NEIGHBOURHOOD
Area Committee
East Elmbridge

MAKE IT HAPPEN

East Elmbridge Neighbourhood Area Committee (NAC)

06 November 2025 - 14.30 - 16.30

Meeting Notes



East Elmbridge Neighbourhood Area Committee 6 November 2025 Meeting Notes

Chair:

Rob Mills, Walton Charity

Vice Chair:

Cllr Simon Waugh, Elmbridge Borough Council

Attendees:

ND - Surrey County Council
DL - Surrey County Council
AB - Surrey County Council
KC - Surrey County Council
NH - Elmbridge Borough Council
SW - Elmbridge Borough Council
AB - Elmbridge Borough Council
GB - Claygate Parish Council
OH - Surrey Police
MR - Surrey Fire and Rescue
SD - Central Surrey Voluntary Action
AR - Rent Start
OL - Home Start
AM - St Peter's Church, West Moseley
EB - Citizens' Advice Bureau
KD - Citizens' Advice Bureau
EC - Cobham and Oxshott Primary Care Network
SK - Cobham and Oxshott Primary Care Network

Chairman's welcome and Subject Matter Experts

The Chairman welcomed the group and summarised the progress from the last meeting.

Feedback on the Terms of Reference and the inclusion of Residents' Associations has been and will continue to be explored. Feedback on the pre-reading and data was acted upon, and attendees should have received this in good time.

It was reiterated that the NAC members should all have an equal voice, and this should be reflected in our language. It is understood that not everyone is comfortable with some of the terms currently used, e.g. "committee".

This meeting's Subject Matter Experts were focused on 'Youth' as this was the priority identified in the last meeting.

It was noted that the Government has confirmed their decision on Local Government Reorganisation in Surrey. From April 2027, two new unitary councils - East Surrey and West Surrey - will replace the current 12 councils.

It was confirmed that updated national Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) data was recently published. This was after the East Elmbridge NAC data packs were sent out as pre-reading. However, there has been little change in Elmbridge's IMD status.

A programme of proposed youth engagement in the area was presented to the NAC, and a video from recent conversations with local young people was played to attendees.

The Community Connectors from the Family Information Service presented an outline of what they do. This includes compiling a database of services and events for young families and sign posting residents to the most appropriate ones for them. Their website also includes information on safeguarding and general safety advice for young people. Their additional needs conference attracted over sixty families.

Themes arising from discussions

Insights

- Safety concerns are prevalent; young people featured in the video reported locations where they do not feel safe.
- Facilities are unevenly distributed geographically; some areas lack youth provision.
- Transport and accessibility are major barriers, especially for low-income families.
- Mental health issues have increased since the pandemic.

- Young people value having their voices heard.

Lived Experience

- Transport links and costs align with reported barriers.
- Safety concerns extend to public transport.
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) services gap: paused services create communication lag and unmet needs.

Suggested areas of focus

- Ensure safety and adequate lighting in public places where young people gather.
- Improve transport and accessibility.
- Address mental health and anxiety among youth.
- Create inclusive opportunities for neuro-divergent individuals.
- Expand youth club provisions and facilities.

Short term suggestions for actions

- Provide adequate lighting in public spaces.
- Feedback to young people is that their voices have been heard.
- Use appropriate social media platforms (TikTok, Snapchat) for outreach.
- Map available services and resources.
- Engage parents to cascade messages to youth.

Influence

- NAC can influence private and corporate sports facilities to offer low-cost access to young people.
- Examine measures for short-term impact alongside longer term goals.
- Ensure feedback reaches decision-makers for systemic improvements.

Long-Term Actions

- Establish a central pool of resources for youth initiatives.
- Develop trauma-informed approaches and early intervention programs.
- Create communities that embrace neurodiversity.
- Hold community events to showcase services and gather feedback.

- Pilot micro-area solutions for tailored impact.

Enablers

- Leverage voluntary sector and council partnerships.
- Utilise funding streams like YCCF, YFS, and local prevention funds.
- Engage community safety partnerships and trusted relationships.
- Explore national programs (King's Trust) and local charities for funding.
- Make better use of existing facilities (youth centres, recording studios).

Challenges

- Geographical disparities in funding and facilities.
- Local government silos and bureaucratic hurdles.
- Limited uptake of existing services by youth.
- Resource constraints and need for long-term funding.
- Risk of priorities being too broad, causing partner disengagement.