

SURREY UNCOVERED

Why local giving is needed to strengthen our communities



**Community
Foundation**
for Surrey

May 2017

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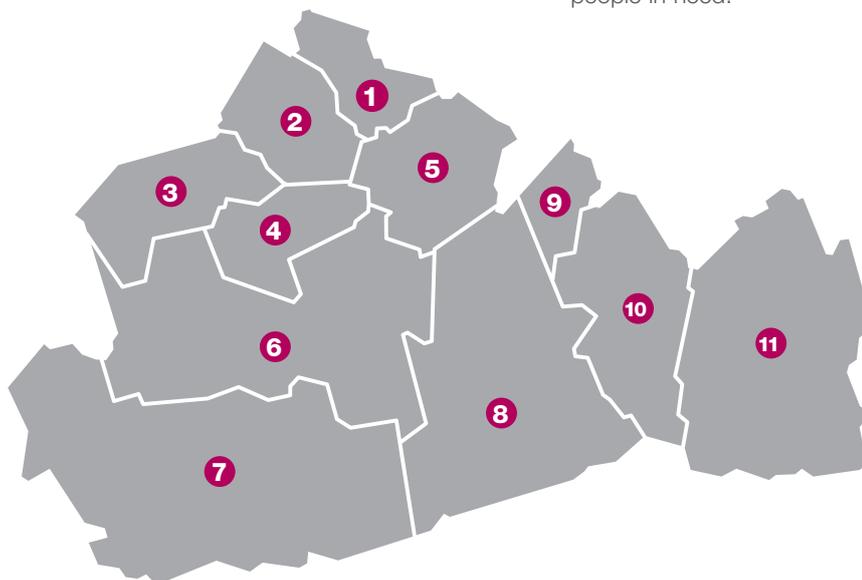
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Sian Sangarde-Brown - Independent Researcher, Surrey Uncovered

Sian was a business and management teacher for twenty years before becoming directly involved in community and third sector issues. She carried out the initial research which helped to establish the Community Foundation for Surrey, as well as independently collating the research that forms this report and its predecessor in 2013. Other commissions have included a report on International Migration for Surrey County Council, training and infrastructure needs for Surrey's voluntary sector, work on public sector 'equality of access' for minority groups, and geographical and issue based 'needs analysis' that encourage local strategic solutions.

Names and photos – All names of individuals in the case studies in this document have been changed to preserve anonymity. Photos may not be of the individuals referred to.

Data – All the data is the latest available at the time of writing from many sources. The Community Foundation for Surrey has worked in partnership with Surrey County Council to create a bespoke Community Foundation for Surrey section on Surrey-i. It includes issues, data and further information on needs at the local neighbourhood level (Lower Super Output Areas), Wards and Boroughs in the county. The data in Surrey-i is regularly up-dated. www.surreyi.gov.uk

ABOUT OUR SPONSORS

The Community Foundation for Surrey would like to thank our sponsors for their generous support for the research, design and printing of this report.

Wates family

ENTERPRISE TRUST

The research for this report was funded by the Wates Family Enterprise Trust and Mr & Mrs B Biddell.

ExxonMobil

Best known for its Esso fuels and Mobil 1 lubricants brands, ExxonMobil has had a presence in the UK since 1888 and began trading in Surrey soon after that. We opened our UK headquarters in Leatherhead over 25 years ago and provide employment for around 500 people in the county.

ExxonMobil was proud to support the Community Foundation for Surrey's first Surrey Uncovered report and is equally proud to be supporting this vital update to assist the Foundation's work in helping local communities and people in need.



SURREY UNCOVERED

INTRODUCTION

This report contains statistics which, in the context of 21st century Britain, are shocking. That they relate to Surrey may be surprising to you. Surrey is generally perceived to be affluent and this affects local voluntary groups' ability to raise funds from national organisations. The real hardship that exists requires more local giving.

In 2013 the Community Foundation for Surrey, an independent charity established to promote local giving for local need, published "Surrey Uncovered", a research document which highlighted local needs in Surrey. That research has now been updated and this report seeks to highlight the key needs and illustrates how our donors are addressing the issues through the Foundation's local knowledge. Although the Foundation has invested over £7 million in local projects since its inception in 2005, deprivation is still a huge issue and, in some cases, is worse now than in 2013.

As well as highlighting need, this report also contains case studies showing areas where the Foundation's donors have been able to make a real difference by investing in local projects.

The Foundation is uniquely placed to identify these projects because of its understanding of the issues in local communities. As will be self-evident from the statistics, there is much more to be done and, to improve impact, the Foundation needs more donors. Once you have read this report we hope that you will be able to help address the undoubted need that exists in Surrey.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR SURREY

The Foundation is an independent charitable trust established in 2005. Our vision is to create a culture of philanthropy in Surrey that will change lives and build stronger communities. By engaging people in local philanthropy, building permanent community resources, identifying where needs exist and connecting local donors to community and voluntary groups, we can tackle needs and help the most vulnerable and isolated across our county. In addition to the highlighted statistics used in this report, the Foundation holds a wealth of data that it uses to ensure donors can be made aware of the areas of greatest need.

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

The Foundation works with individuals, families, businesses and trusts who want to support needs in their local communities in a way that works best for them. With a variety of funds, ranging from bespoke personal funds established by individuals, to collective funds provided by many donors sharing a common interest, we have ensured that there is a giving option for all regardless of the intended financial or time commitment.

If you are shocked by the needs and inspired by the case studies discussed in this report and would like to help, please contact the Foundation to join like-minded people and become part of the solution in Surrey.

KEY FACTS & FIGURES IN SURREY:



1 in 4

children aged 10-11 years are overweight or obese



In Surrey, there are an estimated

14,000

young carers and over 30,000 carers over 65



10,600

of 5-15 year olds in Surrey have a mental disorder



Only 7%

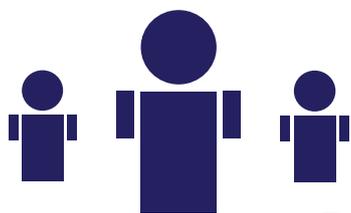
of 16-24 year olds in Surrey access open space for exercise or health reasons compared to the national average of

25%

It is estimated that

24,000

girls and women in Surrey aged 16-59 have been the victim of domestic abuse, higher than the incidents reported to police



1 in 13

people (15,800) over 65 in Surrey suffer with dementia and this is due to increase by 28% between 2016 and 2025



The

85+

population is the fastest growing age group in Surrey and this rise is expected to continue



IMPROVING HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Mental ill health is increasing across all age groups and particularly amongst the young. Research shows that those suffering mental ill health in adulthood had experienced issues by the age of 14, and that intervention at this early stage is critical to recovery.

Loneliness is increasing across all age ranges and this contributes to mental health issues; two thirds of people experiencing mental health problems live alone, four times more than the general population. There are higher levels of suicides among men compared to women (3:1 ratio) and the highest levels of suicide are among men aged 50-54, whilst over 10% of women who are 65 and over experience depression.

More children suffer from increasing levels of obesity at younger ages. The level of childhood obesity nearly doubles between the ages of 4 (7%) and 10 (over 13%), and there is a need to give better access to sport and healthier lifestyles. Among adults, 87% are not exercising at the recommended levels with over 20% of adults in Surrey being obese. Despite the benefits of sport and physical exercise on health and well-being, children and adults with disabilities struggle to access sport and leisure activities. Only 37% of people with disabilities take part in sport compared to 62% of those without. Children with disabilities in Surrey participate in significantly less school play and leisure activities than other children.



50%

of those suffering from mental ill health had experienced symptoms by the age of 14



87%

of adults are not exercising at the recommended levels

The county's increasing average age leads to higher levels of illnesses such as depression and dementia. This in turn leads to a greater need for unpaid carers. Young people finding themselves in the position of being a carer will experience a significant impact on their emotional and physical health, educational attainment and long term work opportunities. A survey of young carers showed that of those who responded, 65% were experiencing stress, 50% were angry and 28% were suffering from depression.

Surrey suffers from one of the highest levels of domestic abuse in the country and cases have continued to increase from 12,000 incidents in 2011/12 to over 14,500 in 2015/16.

WHAT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IS DOING

- **Mental ill health:** focussing on helping children and young people to overcome issues and reducing long-term illness;
- **Addressing loneliness:** focussing on support networks for the elderly and the young, and volunteering as a way of reducing isolation;
- **Carers:** providing respite and opportunities for carers and their families, with an emphasis on young carers;
- **Sport and Art:** encouraging participation, particularly among the vulnerable, disadvantaged and those with disabilities;
- **Domestic Abuse:** supporting projects which seek to protect and reintegrate victims.

The three case studies below illustrate the work of the Foundation in these areas.

Love Me Love My Mind is an Epsom-based charity, which aims to encourage, champion and support people with mental ill health, and to break down stigma and inspire understanding about mental health.

Our donors, including the Bishop of Guildford's Foundation which is supported by people across the diocese, have awarded grants totalling £13,000 to this project, including funding a drop-in for people with mental health issues.

Around 45 people attend the drop-in each week and the number continues to grow.

Allen is middle-aged and lives a daily battle with bi-polar disorder and has been attending the drop-in in for five years. He first attended Epsom Mental Health Week and was introduced to the weekly drop-in at which he now regularly volunteers. Allen feels the drop-in offers people a safe place to come and be part of a small community trying to make a positive difference to people's lives. Other attendees Frank and Peter both feel reassured by the stability offered by the drop-in during a period which has been characterised by cuts and radical changes in statutory services.





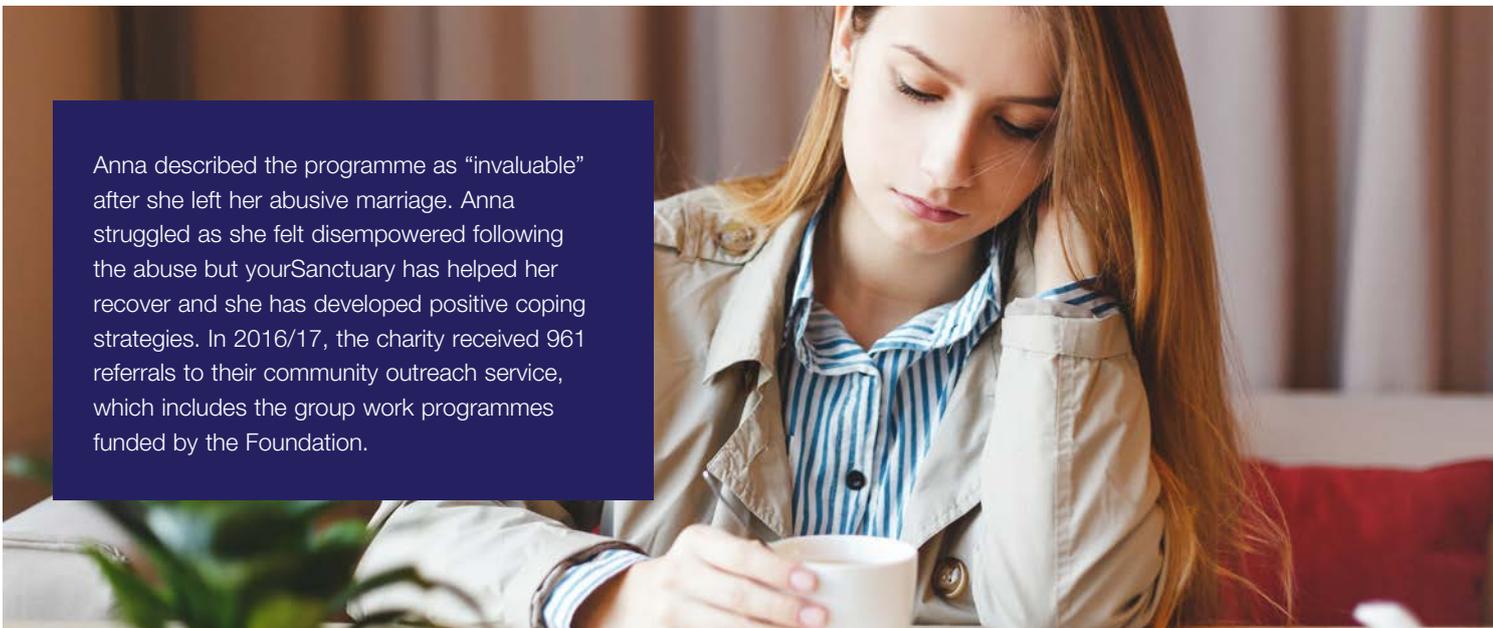
'Connect' based in Effingham was established under the umbrella of Churches Together by an initial grant of £1,000 from a local family who have supported local projects for many years through the Foundation. Further grants totalling £2,000 have continued to support the running costs of the group.

 A grant of **£1,000** established the group

Connect provides support for carers and their partners with dementia, and with a team of volunteers meets fortnightly, also arranging monthly outings. The opportunity for peer support is invaluable for many carers, who otherwise live isolated lives. Connect aims to reduce isolation and provides a stimulating and friendly environment with a wide range of activities. Eight to ten couples currently attend from a wide area. The group also supports former carers who have lost loved ones or whose partners are now in a care home.

yourSanctuary has been supported by grants totalling over £30,000 from a wide range of our donors, including a fund for Runnymede formed of a collective of local individuals, families and companies. These grants have supported the running of therapeutic group programmes for women who have suffered domestic abuse. Grants have included support of the 'Freedom Programme'. It helps women gain confidence to improve the quality of their lives and keep themselves and their children safer, as well as supporting them to build coping strategies, self-esteem, assertive behaviour and healthy relationships.

 yourSanctuary received **961** referrals in one year



Anna described the programme as "invaluable" after she left her abusive marriage. Anna struggled as she felt disempowered following the abuse but yourSanctuary has helped her recover and she has developed positive coping strategies. In 2016/17, the charity received 961 referrals to their community outreach service, which includes the group work programmes funded by the Foundation.

KEY FACTS & FIGURES IN SURREY:



In 17 local neighbourhoods in Surrey,

30%

or over of children live in poverty



The number of homeless applications increased by



between 2013-14 and 2014-15 and this is continuing to rise

Over 20%

of residents live with a long-term illness or disability in 30 local neighbourhoods in Surrey



Boroughs in Surrey are in the highest 10 nationally for the % of people aged 16+ engaging in "increasing risk" drinking

The proportion of Surrey's population born outside the UK increased from

10% in 2001
to
14% in 2011



The figure is

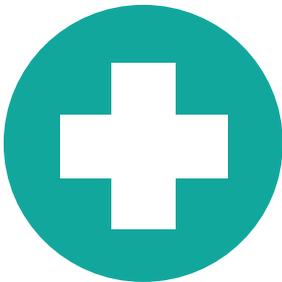
20%

in the Borough of Woking



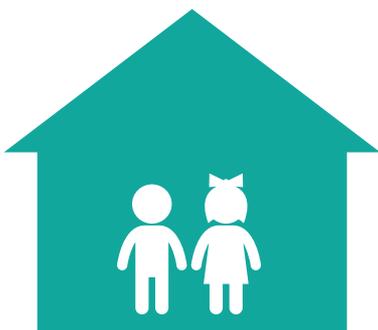
PLACE: COMMUNITIES

It is hard to believe that poverty exists in Surrey. Our research shows that there are many pockets of high need communities experiencing poverty, often adjacent to areas of high prosperity. In two local neighbourhoods, income deprivation affecting children is as high as 41%. Where poverty exists, it is also frequently accompanied by higher incidences of poorer average health, obesity, isolation and difficulty accessing local support services. Children in poorer families are more likely to suffer from chronic illness. Independent research demonstrates that 3 year olds living in households with an annual income below £10,000 are two and a half times more likely to suffer from chronic illness than children in households with an income over £52,000.



Poverty is frequently accompanied by poorer average health

Surrey is experiencing a rise in the number of homeless families; there are more children living in temporary accommodation and 7% of Surrey households are living in overcrowded housing. The impact on children is significant with increased illness and slower development. Adults who are sleeping rough or who are homeless have significantly lower life expectancy, are 9 times more likely to commit suicide and have high levels of acute health problems.



7%

of Surrey households are living in overcrowded housing



WHAT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IS DOING

- **Community led solutions:** empowering local people to address need;
- **Poverty:** focussing on addressing child poverty in areas of high deprivation in the county;
- **Homelessness:** supporting projects to provide housing and essential supplies for families in high need areas;
- **Integration:** helping people to participate in projects to reduce social isolation, particularly among ethnic groups and high need communities.

Our case studies show a variety of incidences where the Foundation has sought to relieve poverty, achieve better social integration and assist the homeless.

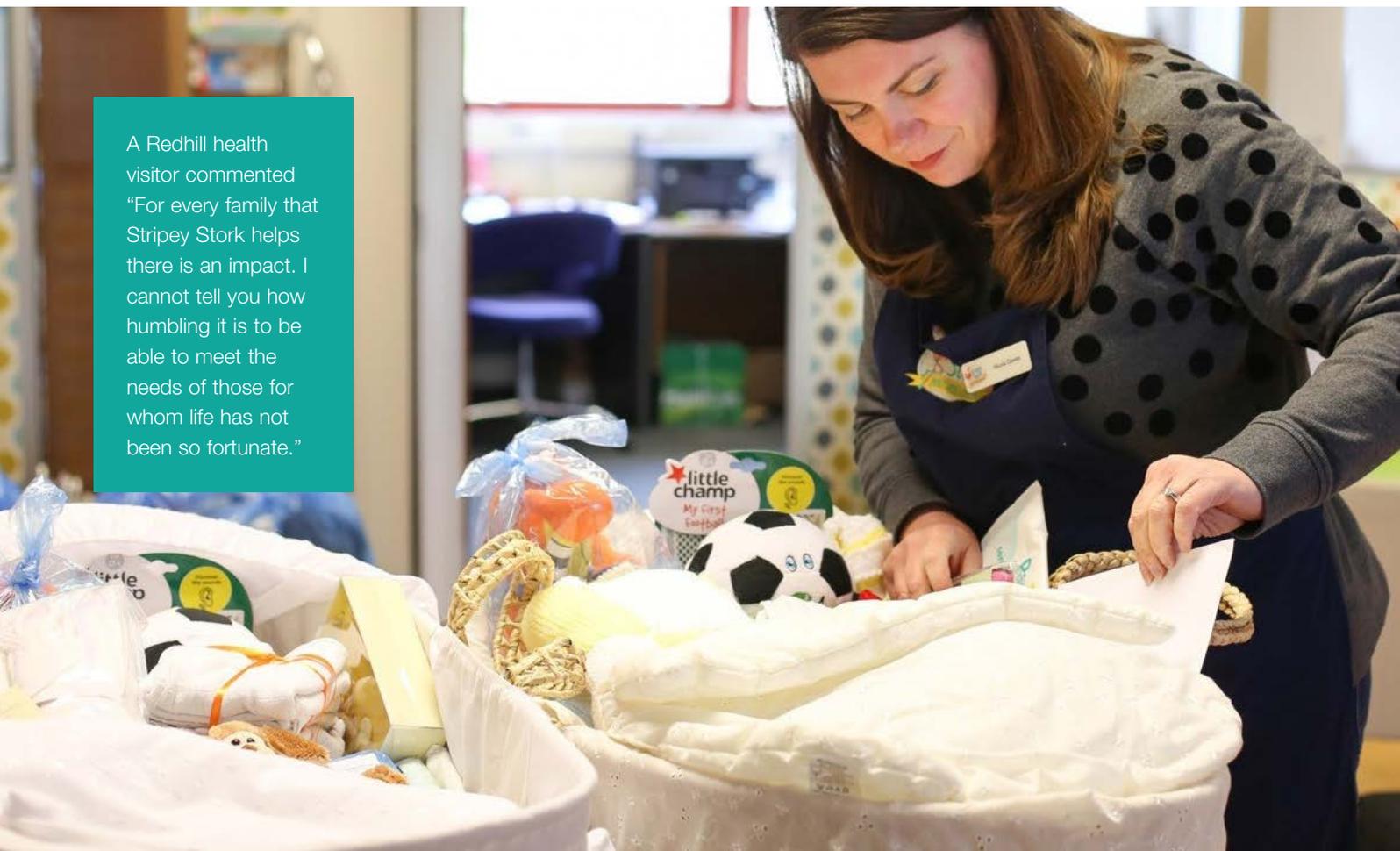
Stripey Stork helps to relieve poverty in East Surrey, including Merstham, one of the most deprived areas in Surrey, by providing good quality pre-owned baby items to families in need via health professionals. The project was the brainchild of a local mother who became aware of the need in her area for families to access key baby supplies.

In October 2013, the Foundation worked with a donor who had a successful career in finance in the City to provide the money to launch the project.

Further grants, amounting to £14,355.00, in subsequent years enabled the charity to expand and rent larger premises, in addition to employing their first part-time staff. This support has allowed the group to extend their reach. Since starting up, Stripey Stork has responded to over 2,500 requests for help and they have passed items valued over £1m back into the community.

The project has been an innovative way for local families to see the items their own children no longer need reused within the local community. It has quickly become an indispensable tool for health professionals to help them support the county's neediest families. In one instance a new baby pack was delivered to a homeless mum in temporary accommodation. It included everything needed for the early months from clothing to a safe, clean place for the new baby to sleep. The referral partner reported that, without this practical help, the baby would have been removed from mum and placed into foster care. The support from Stripey Stork kept the family together and avoided costly intervention from the support agencies.

A Redhill health visitor commented "For every family that Stripey Stork helps there is an impact. I cannot tell you how humbling it is to be able to meet the needs of those for whom life has not been so fortunate."



Elmbridge Rentstart supports people who are either homeless or at risk of homelessness and its work has been supported by several grants from the Foundation. Donors to the project have included a fund set up by the family of Dora Fedoruk, in her memory. During Dora's life in Surrey, she embraced those in hardship with her generosity, including opening her house to the local community. In 2016/17, Elmbridge Rentstart supported 421 local people who were facing homelessness; 82 were given advice which prevented them from becoming homeless and 102 people were housed and provided with continued support. Individuals have been supported to gain employment which has been crucial to providing them with sustained financial stability. Grants from the Foundation have allowed expansion into a new area and the most recent investment will enable Elmbridge Rentstart to support an estimated 25% further clients.

421
local people
were facing homelessness



Tom went through a divorce after 26 years of marriage, during which he gave the family home to his ex-wife and children. He tried to rebuild his life but found his savings dwindling on rent. He soon ran up credit card debt and eventually began to live in his van and use a local gym for showers. Tom spent three and a half years in his van before he called the council who directed him to Elmbridge Rentstart. Tom said "Elmbridge Rentstart has given me new hope, everybody that I have dealt with there has been so professional in what they do, they do not judge, they make you feel human again. They immediately understood, I was a man that was in desperate need. They will never know what a difference they have made in my life."

SHIFA was established in 2003 to meet the needs of Asian women in Woking, a number of whom had little to no knowledge of local culture, community or language, and who therefore felt very isolated. The organisation provides a safe and secure setting where women can socialise and access relevant support without feeling stigmatised or isolated. The group was identified following the Foundation's outreach work and grants totalling over £22,000 have provided funding for courses to support personal development and integration. As well as providing a learning experience and increasing self-confidence, participants have been enabled to go on to further training and employment. Approximately 65 women access the services of SHIFA on a weekly basis, from the deprived area of Maybury and other surrounding areas. The grants have made a fundamental difference to the group and the community it serves. Through engaging with women attending its courses, SHIFA has identified other specific learning needs in the community and now offers a wider range of courses.



65
women

access the services of
SHIFA every week



KEY FACTS & FIGURES IN SURREY:



By the age of 5, disadvantaged children have a vocabulary

one year

behind children from middle income families



In 2012 only

49%

of working age people with impairments were employed compared with

78%

with none



14%

of state school pupils in Surrey have special educational needs

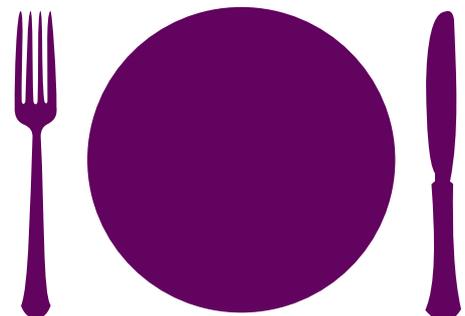


There were

682

'looked after children' in Surrey in 2015 – almost half are looked after due to abuse or neglect

Less than half of pupils entitled to free school meals achieve 5 GCSEs at C or above compared to 61% who are not eligible





POTENTIAL UNLOCKED: SKILLS & ENTERPRISE

Deprivation often leads to a poverty of aspiration and opportunity resulting in a continuing cycle of overall poverty. For those children receiving free school meals, achievement of 5+ A-C GCSE grades halves compared to all state funded pupils. In 2014, only 13% of looked after children obtained 5+ GCSE A-C grades compared to 53% for all young people in Surrey. Looked after children have significantly more educational and mental health problems and poorer social and work outcomes.

The Foundation's strategy is to support projects which help adults and children unlock their potential and enable them to participate more fully in their local community. Those facing disadvantage and people with disabilities are provided with opportunities through the Foundation's grant making and are helped to overcome the barriers they face.

Only **13%**



of looked after children obtained 5+ GCSE A-C grades



WHAT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IS DOING

- **Skills:** funding projects to improve numeracy, literacy, social skills and confidence;
- **Training:** focussing on addressing child poverty in areas of high deprivation in the county;
- **Support:** assisting with access to counselling, debt management, job seeking and improving parenting skills.

The case studies below show areas where the Foundation is helping adults and children to unlock their potential.

Leatherhead Youth Project and the Foundation have partnered on a long-term strategic basis for over 10 years to support children and young people aged from 11 years upwards. In 2014 LYP launched a social enterprise, AllSaints Coffee Shop, which provides employment and accredited training to local young people with limited opportunities.

The Foundation brought together a number of its donors to support the capital costs of the project. In total, the Foundation has invested £244,950 in LYP, enabling it to support thousands of young people.

AllSaints helps apprentices into new opportunities about one year after beginning their employment in order to ensure that more apprentices can be helped. For those who have 'graduated' from AllSaints, support continues to be offered in order to ensure they sustain the progress made.

AllSaints has now employed eight young people as apprentices. Upon completing their apprenticeships, apprentices have gone on to a diverse range of roles, including a teaching assistant position at a special needs school, training in construction, studying art at college, and a job in a restaurant.



The manager of LYP said “This is a great success – our aim was to take young people who could not otherwise access further education or employment opportunities and build them up to allow them to progress into the pathway of their choice.”

The Surrey Young People's Fund was created in 2014 when the Foundation brought together four initial donors to support disadvantaged young people in Surrey to gain access to training and employment. The Fund was formed with initial donations of £5,000 each and has since supported over 130 determined young people who have wanted to improve their prospects, awarding a total of over £30,000. In 2015/16, the average grant size was £226 showing that just a small amount can result in a life-changing opportunity.

A grant of just

£270

supported a young person to purchase barbering equipment



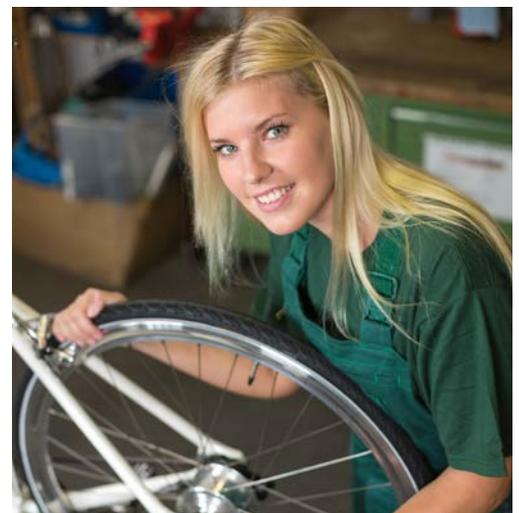
Aaron applied to the fund as a young man who had recently been in prison. Determined to change for the long term, Aaron had been offered barbering work by a local salon but required his own equipment. A grant of £270 allowed him to purchase the equipment and take up the work. Aaron said, "Thank you very much for funding me to get my barbering clippers and scissors. I am due to start work and then will be starting at the School of Barbering, where on completion I will have a Level 2 Diploma in Barbering. I'm very thankful for what you have done for me because without your help I don't know if I would be where I am at. Feeling super confident now, thank you so very much".

Guildford Bike Project was initially funded by Guildford Philanthropy, a collective fund within the Foundation. It is well known and respected in the heart of one of the county's most disadvantaged wards, Westborough. It trains unemployed people in the maintenance and refurbishment of bicycles enabling them to develop new skills thereby promoting inclusion, wellbeing, volunteering, community pride and employment prospects. The income from its activities contributes to the sustainability of the project. A grant of over £14,000 increased the capacity of the Guildford Bike Project allowing it to accommodate twice as many trainees, as well as supporting the project to create a mobile workshop to deliver the project in other communities.



Over **100 120**
volunteers and
work experience trainees
have been supported

Over the five years of its operation, this social enterprise has successfully engaged over 100 volunteers and has directly supported 120 work experience trainees, 85 of whom have gone into employment, apprenticeships or full-time education following their time at the project. Over 100 accredited cycle mechanic qualifications have been delivered and 2,500 donated bikes have been refurbished and sold, generating over £185,000.



Rebecca was referred to the project with a difficult family background and was desperate to find employment. She started a two-day per week mentoring and training programme at the Bike Project and after only 8 weeks secured a job interview for a cycle mechanic position in the workshop at Halfords. The Bike Project helped Rebecca prepare for the interview, for which she was successful and she entered full-time employment.

SURREY UNCOVERED

Local giving is needed to strengthen our communities.

This document highlights the key needs in Surrey
and how philanthropy is making a difference.
You can be part of the solution.

www.cfsurrey.org.uk

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