



Surrey First newsletter

Saving money and improving services for people in Surrey JUNE 2011



What is Surrey First?

Surrey First is a partnership of the 12 councils in the county and Surrey Police Authority. Together they are committed to saving money and improving services for people in Surrey.

Surrey First is a high profile approach that facilitates opportunities to save money for the partner organisations whilst also improving services.

Increasingly, the partners are recognising the benefits of working together and are finding pragmatic solutions by setting up 'cluster' arrangements with others under Surrey First.

Work in Surrey First is overseen by a joint committee of leaders (or their representatives) from each of the partner organisations and Frances Rutter (Epsom & Ewell) as the lead Chief Executive for the programme. Details of the membership of the joint committee are given over the page.

The areas of savings and service improvements looked at by Surrey First are organised into five workstreams – Assets (largely property); HR; ICT; Procurement; and Waste. Updates from the workstreams are given below.



What's new?

Workstreams update

Each of the workstreams has at least one elected member to champion its work and a chief executive or senior council officer from one of the Surrey First partners to act as a sponsor.

Assets

The first phase of this workstream is now complete. This involved identifying and mapping more than 8,000 public sector buildings across Surrey. It was a major undertaking that attracted national interest as a model of good practice.

Specific sites will require further detailed work to determine the feasibility and benefits of using them in new ways. This work is expected to be completed

within three to six months, depending on the complexity of each project.

More information on this data will be available shortly on www.surreyi.gov.uk



Member Champions

John Furey (Runnymede)
Peter Williams (Surrey Police Authority)
Tim Hall (Surrey CC) and
Richard Brooks (Surrey Heath)

CEO Sponsor

Karen Whelan (Surrey Heath)

HR

This workstream is scoping a Surrey-wide redeployment scheme, developing shared payroll and HR systems, and sharing good practice on apprenticeship schemes and training.



Savings and increased resilience are being seen through joint procurement and shared systems, e.g. payroll and HR systems with initial savings of £15,000-a-year for each authority. Joint procurement of HR advice is projected to save in excess of £30,000 across Surrey in the next three years.

Union representatives are now linked with the Surrey First programme and will be participating in discussions as projects are developed.

Member Champion

Kathryn Westwood
(Mole Valley)

CEO Sponsor

Mary Orton (Waverley)

ICT

Joint ICT operations are critical to the success of Surrey First. Disparate systems are being aligned wherever possible as a priority. A consortium agreement has now been signed by all partners, enabling

them to take advantage of significant cost savings and making it easier to buy ICT services.

The planned Surrey Public Service Network (SPSN) will join up all public sector organisations in Surrey, linking with the national Public Sector Network (PSN). This will potentially enable any public service officer to work from anywhere, using a single telephone system for the Surrey public sector. This is a core piece of work for Surrey First, which will enable improved service delivery in the future. Savings in network costs are currently estimated to be in the region of £1 million. Tender processes are underway.

A new shared Surrey Datacentre will house data from December 2011, offering improved resilience. Surrey County Council is expected to be the first partner to transfer data in December 2011.

Member Champion

Stephen O'Grady
(Waverley)

CEO Sponsor

Stephen Weigel
(Tandridge)

Procurement

Surrey First now has a full-time procurement officer. Barry Purdy is looking to secure savings across the partner organisations.

The areas he is looking at so far include:

- Catering - with expected savings of £18,000 to £24,000 per authority;
- Cleaning materials – with expected savings of between £2,500 and £5,700 per authority;
- Commercial print and postage - with combined savings of £24,000 to £48,000 per authority expected;
- Mobile technology - working with ICT colleagues to set up new ways of working is expected to find £130,000 of savings across all authorities.

Member Champion

To be confirmed

CEO Sponsors

Paul Turrell (Runnymede)
Julie Fisher (Surrey CC)

Waste

All the Surrey Waste Partnership authorities (county, district and borough councils) have adopted their joint 'Plan for Waste Management', committing



them to work towards a world class service with an ambitious target of 70% recycling by 2013/2014.

Partnership projects include work on composting, junk mail, mixed plastics and 'bring' recycling sites. Initial savings and benefits are starting to materialise, for example an anticipated £200,000 annual saving in garden waste processes and significant extra income from joint contracts for paper sales. About £2 million in savings have been identified for the first two years, with a further £17 million expected over the next five years through joint working.

Training and development, seminars and an open day are planned in the next few months.



Member Champion:

Jenny Wicks (Guildford)

CEO Sponsor:

David Hill (Guildford)



**Surrey First Joint Committee
Membership 2011/12**



Chairman: Cllr John Furey
(Runnymede BC)



Vice Chairman: Peter Williams (Surrey Police Authority)

Other Members of the Joint Committee are:

- Cllr John O'Reilly, Elmbridge BC
- Cllr Clive Woodbridge, Epsom & Ewell BC
- Cllr Tony Rooth, Guildford BC
- Cllr Kathryn Westwood, Mole Valley DC
- Cllr Victor Broad, Reigate & Banstead BC
- Cllr Moira Gibson, Surrey Heath BC
- Cllr Vivienne Leighton, Spelthorne BC
- Cllr David Hodge, Surrey CC
- Cllr Gordon Keymer, Tandridge DC
- Cllr Robert Knowles, Waverley BC
- Cllr John Kingsbury, Woking BC



How to find out more and get involved....

Check out the Surrey First website:

www.surreylocalgovernment.gov.uk/surreyfirst

We are around the county in your offices and meeting with you and colleagues at various forums to update on this work and hear from you how we can improve things and be more creative. If you would like to know more,

have ideas to share or would like us to come to your meeting or group, then get in touch with Lynne Martin, Surrey First Programme Manager: lynne.martin@woking.gov.uk or 07968 833950

