



# Thriving Communities Commissioning Fund

1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028



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## Introduction

The council has committed to delivering this second round of the Thriving Communities Commissioning Fund to support our most vulnerable residents through partnerships with local voluntary, charity and faith sector organisations. This scheme will continue to help tackle specific priorities, allowing resources to be directed where they are needed most and make the biggest impact on the lives of our residents.

Waverley has a strong record of commissioning and working in partnership with the voluntary, charity and faith sector to deliver community services and activities. These local organisations deliver high quality services and support to residents, know the local community well and operate flexibly to meet their needs.

The Thriving Communities Commissioning Fund was established in October 2021 to enable the council to meet the health and wellbeing needs of communities in partnership with local not-for-profit organisations.

We commissioned 23 organisations to deliver projects with three-year funding, from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2025. This included projects that supported carers, youth activities, a lunch club for older people and physical activities for people with mental health problems. We are extremely grateful to our partners for all their hard work and commitment in ensuring our communities receive the high-quality support they need.

This Commissioning Guidance explains how round 2 of the scheme works, how to apply, how applications will be evaluated and what happens next. It is designed to be as straightforward as possible. Not-for-profit organisations are eligible to apply and this includes charities, voluntary organisations, faith organisations, community based organisations, Community Interest Companies, social enterprises or partnership organisations.

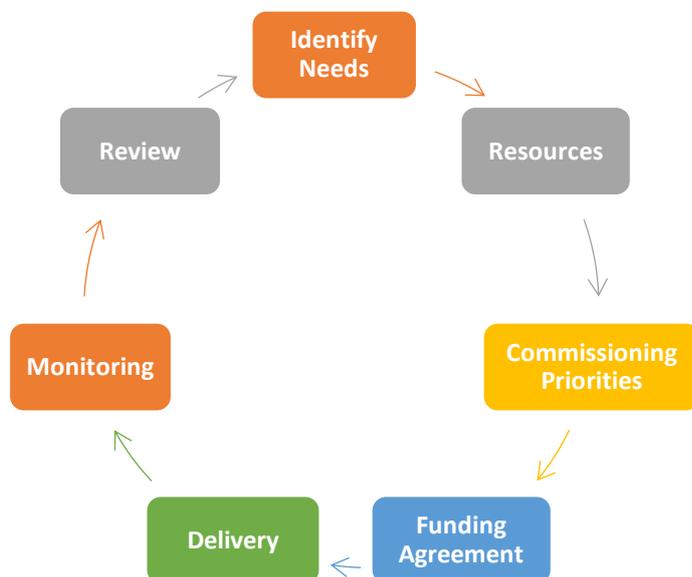
The budget available for organisations to apply to for funding from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028 is £442,105 for each of the three years of the scheme. Within this, levels of funding awarded for each commissioning priority and activity will vary depending on the type and number of applications received.

## What is commissioning?

Commissioning is a broad concept and there are many definitions. It is the process by which services are identified, funded and monitored. It comprises a range of activities including:

- Assessing needs
- Funding services
- Monitoring quality

The process is often known as a cycle. There are variations to the cycle but they include the same logical process.



Through the Thriving Communities Commissioning Fund we will:

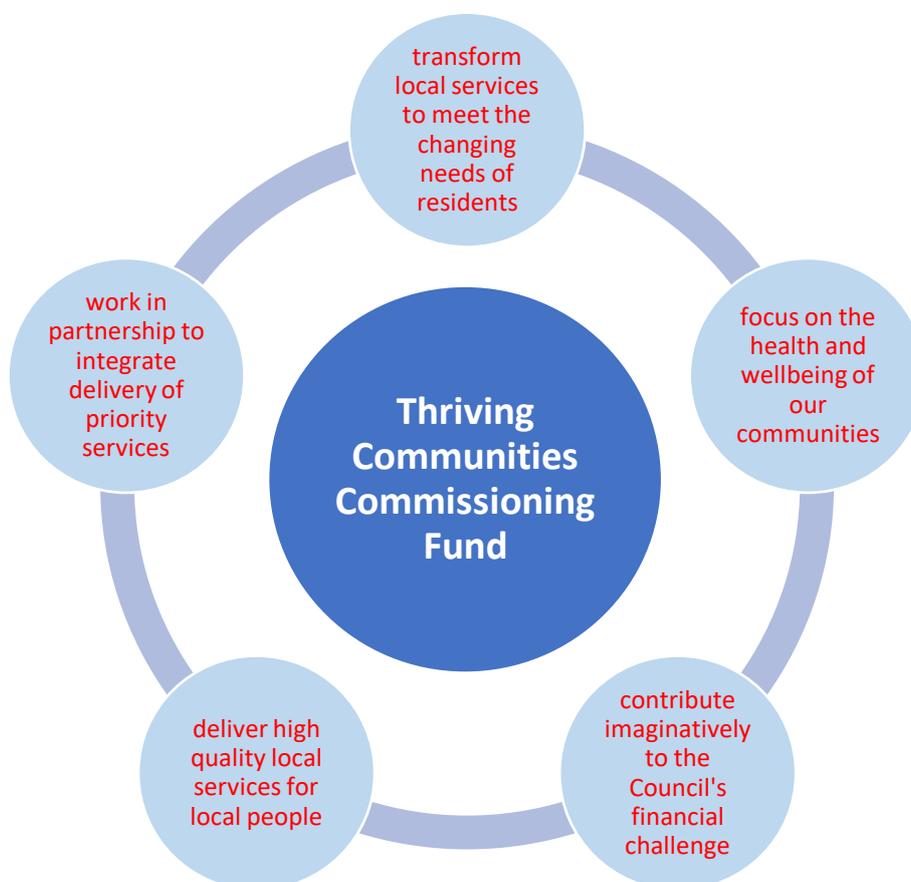
- Achieve better outcomes for our communities
- Make sure projects are designed and shaped to meet the needs of our communities
- Make the best use of resources available
- Keep an ongoing check on the quality and impact of funded projects, making sure resources are being used well.

An important part of the process is to set out what we expect of the funded services and monitor their delivery.

## Our Commissioning Intentions

We are looking to develop our relationship with local not-for-profit organisations through the Thriving Communities Commissioning Fund. We will work in true partnership, with respect and trust. As part of this we have a responsibility to spend taxpayer's money transparently, efficiently and direct it to the right services. We will monitor the performance and delivery of funded projects throughout the funding period. In turn, funded partners will provide high quality, agile, innovative projects that are responsive to community needs, underpinned by sound financial management.

## Our 2025-2028 plan and approach to commissioning key services



## Identifying the needs in Waverley

This Commissioning Guidance document contains information for local voluntary, charity and faith sector organisations wishing to bid for funding to support the health and wellbeing needs of residents living in Waverley. Organisations funded during round 1 of the scheme may apply again, as well as potential new partners.

The Commissioning Guidance has been informed by a range of different sources which we have summarised into key messages relating to the current and likely future needs of residents. We have grouped this into four Commissioning Priorities which describe the outcomes we want to achieve.

### Our Corporate Strategy 2024 - 2028

The Thriving Communities Commissioning Fund has been shaped to meet our new Corporate Strategy, 2024-2028. Our funding priorities reflect the types of services that need to be delivered to enable our residents to live well and independently.

### Our Vision

Our vision is to make Waverley a thriving and inclusive place to live, work and do business

### Our Strategic Priorities



The Thriving Communities Commissioning Fund focusses on delivering our strategic priority 3 : *To be a more inclusive borough* where we will help to reduce health inequalities in our communities within Waverley. This strategic priority will make sure we address the causes of inequality within our borough and work together to ensure all residents have equality of opportunity to good health and wellbeing. Our voluntary, charity and faith sector partners will work with us to provide services and engagement for all our residents, particularly focussing on areas within our borough of less advantage.

### **Our Partners' objectives**

We regularly work with statutory partners to achieve our strategic priorities and support our communities. With ever increasing demand for services and stretched resources we continuously work together to align our work where possible, to ensure our communities receive high quality, efficient and effective services. We cannot work in isolation and those strong partnerships enable us to collectively meet challenges and take opportunities.

When developing our commissioning scheme, we considered how we work with our partners and our overall vision for the Waverley borough as a system.

### **Surrey County Council Community Vision**



By 2030, the ambition is for Surrey to be a uniquely special place where everyone has a great start to life, people live healthy and fulfilling lives, areas are enabled to achieve their full potential and contribute to their community, and no one is left behind

During 2018, Surrey County Council engaged with residents, communities and partners across the county to understand what Surrey should look like by 2030. Those conversations enabled the development of a shared vision for Surrey.

You can find out more about the [Community Vision for Surrey in 2030](#) via the Surrey County Council website.

### **Health and Care Systems**

We work with two systems across Waverley supporting people living in places across Surrey and Hampshire. They are a partnership of organisations working together including local health and care organisations bringing together NHS organisations, local authorities and other partners, to take joint responsibility for improving the health of the local population. They make decisions about shared priorities, how funding is used and what can be done to make the biggest difference to local people.

## Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership – Guildford and Waverley Health and Care Alliance



The Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership includes all parts of Waverley except Farnham, along with other places in Surrey.

At place we work with the Guildford and Waverley Health and Care Alliance who are part of Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System. It serves a population of just over 220,000.

As a place-based partnership, [Guildford and Waverley Health and Care Alliance's priorities](#) include

- Addressing health inequalities
- Ageing Well
- Working with neighbourhoods and communities
- Independence and wellbeing

### Frimley Health and Care – Farnham Place



Frimley Health and Care includes Farnham, along with other places in Surrey and Hampshire.

Frimley Health and Care has split its plans into key ambition areas [to create healthier communities](#):

- Starting Well:
- Living Well:
- People, Places and Communities
- Our People:.
- Leadership and Cultures:
- Outstanding Use of Resources:

### Our population data – key messages

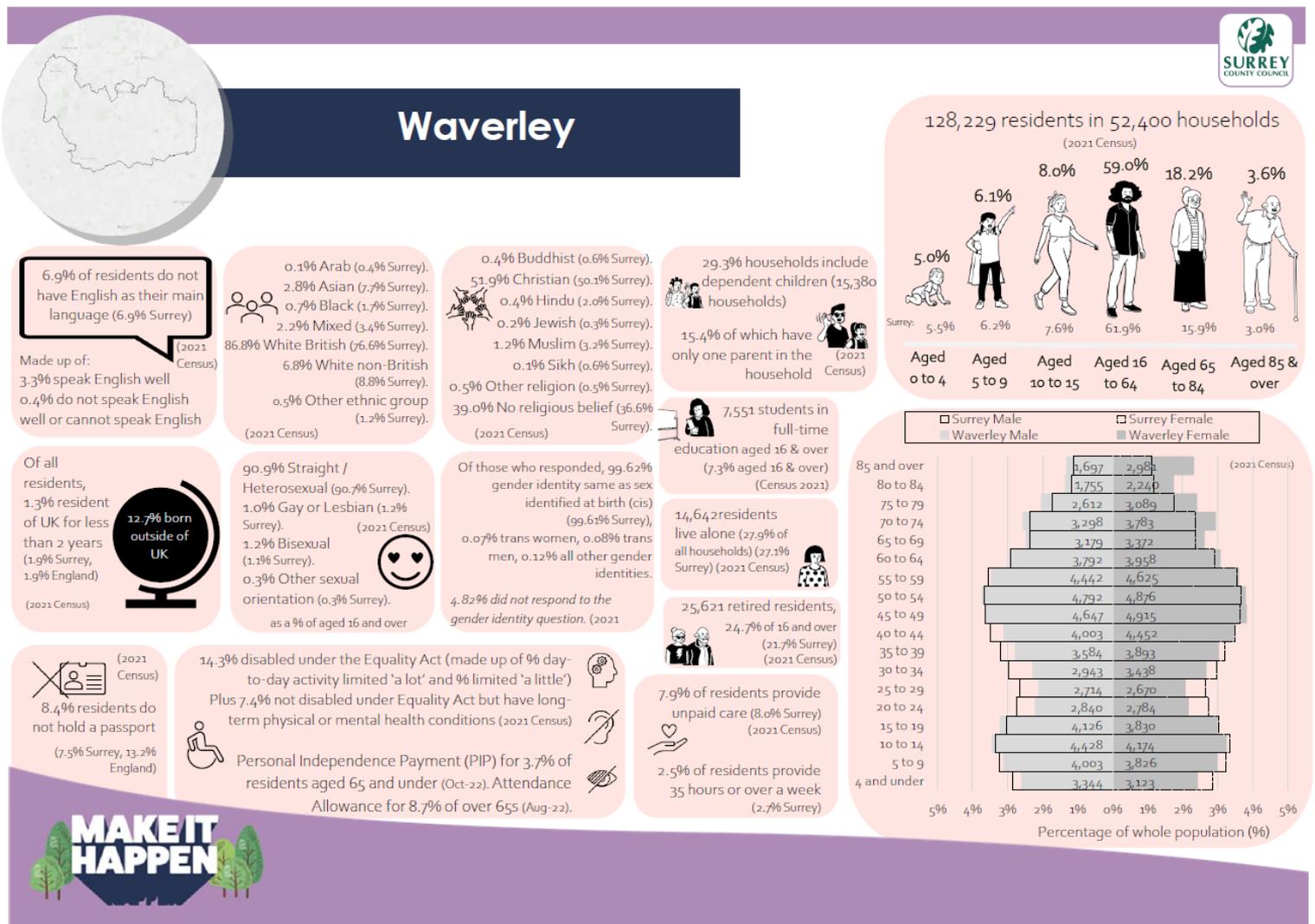
This section provides a snapshot of some of the information and data available about the health and wellbeing of our population in Waverley. We used information provided through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Surrey Index Insights, the 2011 Census and 2021 Census.

The information below provides a snapshot of our population. All applicants are encouraged to refer to the Surrey-i website when completing the Application Form, which brings together data from key stakeholders about our population and vulnerable groups [Home | Surrey-i \(surreyi.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreyi.gov.uk).

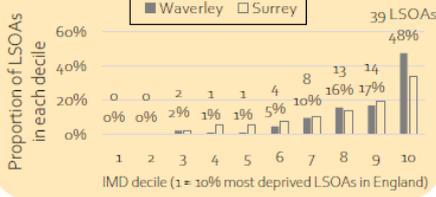
The 2021 Census showed Waverley had a total population of 128,229 comprising of 52,448 households. Waverley residents enjoy an excellent quality of life and have good reason to be happy and healthy. The Legatum Institute UK Prosperity Index 2021, which measures institutional, economic and societal wellbeing, showed that Waverley was the second highest ranking local authority area to live in the UK.

Waverley does, however, have pockets of relative deprivation and health outcomes vary widely throughout the borough. Waverley's rural nature and ageing population means that social isolation is a key concern. Our population of residents over 65 and 85 years of age is high compared to other areas in Surrey and there are increased numbers of residents with conditions such as stroke or dementia.

The following infographics provide insight summaries of the borough, which can also be viewed via the Surrey-i website and compared with other local authority areas in Surrey [County and Borough Summaries | Surrey-i \(surreyi.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreyi.gov.uk)



### Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD, 2019)



59.5% households were not classified as deprived in any dimension (employment, education, housing, or health) (57.1% in Surrey). (2021 Census)

1.6% of households deprived in three dimensions.

6.6% of all children are in absolute low-income families (7.7% in Surrey, 15.4% in England)

43.4% of which are in lone parent families.  
22.5% of which are in out of work families. (2020/21)

Youth unemployment: 2.3% of 18-24s are in receipt of Universal Credit or Jobseeker's Allowance (2.5% in Surrey)

Adult unemployment: 1.8% of all adults are in receipt of UC or JSA (2.1% in Surrey) (Feb 2023)

5.4% pensioners are in poverty (6.1% in Surrey) (Aug 2022)

7.3% of households were in fuel poverty in 2020, which is likely to have risen considerably (6.9% in Surrey)

0.7% of households are without central heating (1.0% Surrey) (2021 Census)

**Sectors with the most local jobs (2021)**

- 14.8% education,
- 11.1% retail,
- 11.1% professional, scientific and technical,
- 11.1% health

11.4% adults have no qualifications (12.9% Surrey, 18.1% England) (2021 Census)

3.2% households are 'overcrowded' (5.0% Surrey) & 1.9% of households have overcrowded bedrooms (2021 Census)

73.0% of housing is owner-occupied (71.7% in Surrey).  
12.3% of housing is social rented (11.4% in Surrey).  
12.4% of housing is private rented (14.9% in Surrey). (2021 Census)

3.0% of residents live in communal establishments (i.e. prisons, care homes, hospitals, hotels, university halls, religious establishments) (2.3% in Surrey) (2021 Census)

11.2% of households do not have access to a vehicle (12.7% Surrey) (2021 Census)

7.4% higher carbon footprint per person than the Surrey average (52.6% higher than England) (2021)

12.7% households not connected to the gas network (12.1% in Surrey) (2021)

1.4% land = residential,

10.5% land = residential gardens,

1.5% land = community buildings,

4.4% land = outdoor recreation,

35.2% of land = forest, open land, & water. (2022)

**Occupations of residents (2021 Census)**

- 22.1% higher managerial, admin. & prof. (20.2% Surrey),
- 3.9% large employers & higher managerial and admin (3.7% Surrey),
- 13.8% higher prof. (12.6% Surrey),
- 24.5% lower managerial, admin. & prof. (23.6% Surrey),
- 10.9% intermediate (12.2% Surrey),
- 3.7% lower supervisory and technical (4.1% Surrey),
- 8.2% semi-routine (8.4 2 274 1154 332 6003% Surrey),
- 6.0% routine (6.7% Surrey).

**55.7 overall crime offences per 1,000 people (73.4 in Surrey, 97.2 in England)**

- 9.9 anti-social behaviour (14.1 in Surrey)
- 9.6 burglary (7.5 in Surrey)
- 17.3 violent crime and sexual offences (23.3 in Surrey)
- 0.2 robbery (0.4 in Surrey)
- 4.0 vehicle crime (5.0 in Surrey)
- 5.0 criminal damage (6.2 in Surrey)
- 0.8 drug crime (1.8 in Surrey)

**Estimated disease prevalence (2019/20)**

- 14.2% high blood pressure (13.3% Surrey)
- 11.5% depression (10.4% Surrey)
- 6.5% obesity (7.4% Surrey)
- 5.4% diabetes (5.8% Surrey)
- 6.4% asthma (5.9% Surrey)
- 93.3% cancer – no. of new cases as % of expected new cases – (97.4% Surrey)



# Waverley



## Indices of deprivation in Waverley

Deprivation is linked to health inequalities. The three most deprived small areas identified by the English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 Waverley are: Farnham Upper Hale (now known as Farnham Heath End), Central Godalming and Ockford, Alfold, Cranleigh Rural and Ellens Green. This official measure combines information from seven indices including employment, health & disability, education skills and training, crime, housing and services, living environment and income.

Surrey's Health and Wellbeing Strategy was refreshed in 2022 to include a particular focus on 21 areas of the county that experience the poorest health outcomes. These are known as "key neighbourhoods" which include the most deprived areas of the county. Farnham Heath End (previously Farnham Upper Hale) is ranked 14 out of the 21 areas and Godalming Central and Ockford is ranked 15 out of the 21 areas. Insights about both of these areas can be found on the Surrey-i website [Key Neighbourhoods | Surrey-i \(surreyi.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreyi.gov.uk)

## **Carers living in Waverley**

Carers look after family, partners or friends in need of help because they are unable to manage without support. Some people become carers overnight or only realise they are a carer after many years. Carers often fill the gaps statutory services are unable to provide. Caring can affect health outcomes and many people find this role exhausting. We also know that unpaid carers shouldered significant strain during the COVID19 pandemic, delivering care despite their own support networks being heavily impacted. Carers UK research during the first wave evidenced that there was a 28% increase in the number of carers resulting from the pandemic.

The 2021 Census shows that 9,641 people in Waverley provide unpaid care. This is 7.9% of our population and the third highest local authority area in Surrey (2021 Census Provision of unpaid care). Carers have a lot to think about and access to information and support not only helps the person they care for but also their own wellbeing.

## **Older people living in Waverley**

Waverley has an ageing population, with a relatively high proportion of people above retirement age. We need to be prepared for our ageing society and provide community services that make Waverley a good place to grow old.

The 2021 Census shows 21.8% of the Waverley population is over 65, the second highest local authority area in Surrey. This is a striking result but consistent with forecast national trends. The 2021 Census shows large percentage increases in our older population across the whole of Surrey: 34% growth in those aged 70-74, 18.2% growth in those aged 75-79 and 14.5% growth in those aged 80 and above.

It is important that our older population have access to community services and activities that enable them to feel valued, included and can live life to the full.

## **Loneliness and social isolation in Waverley**

Anyone can feel lonely from time to time, whatever their age and there are many reasons for it. Loneliness can have an adverse impact on our health and wellbeing. More than one in five people in England (22%) reported feeling lonely at least some of the time (Health Survey for England, 2021 part 2). If loneliness lasts a long time or is severe, it might increase the risk of some conditions such as dementia and depression.

Things that prevent us from spending time with other people can make us feel lonely including leaving to go to university, looking after a newborn baby, a long-term health condition, becoming a carer and retirement. Certain population groups are more at risk of loneliness including young people, perinatal, older people, carers, asylum seekers and people who identify as LGBTQ+.

The 2021 Census shows 27.9% of people live alone in Waverley. While living alone isn't the same as feeling lonely, living on your own can be one aspect of social isolation.

Waverley has the largest population of people over 65 in Surrey. Older people are especially vulnerable to loneliness and social isolation including through death of a partner, disability or illness, frailty and difficulty getting out.

Waverley is the largest rural borough in Surrey and has low connectivity i.e., ability to access services that are not in walking distance. This means residents need to travel access services and activities, further reducing their social connections.

People without access to the internet are at a significant disadvantage in terms of connecting with communities and people. As we move to a more virtual world the digital social divide will only increase, making it more important that people have access to face-to-face social interaction.

### **Mental Health in Waverley**

Primary responsibility for promoting emotional wellbeing and preventing mental ill health lies with Surrey County Council as the public health authority. The Surrey Health and Wellbeing Strategy identified mental health as a priority, to support people's mental health and emotional wellbeing by preventing mental ill health and promoting emotional wellbeing.

As a Council and community leader we have a role to play in improving the overall mental health of our residents through preventative services, enabling them to stay connected, keep active and live well. Organised community groups delivering services such as social centres, youth groups and sports clubs all play a role in building good mental health and tackling isolation.

Mood and anxiety disorders are a broad measure of mental ill health in the local population and Godalming Binscombe, Godalming Charterhouse and Godalming Milford all appear in the top 20 Surrey ward areas for mood and anxiety disorders (Index of Deprivation Health Domain Score 2019).

8.66% of the total population over aged 65 in Waverley are predicted to have depression by 2025 (Surrey JSNA Mental Health). 12.7% of patients over 18 in Waverley were recorded by their medical practice as having depression (Practice disease registers CCG 2020/21).

The risk factors and conditions associated with mental health include socio-economic, cultural and environmental conditions, living and working conditions, social and community networks and individual lifestyle factors (source Dalhgren & Whitehead Model of the Health Determinants). COVID19 and the impact of lockdowns has a continued impact on the mental health and mental wellbeing of some people, particularly those who have lost confidence in socialising.

Detailed information about the mental health of our adult population can be found in the Emotional and Mental Wellbeing in Surrey Adults chapter of the Joint Strategic

## Dementia

Dementia can affect people of any age but is most common in older people. Dementia is a term that is used to describe a collection of symptoms including memory loss, problems with reasoning and communication skills, and a reduction in a person's abilities and skills in carrying out daily activities such as washing, dressing, cooking and caring for self.

Waverley has the highest number of people over aged 65 predicted to have dementia by 2025. (Source Surrey JSNA, The Surrey Context: People and Places, chapter published in September 2022)

Having dementia doesn't mean people have to stop doing the things they enjoy. Staying socially active within a safe environment, taking part in things like art-based activities, reminiscence work and physical activities is good for people's confidence and mental wellbeing

## Young people in Waverley

Although Surrey County Council has primary responsibility for ensuring and overseeing the delivery of services for children, community-based activities and services, including youth clubs and sports clubs, can enable young people to have a sense of belonging, hope for the future and feel connected to where they live. Local community facilities and activities can help improve health and wellbeing outcomes from an early age.

Some children and young people living in Waverley do not thrive and the COVID19 period of lockdown during the pandemic was a particularly difficult time for them, with many continuing to feel the effects. Anxiety, self-harm, suicide ideation and eating disorders are common issues that are being presented to schools and children's services.

Social media has become an integral part of many young people's lives. Over half of 5-15 year olds use social media for social networking, gaming and to obtain knowledge (Ofcom Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report 2020/21). Whilst there are benefits, research shows heavy social media use is linked to negative wellbeing and self-esteem, regardless of a young person's mental state (Education Policy Institute and Prince's Trust : Young People's Mental and Emotional Health 2021).

Self-harm is a serious public health concern and is the reason behind many young people's admissions to accident and emergency departments each year. The highest age group for intentional self-harm is 15-19 year olds. Self-harm and suicidal threats by a young people places them at risk of significant harm: Approximately 50% of people who have died by suicide have a history of self-harm (Department of Health 2017). Godalming Binscombe & Charterhouse and Godalming Central and Ockford

wards both have exceptionally higher rates of self-harm in comparison to the whole of England.

Poverty harms children's health, social and emotional wellbeing and education. 7% of children under 16 living in Waverley come from low-income households (Children in Low-Income Families Local Measure HMRC).

Waverley is a predominantly rural borough with poor public transport provision compared to the rest of Surrey. This means some young people will find it difficult to access clubs and other social activities. Access to locally based support provides opportunities for these young people to take an active part in community life.

Detailed information about the mental health of younger people can be found in the Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy 2022-2027 chapter of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment [Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy 2022-2027 | Surrey-i \(surreyi.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreyi.gov.uk)

## Our Commissioning Priorities and Principles

### **Priority one** - Improving people's health & wellbeing

We wish to support community projects that improve people's mental, physical and social wellbeing, particularly for those with specific needs, to enable them to live well.

### **Priority two** - Enabling access to information, advice and guidance

We recognise that people need access to timely information, advice and support which will empower them to increase their ability to exercise choice and control of their lives before they get to the point where they need to access more costly interventions.

### **Priority three** - Reducing social isolation and loneliness

We wish to enable people to access meaningful activities and services that increase their social contact and enable them to live life to the full.

### **Priority four** - Building stronger, connected communities

We aim to strengthen community cohesion, build social capacity and increase the resilience of local voluntary organisations to enable people to actively engage with their communities.

## Principles

Our funding Principles underpin the commissioning Priorities

1. **Prevention** – a much greater focus on prevention enables people to live well and stay well wherever possible. Earlier intervention enables people to access services, information and support to get the help they need as early as possible to reduce and delay the need for more costly interventions.
2. **Innovation and continuous improvement** - To achieve the value for money our residents expect, the Thriving Communities Commissioning Scheme embeds an expectation that partner organisations deliver efficient, high-quality services to achieve its vision for the Borough.
3. **Collaboration** – working together enables services to interact, share learning, efficiencies and opens channels that would otherwise remain closed. It brings people closer together to create common purpose to solve the issues our residents face and meet their changing needs.
4. **Independence** - facilitating people to continue to have control over their lives and receive timely support and information that works around their needs and outcomes. Informed, proactive people can take ownership of their lives.

## The outcomes the Thriving Communities Commissioning Fund aims to achieve

- Residents feel less socially isolated and socially excluded.
- Residents are more connected and engaged with their communities
- Residents can maintain their independence for longer
- Residents have good mental health
- Residents have opportunities to remain active and have good physical health
- Residents are supported to take part in meaningful social activities that enable them to manage their lives or a condition better
- Residents feel empowered to remain independent in their own homes for longer and less likely to access more costly interventions
- Residents live independently and have choice over their lives
- Local voluntary sector organisations thrive and grow