the Spring bank holiday period. The details were correct at the time of publishing, but people are advised to contact the pharmacy before travelling and to check that they have the medication needed in stock.

COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout

People are now being invited to get a COVID-19 vaccine if they are 32 and over, or they will be 32 before 1 July 2021.

To book an appointment go to [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk)

British Sign Language Coronavirus videos now available

A range of British Sign Language videos relating to the vaccination programme are now available:

- [Covid-19 vaccination and blood clotting](#)
- [Phase 2 of the Covid vaccination programme](#)
- [Covid-19 guide for women of childbearing age, pregnant or breastfeeding](#)
- [What to expect after the Covid-19 vaccination](#)

Gypsies, Roma, Travellers and Showmen unite to ‘Give COVID the Jab’

Members of the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller (GRT) and Showmen communities are being encouraged to “[Give COVID the Jab](#)” in a new NHS video.

The video aims to educate, inform and answer common questions about the COVID-19 vaccine to boost vaccine confidence and was produced by Jake Bowers, a Romany journalist and film maker, GRT community, First Community’s Health and Care’s Inclusion Health team, as well as Surrey Heartlands Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Breathing Space Debt Respite Scheme launched

The Debt Respite Scheme is a government backed scheme which came into force on 4 May 2021 and gives anyone temporary legal protection (known as a Breathing Space) from most types of debt/creditor collection whilst they take action to get on top of their debts. Debtors, or their legally appointed representative, can access a Breathing Space through a regulated debt adviser, to pause enforcement action and contact from most creditors, freezing of interest and penalty charges for 60 days.

If someone is being treated for a mental health crisis, there is a Mental Health Breathing Space which gives protection for as long as the crisis treatment lasts, plus thirty days (no matter how long the crisis treatment lasts). A Mental Health Breathing Space can be applied for by debtors, their carers, advocates or representatives, mental health professionals and health and social care workers. An approved mental health professional must confirm a person is receiving crisis treatment before the breathing space can start. Residents are advised to contact [professional debt advisers](#) who provide a free service.

This [online referral](#) should be used to request an Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP) provides evidence that a person is receiving mental health crisis treatment.

Other News

Learning Disability Week 14-20 June 2021 with a theme of Creativity

This year Surrey will be celebrating Learning Disability Week from 14-20 June and the theme is Creativity.

The Learning Disability and Autism Engagement Team would like to hear about the creative things that people with a learning disability are doing across Surrey. This will be a great opportunity for people to get reconnected and involved.

Please let the team know about:

- Any creative activities that are being run or people can join. These could be arts and crafts, gardening and horticulture, music and dance or anything else where people with a learning disability can be involved and get creative.
- Any new, creative or innovative ways people with a learning disability are contributing to the community, inspiring others or developing independence.
- Anywhere that creative work made by people with a learning disability is being sold to the public or people with a learning disability are involved through volunteering or work. Publicity and links for people who want to buy the work or the services can be shared.

Imogen Osborne from the Learning Disability and Autism team is putting together a programme of events/activities that are on offer over the week or the following week and the team looks forward to hearing about any ideas and experiences. Please get in touch:

- **Email** – ldcommunications@surreycc.gov.uk

Carers Week taking place 7-13 June 2021: Time to recognise, value and support Surrey's Carers

This year's Carers Week aims to raise public awareness of caring, help people realise they are carers, and make carers aware of the support available.

[Action for Carers](#) has information on all their free events for carers, and events will include: drumming workshops, picnics in parks, a legal session on wills and lasting power of attorney as well as mindfulness and yoga.

Carers can contact Action for Carers:

- **Telephone:** 0303 040 1234
- **Text:** 07714 075993
- **Email:** CarersSupportCentre@actionforcarers.org.uk

NHS Safeguarding App

A new NHS Safeguarding App has recently been developed as a comprehensive resource for healthcare professionals, carers and individuals.

The App provides 24 hour access to up-to-date legislation and guidance, as well as providing information on how to report a safeguarding concern, and a searchable directory of safeguarding contacts for each local authority in England.

The App can be downloaded through the [Google Play](#) store and the [Apple Store](#) by searching for NHS Safeguarding.

Join the Big Lunch Weekend, 5-6 June 2021

Over the past year Surrey's communities and neighbourhoods have come together to support each other in an unprecedented way. To continue building and celebrating amazing communities and to harness the community spirit the Big Lunch project will help to create a weekend of making (safe and socially distanced) positive local connections across Surrey and offers a great opportunity for people in Surrey to come together and celebrate and give thanks to communities and places. People can join in online, on their doorsteps, or over the fence.

To get involved, sign up for the [free Big Lunch pack](#). To share events and pictures from the weekend use #Surreytogether

Hidden Talents: share your views on access to education, training and employment

Everyone in Surrey has a hidden talent, which is why the county council wants to ensure everyone can access education, training, skills development and employment opportunities.

If someone is aged 18 and over with additional needs including learning disabilities, autism, mental health, sensory impairments, long term health conditions or are a carer, struggling to get into employment, Surrey County Council wants to hear from them. To take part and share views people must not be receiving existing employment support provided by Adult Social Care or Surrey Choices.

What people share will help the county council understand how they can support people to succeed. This could be working with local businesses and organisations to ensure people have access to the jobs and opportunities they desire.

How to share views

Individuals can share views on [Surrey Says](#). The survey will go live by the **1st June 2021** and will be open for eight weeks until the **30th July 2021**. Please share the link to the survey.

Alternative formats such as easy read, large print and screen reader accessible will also be available to download from Surrey Says from the 1st June 2021 and hard copy versions can be obtained by contacting contactcentre.adminhub@surreycc.gov.uk or if someone has a hearing impairment, please feel free to use the alternative SMS mobile number: 07917 087560.

Individuals are also invited to share their views, experiences, and suggestions at a range of virtual sessions on Zoom or Microsoft Teams. To find out more information about the virtual sessions and/or the hidden talents project, please contact Julia Pears:

- **Email:** Julia.Pears@surreycc.gov.uk

Healthwatch Surrey currently trialling a Community Engagement Hub

Healthwatch Surrey's [Community Engagement Hub](#) is a one stop platform where they want people to be involved in issues that affect local health and social care services; take part in a survey, leave their opinion in a poll or share their feedback about care.

On the platform, individuals can also find information on Healthwatch Surrey's partnership with local Citizen Advice and their free Independent Health Complaints Advocacy service, as well as some of their published reports.

Introducing the Social Worker of the Year Awards 2021: Reconnection and Recognition

These awards are about recognising outstanding social work practice and celebrating the positive impact of the profession. The awards have twelve categories which include Adult Social Worker of the Year, Student Social Worker of the Year, and Team Leader of the Year.

Submissions for the awards closes on Friday 23 July 2021, and individuals need to register on the [Social Worker of the Year Awards](#) website.

Young people use poetry and film to share important mental health message

[Poem to a Parent](#) is a short film based on the award winning “It’s Just a Façade” and created by young people, working in partnership with NHS Frimley CCG and Youth Engagement Slough (YES) partners and was released to coincide with Mental Health Awareness Week and aims to inspire young people and their parents and carers to speak more openly about their mental health and ask for help when they need it.

Easy read cancer screening leaflets

Public Health England and [Beyond Words](#) have provided pictures and supporting text in three cancer screening leaflets which can be downloaded for free:

- An Easy Guide to Bowel Cancer Screening
- An Easy Guide to Cervical Screening
- An Easy Guide to Breast Screening.

Please share with your staff or residents where needed.

Help provide feedback on improving NHS 111 for people who are deaf or hearing impaired

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) are looking to explore how improvements can be made to NHS 111 and would like to understand the experience and views of people who are deaf or have hearing loss when accessing NHS 111 online or over the telephone.

Complete the [survey](#) using Survey Monkey or for people who have questions or prefer to respond in BSL, please email panel@rnid.org.uk

Sign up for Healthwatch Surrey Insight Bulletin

One of the statutory duties of Healthwatch Surrey is to listen to the view of local people about their health and social care and to share the views with those who make decisions about local services.

Healthwatch Surrey’s engagement is agenda free and people speak to Healthwatch Surrey in their own words.

Each month Healthwatch Surrey produce a monthly Insight Bulletin highlighting themes. To sign up to receive a copy of the Insight Bulletin, for a paper copy of the Insight Bulletin, or a copy in a different format contact Laihan Burr Dixon:

- **Email:** laihan.burrdixon@healthwatchesurrey.co.uk

May is National Walking Month

May is National Walking Month. Walks resumed at the beginning of May in line with government guidelines, and all walks must be booked in advance so numbers can be managed.

[Walking for health](#) has information on local walks around Surrey including where and when, contact details for the organisers of the walks, and how long each walk lasts.

The NHS has stated that walking counts towards 150 minutes of moderate physical activity everyone should be doing each week.

Accessible wheelchair friendly routes can be found on [Accessible Countryside for Everyone](#).

Women's Health Strategy: Call for Evidence

The Department for Health and Social Care is seeking views from individuals on their experience of health and care to help inform the development of the government's [Women's Health Strategy](#).

They welcome [written submissions](#) from [individuals](#) or organisations who have expertise in women's health, such as researchers or third sector organisations.

Get More Active project launches

Get More Active is a project for disabled people, and those living with a long term health condition, who would like to get more active, and offers 1:1 appointments to discuss what could be achieved, as well as finding out about activities and exercises that meet a person's needs and interests. To find out more, contact Surrey Coalition of Disabled People:

- **Email:** getactive@surreycoalition.org.uk
- **Telephone/SMS:** 07434 865062

One You Surrey smoking cessation service is available virtually

[One You Surrey](#) has continued to support people to quit smoking during the pandemic. They are still offering a service remotely, offering appointments either via a video call, or over the telephone.

One You Surrey have also created a [short video](#) providing an overview of the specialist smoking cessation programme and its referral pathways, including eligibility for the programme.

Last week was National Hoarding Awareness Week

[Hoarding UK](#) provides information about hoarding, as well as a support helpline, and online group support via Zoom.

If someone has hoarding tendencies Surrey Fire and Rescue can offer a [Safe and Well Visit](#) giving free personalised advice about fire safety in the home.

Contact Surrey Fire and Rescue Service:

- **Telephone:** 0800 085 0767
- **Text/SMS:** 07527 182861

Goal Setting and Decluttering support available

The Mary Frances Trust has a four week course starting on 5 July 2021 enabling people to set up goals to start of the path of achieving a clutter free home and/or working environment, and to help people feel more confident and able to function effectively in their surroundings.

For more information and to register with Mary Frances Trust:

- **Telephone:** 01372 375400
- **Text/Mobile:** 07929 024722
- **Email:** info@maryfreancestrust.org.uk

Disability Rights UK benefits training course available

Disability Rights UK is offering a [Universal Credit Overview](#) online course, run in two parts and facilitated by an experienced benefits trainer.

The course dates are 15 and 16 June 9.45am-12.45pm.

To register complete the [online booking form](#).

Catalyst activity sessions available for improved wellbeing

Catalyst is offering a variety of online groups and activities via their secure platform including a Quiz Group, Coping with Low Mood and Worry during COVID, various Wheel of Wellbeing groups and Writing for Positive Mental Health.

Register for an activity:

- **Via:** the [Catalyst](#) website
- **Email:** groups.cc@catalystsupport.org.uk
- **Telephone:** 01276 409415

Find information on all their upcoming activities and sessions on [Surrey Virtual Wellbeing Hub](#).

Sight for Surrey activity update

[Sight for Surrey's](#) vision impaired rehabilitation team are resuming vital, non-urgent mobility sessions, and the Communicator Guides are increasing their visits and are now able to offer support with a wider range of activities. The Hearing Loss Advice Team are also resuming non urgent equipment visits, and the main office at Rentwood is gradually re-opening to deliver services.

For more information contact Sight for Surrey helpdesk:

- **Telephone:** 01372 377701
- **Email:** info@sightforsurrey.org.uk

The Sight for Surrey Deaf BSL café meets each week with a different topic. To take part:

- **Email:** dutysw@sensoryservices.org.uk

[Let's Talk Tech](#) is a series of webinars which will be delivered via Zoom and will give information about technology specifically designed for people with vision impairments:

- Wednesday 26 May 11am-12.15pm Synapptic – the all in one smartphone app
- Wednesday 30 June 2-3.15pm Screen Readers – what are they and how do they work?
- Wednesday 28 July 11am-12.15pm Windows 10 - accessibility features

For more information and to join a session:

- **Telephone:** 01372 377701
- **Email:** info@sightforsurrey.org.uk

Age UK volunteer shopping service no longer accepting new referrals

Since 1 May 2021, Age UK Surrey have no longer been taking new referrals to their [volunteer shopping service](#). Clients who currently receive a shopping service through Age UK Surrey will continue to be supported by volunteers.

For more information:

- **Telephone:** 01483 503414
- **Email:** enquiries@ageuksurrey.org.uk

Canary Care, helping people live independently in their own home

Occupational Therapists in Surrey and Borders Older Adult Community Mental Health Teams use [Canary Care](#), a remote monitoring product as part of their assessment process.

The remote monitoring products are used where there is a concern that someone may be having difficulty managing their familiar daily activities at home, e.g. washing, making something to eat or sleeping at night. Sensors are placed around a home for two-four weeks to monitor movement, including where in their home they spend their time eg how much they are moving around, and whether they are using certain appliances.

Information is sent via a hub to Occupational Therapists and the data is then checked remotely giving them a better understanding of a person's routine, their needs, strengths and any potential risk factors. Recommendations can then be made to enable the person to live as independently as possible in their own home.

For information on Canary Care:

- **Telephone:** 01485 408366
- **Email:** info@canarycare.co.uk

26 May is Purple Day, part of National Epilepsy Week

[Purple Day](#) aims to get people talking about epilepsy, as well as raising awareness of the condition. [Surrey Information Point](#) provides information on local support groups and services for people with epilepsy in Surrey.

Mobilise providing support to unpaid workforce carers

Unpaid staff carers who work for Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System, including colleagues working for the NHS and Surrey County Council can get extra support with a new partnership with tech start-up [Mobilise](#). The ICS has commissioned [Mobilise](#) to provide a programme of support which includes online coaching, virtual cuppas and facilitated peer communities.

Relaunch of Guildford Community Fridge

The Guildford Community Fridge relaunched on 4 May 2021 and is open Monday – Friday 10am-3pm. The community fridge is open to everyone as part of an aim to tackle food waste in the borough and celebrate the sharing of quality food.

Guildford Community Fridge can be found at:

- **Address:** The Hive, Park Barn Drive, Guildford, GU2 8EN
- **Telephone:** 01483 444150

Surrey Information Point has information on [community fridges](#) across Surrey.

Managing your money in this current time

The Mary Frances Trust are offering a new [three week course](#), starting on Friday 28 May 2021 and delivered by Christians Against Poverty (CAP) to help people manage their money better and learn to budget, save and spend well.

For more information and to register with Mary Frances Trust:

- **Telephone:** 01372 375400
- **Text/Mobile:** 07929 024722
- **Email:** info@maryfreancestrust.org.uk

What does innovation in digital health mean to you?

The Guildford Digital Health Hub (GDH) is a new initiative backed by Guildford Borough Council, launched with the aim of putting Guildford and South West Surrey on the map as a centre of excellence for organisations of all sizes which are driving innovation in and around digital health and wellbeing. They are currently conducting a [survey](#) to find out what innovation means to their potential audiences, and how they can help people be more innovative around digital healthcare.

Current open Surrey County Council consultations

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

Submitting an article for the ASC 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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asc.engagement@surreycc.gov.uk