NEIGHBOURHOOD
Area Committee
North Tandridge

MAKE IT HAPPEN

North Tandridge Neighbourhood Area Committee (NAC)

2nd December 2025, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm – Meeting Notes



North Tandridge Neighbourhood Area Committee (NAC) 2nd December Meeting Notes

Chair:
Samantha AungThin – Voluntary Action Surrey East

Vice Chair:
Jeremy Webster – Surrey County Council (SCC)

Attendees:

Name	Organisation
Sam Aung-Thin (Chair)	Voluntary Action Surrey East (VASE)
Cllr Jeremy Webster (Vice-Chair)	Surrey County Council
Cllr Deborah Sherry	Tandridge District Council
Cllr Jan Moore	Chelsham & Farleigh Parish Council
Cllr Jeremy Pursehouse	Warlingham Parish Council
Sarah Henke-Monti	Citizens Advice Tandridge
Lidia Fincham	Barnados - Tandridge Family Centre
Robin Gwynn	Caterham & District Foodbank
Andy Buchan	Tandridge Access Group
Mary Marsden	Westway
Mohsin Asharia	North Tandridge Primary Care Network & Growing Health Together
Stewart Strachan	Warlingham School

Apologies:

Name	Organisation
Lyndsey Whatley	Surrey Police
Sue McGeown	Caterham BID
Cllr KP	Tandridge District Council
Cllr Robin Spencer	Tandridge District Council
Cllr Robin Clements	Caterham Hill Parish Council

1. Introduction

The meeting opened with a warm welcome from the chair, who thanked Tandridge Learning Trust for hosting and outlined today's agenda.

2. NAC Pilot - Review and Evaluation:

The chair reflected on progress and remarked on how much had been achieved in a short time. The evaluation approach 'test, learn, and grow' was shared.
NAC members were asked if they agreed with recommendations in the Review & Evaluation report and would like to continue the NAC.

Vote	Majority of members agreed with recommendations and expressed desired to continue.
Action	Next meeting will be held in February 2026, when frequency of meetings will be discussed and the recommendations of the Surrey County Council (SCC) Cabinet Report will also be known.

3. Resident Engagement update:

Attendees received updates on recent engagement activities, including community events at the Westway Centre, a youth outreach gaming van stationed at Tesco Car Park in Caterham on the Hill, and the Caterham Christmas Lights fair. They also listened to two short soundbite recordings where young people shared what matters most to them and the changes they would like to see in their area.

These conversations and survey insights highlighted key findings:

- **Barriers:**
  - Limited access and isolation.
  - Difficulty engaging young people in meaningful ways.
  - Low awareness and participation in local initiatives.
- **Insights:**
  - Older residents value community hubs and practical support.
  - Young people respond positively to outreach in safe, familiar spaces and appreciate being heard.
  - Residents are keen to share views on issues that matter personally, but more needs to be done to publicise Neighbourhood Area Committees and identify their top priorities.
- **Priorities:**
  - Tackling social isolation and loneliness.
  - Improving transport links.
  - Providing safe, affordable, and accessible activities for all ages.

In addition, results from the Your Voice, Your Future: Youth Survey were shared, with a special focus on North Tandridge. The survey gathered 3,075 responses from young people across East Surrey, including 462 from North Tandridge, and explored what life is like for young people in the area, their access to services, lifestyle, and wellbeing. The results are being further analysed and will be followed up further by the NAC once shared.

Action:

- Collaborate to develop provision of pantries as has been seen through the Good Company's programme.

Discussion:

- Proposal that overlaps with a number of the above poverty / food poverty ideas.
- It was clarified that a food pantry provides support one stage up from a foodbank. While the foodbank provides emergency food support the pantry is targeted at those who are just getting by.
- Food pantries operate off a membership basis; members don't need a referral voucher a paying £5 a month would receive £35-40 worth of food items.
- Allows people to have greater choice and dignity and feel part of a small community. Extra support is also provided for example from the Citizens Advice.
- The food is what first gets people together, it is the community that builds after which is the pantries additional strength.
- Q – Has the Poverty & Economy theme focussed too much on poverty and not enough on economy. From the above proposals only a small amount relate to the economy in Tandridge.
    - This is true but while it has generally agreed to go with a poverty focus with these proposals the economy theme will be revisited again as the NAC's progress through 2026.

Economy & Poverty: Recommendations and Actions:

- Key partners would be Caterham Foodbank, Tandridge District Council, Good Company and the Westway. VASE happy to provide support where necessary.
- Action owner to be agreed, however the key partners were in agreement as discussions progressed in smaller working groups
- Smaller group to convene in January 26 to further explore the following points
- Once plans became more formalised actions owners would be confirmed.
- The issue of premises is a key challenge, this was why the Westway could be an important partner in terms of providing a pantry location.
- Finding the right premises in terms of location, size and facilities has been a big challenge for the Good Company previously.
- Tandridge District Council could possibly support with the provision of premises. Using empty shops is another good potential option.
- Another resource that would need to be found was volunteers willing to support the pantry.
- Local Government Reform could potentially open up funding opportunities which could support the provision of the pantry.
- The trustees of the Caterham Foodbank are certainly receptive to the creation of a Tandridge food pantry and funding could potentially be made available by the foodbank.
- It was generally envisioned that the pantry would not come from a new organisation, instead it would be a branch of a pre-existing service, whether this be the Caterham Foodbank or the Good Company.
- Time frame was roughly 6 – 12 months.

4. Youth Health and Wellbeing

Discussion:

- The discussion opened with a recognition that youth mental health challenges, such as sleep problems body image concerns, loneliness, which were identify by the youth survey “Your Voice, Your Future”, are linked to social media and use of mobile phones by young people. It was pointed out that these factors strongly correlate with reduced participation in positive activities. The group acknowledged that increasing engagement in sports, arts, and social opportunities could help improve mental health outcomes.
- Several participants noted that while many activities and support services already exist locally, uptake remains low. This led to a key question: is the problem simply a lack of awareness, or do current offers fail to meet young people’s needs? The group seemed to agree that this uncertainty calls for a testing phase, where existing services are presented to young people for feedback.
- There was broad agreement on the importance of hearing from young people before rushing into solutions. One participant highlighted that older cohorts of young people tend to propose more realistic ideas, while younger children respond better when given options to choose from. This insight shaped the approach: co-design with older youth, then road-test ideas with younger groups.
- The conversation then turned to communication strategies. It was suggested that a localised resource pack containing details of activities and services should be developed for schools and community settings. The group agreed that this pack should not be static; rather, it should be used as an engagement tool to spark dialogue and gather feedback. A divergent point was raised about whether this should be purely digital or include physical copies, but consensus leaned toward a mixed approach supported by in-person conversations.
- On timelines, the group agreed that the pack should be ready for June 2026, so that it could be ready for students coming into year 7 ahead of the new school year. Summer engagement opportunities were flagged as critical for testing ideas early. It was also noted that strategic issues, such as mobile phone usage in schools, may need escalation to scrutiny committees for broader policy consideration. It was noted that Warlingham School had adopted a no-phone policy, and the group discussed potential positive behavioural impacts, including improvement in lesson attention, and relational in general.
- Funding was another area of discussion. Participants suggested exploring support from the High Sheriff, local sports clubs, and community grants to subsidise costs and address affordability barriers. Transport challenges were also acknowledged as a potential obstacle.
- The meeting concluded with agreement on next steps: forming a working group in early January to collate existing resources and draft the pack; continuing engagement through school and community events; and investigating funding options. It was emphasised that this work should lead to tangible outcomes by summer, ensuring that by September, schools and families have a clear, accessible offer.

Youth Health and Wellbeing: Recommendations and Actions:

Recommendation: Act to engage on existing community-based services and support to understand barriers with a view to supporting an increase in participation within young people

Leads: Cllr Jeremy Webster & Cllr Deborah Sherry

Key partners: Warlingham School, Family Centre, YMCA (follow up required), Health, Police,

Resources: Public Health to support working group

Timeline:

- January working group – understand any similar activity locally and share existing resources.
- February – follow up at NAC.
- Pack collated for June to support dissemination through school ahead of holidays.
- Use pack to engage and understand barriers / reasons for not engaging.

Any other relevant information

- Funding – if required could approach Community Foundation for Surrey / High Sherrif
- What could be done to raise issue of social media impact on engagement?
- Alongside taking to cabinet and other forums, should consider scrutiny committees that are relevant for topics raised by NAC
- PH to support feedback into Education and Lifelong learning.
- Above is about testing understanding of whether it is issue of awareness and access or whether it is about changing what is included in the local offer for Young People.

Other Actions:

- Form a working group to collate existing resources and draft a localised pack.
- Gather existing mental health and youth activity resources as a starting point.
- Develop a localised resource pack for schools and community settings (digital and physical).
- Use the pack as an engagement tool to test whether current offers meet young people's needs.
- Conduct engagement activities in schools and community events to gather feedback on barriers and preferences.
- Road-test ideas with younger cohorts and co-design solutions with older cohorts.
- Investigate funding options (e.g., High Sheriff, local sports clubs, community grants).
- Explore ways to subsidise costs and address transport barriers for activities.
- Consider strategic escalation of systemic issues (e.g. mobile phone usage) to scrutiny committees.