

This is a period of major change in the way health services are delivered both nationally and locally. Residents, Borough and County Councils and local Health Care organisations are aware of and involved in the consultation supporting the development of new provision.

People are concerned about the possible decline in services which might be heralded by the loss of or major changes to the role of local hospitals. This is a longstanding issue. Currently discussions and consultation continue but changes to the potential budgets available may alter the range of possible options.

Much of what is proposed moves care closer to home for more routine treatments. It is planned that specialist care will continue to be provided in centres which have the expertise to deal with more complex procedures and conditions. Much of the debate is around what should be regarded as unusual and which hospital can and will take on these tasks. Adding to the complexity are new ideas of patient choice which will ask patients to make decisions between different health care providers. Locally it is reported that there has been significant switch of patients care from private providers to NHS provision.



Residents report suspicion that the major factor prompting the current work is to reduce spending on health and so local people have been very engaged in making their views about service delivery heard.

■ Actions

- Borough Council continued membership of Mid Surrey Inter-authority Health Partnership
- Continued engagement in health provider consultations. Currently Surrey Primary Care Trust now renamed as NHS Surrey. Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. Epsom and St Helier NHS Trust.
- Champion public involvement in the consultation process

■ Lead/Responsible Agency:

- NHS Surrey (formally Surrey PCT)
- Epsom and St Helier NHS Trust
- Surrey and Borders NHS Trust

■ Resources:

- Officer time

■ Timescale:

- Report back short term - on-going

- **Outcome Measuring/Reporting:** ● Continued input into the consultation process and feedback to the community

- **Local Community : What you can do**
 - Visit NHS Surrey website to find out more about current changes. www.surreyhealth.nhs.uk
 - Be involved in local consultations