

Reigate & Banstead Borough Council and Surrey County Council

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets out the basis upon which the Surrey County Council (SCC) and Reigate and Banstead Borough Council (RBBC) will work together to improve the quality of life of various communities in the Borough. This MoU complements co-operation between the two Councils on service delivery through the Surrey First programme.

There are no new financial commitments within the MoU itself and the proposals arising from it will require the relevant approval from each respective authority.

PUBLIC SECTOR BOARD

The Councils have agreed to work together and to establish a Public Sector Board (PSB) which will oversee progress and submit proposals for approval to each Council. The Board will rationalise existing arrangements and increase local empowerment. The Board will be established in May 2011 to determine joint actions and how each Council will contribute to delivering agreed outcomes.

The terms of reference of the Board shall provide for it to direct joint action to deliver:

- Agreed outcomes associated with the regeneration of Redhill, Horley, Preston, Merstham and Banstead.
- New forms of waste collection and disposal services in the Borough to increase recycling levels, reduce waste to landfill and reduce carbon emissions from the overall operation.
- Improved operational services, for example, the provision of on and off street parking services in the Borough.
- The maximisation of private developer funding for priority infrastructure for example through the development of the Local Development Framework (LDF).
- Additional sources of funding for priority infrastructure.
- Priority infrastructure in a coordinated and timely way.
- Joint feasibility studies and projects on assets and estates and work to ensure strategic planning and asset management policies are coordinated.
- Collaboration on services that improve the quality and cost effectiveness of the street scene for example highways, street cleansing, parking.
- Sustained and improved economic competitiveness.
- A reduction in carbon dioxide emissions.
- Surrey First collaborations for example on IT.

Reigate and Banstead Borough Council will provide secretariat support for the Board

PRIORITY AREAS

The Board will focus on the delivery of improved quality of life for the residents of the Borough and both Councils will work towards achieving the identified outcomes in relation to the following regeneration areas:

REDHILL

The vision for Redhill is to provide a thriving town centre serving as a prominent commercial location, a competitive retail destination as well as a good place to live. Redhill needs to make the most of its excellent accessibility to stimulate growth by encouraging development of a full range of sustainable transport choices.

The town centre needs to provide a range of services and facilities to satisfy the demands of a growing population and workforce at all times of the day. This should include new shops to improve the town's retail offer, including improved supermarket provision, enhanced cultural offer and the creation of a family-focused evening economy.

The town centre needs to be a safe and desirable place to be, with varied, attractive and well-maintained public spaces with links to a wider network of accessible, green spaces, meeting the needs of all age groups.

Key Outcomes

- A revitalised town centre through significantly improved supermarket provision, more comparison shopping to improve the range of shops and consumer choice, enhanced community, leisure and recreation facilities and a better quality environment.
- Reduced vacancy rates for commercial office space in Redhill towards the Surrey average.
- Reduced unemployment in Redhill East and Redhill West wards towards the Borough average.
- Increased the satisfaction of Redhill residents with their local area as a place to live, towards the Borough average.
- Increased the satisfaction of Redhill residents with commercial and public facilities in the town centre towards the average for Surrey town centres.
- Reduced the recorded instances of anti-social behaviour per 1,000 population towards the Borough average.

HORLEY

The regeneration of Horley town centre needs to be co-ordinated with the development of the new neighbourhoods as it is essential to provide a social, cultural and commercial centre to cater for the projected 30% increase in Horley's population.

Growth will be focused on the two new neighbourhoods of the North East and North West Sectors through their comprehensive development which will be integral with the existing built-up area of Horley and ringed by a riverside green chain of public open space. Access and transport connections to the town centre need to be improved and the town regenerated by making it the focus of high quality commercial, retail, community and residential developments to meet the current and future needs of local people. This will secure its future vitality and viability and, together with public realm improvements make it a pleasant place to be.

Key Outcomes

- The development of two new high quality sustainable new neighbourhoods in NE and NW Horley, providing 710 and 1,570 homes respectively, and 320 homes on smaller sites in other parts of the town.
- A 20% modal shift of peak hour traffic from the housing sites onto alternative modes of transport.
- Enhanced recreational and open space provision to meet local need including outdoor sports facilities, a riverside green chain and allotments.
- A revitalised town centre through the provision of more convenience shopping, enhanced community facilities and a better quality environment.
- Provision of appropriate social infrastructure to support a healthy and vibrant community, including enhanced library youth and school provision and a new leisure centre.

MERSTHAM

The Merstham estate has been identified by the Surrey Strategic Partnership as one of four Priority Places in Surrey. The Merstham Estate Regeneration Plan sets out a detailed vision and objectives for the future of Merstham. These achievements rely heavily on effective collaborative working between service providers. The vision is to secure for the residents of the Merstham Estate the provision of appropriate and effective services and facilities and a cleaner and safer community. Vulnerable people will be helped to lead positive lifestyles, and families will be supported to break the cycle of deprivation. Local people will be empowered to develop their skills, confidence and self-esteem. Joint working aims to reduce health inequalities, improve the educational attainment and skills base amongst local residents, reduce anti-social behaviour and improve feelings of community safety. In addition, public and voluntary service providers will pursue opportunities to deliver shared services to maximise local benefits.

Key Outcomes

- Reduced the relative number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) in Merstham ward compared to other wards in south east Surrey.
- Reduced the difference between the percentage of the Merstham estate working age people claiming key benefits and the England average.
- Increased the satisfaction of Merstham ward residents with their local areas as a place to live, towards the Borough average.

- Increased the satisfaction of Merstham estate residents with commercial and public facilities.
- Reduced the anti-social behaviour rate per 1000 towards the Borough average.

PRESTON

The regeneration of Preston will build a stronger, more diverse and self reliant community. The aim is to create a better environment in which both existing and new families will wish to live and to improve opportunities for people to help themselves.

This will be achieved by:

- Facilitating the development of a range of new homes, which will include a greater mix of housing types, including market housing, shared ownership, and other forms of intermediate housing.
- Making improvements to the existing housing stock to enhance the quality of accommodation.
- Providing quality new community buildings, to replace existing run down facilities, to better meet the need of the community.
- Enhancing the quality of the public realm and green spaces to provide a safer, better connected and more attractive environment.
- Working with local people and service providers to deliver community regeneration that better meets local need.

The achievement of the vision, objectives and outcomes relies on the funding commitments and effective partnership working between the Borough and County Councils and key partners such as the Raven Housing Trust and will also partly be dependent on improved housing market conditions.

Key Outcomes

- A high quality development of market and affordable homes, which are well integrated into the existing neighbourhood.
- Improved condition of the existing housing stock.
- Better opportunities for local people to access affordable housing, including home ownership options.
- A reduction in the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) in the Preston ward compared to other wards in south east Surrey.
- An increase in the satisfaction of Preston ward residents with their local areas as a place to live (relative to the Borough average).
- Provision of appropriate infrastructure to support a stronger, more diverse and self-reliant community, including a new Leisure Centre, football, play and youth facilities.
- A reduction in the anti-social behaviour rate per 1000 population (relative to the Borough average).

BANSTEAD

To provide quality new community buildings to replace existing run down facilities, to better meet the need of the community.

In addition, public and voluntary service providers will pursue opportunities to deliver shared services to maximise local benefits.

OTHER AREAS FOR JOINT COLLABORATION

The Board will also oversee the delivery of improvements in the following areas where the two Councils will work together to achieve agreed outcomes.

PEOPLE SERVICES

To identify opportunities to improve life chances for vulnerable individuals by providing employment/volunteering opportunities or through making use of existing services/facilities.

The newly established Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) will put a greater emphasis on joint working and commissioning, which will build on the excellent work already started at a local level. The HWB will be responsible for the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and producing a joint health plan. The General Practice Commissioning Consortia (GPCC) will report in to the HWB and will have to have regard for the JSNA and the joint health plan when commissioning services, which should mean that statutory bodies are better positioned to respond to very specific community needs.

Public health interventions that are in place include:-

- Baby Café community support for breastfeeding in children's centres in Horley and Earlswood, Redhill where breastfeeding rates are low.
- Young parents support group in Redhill to meet needs of parents aged up to 25.
- HENRY (Health Exercise & Nutrition for the Really Young), a parenting course for families at risk of obesity in the children's centre in Merstham
- Action for Life, a programme of volunteer-led walks in Redhill, Reigate, Merstham, Banstead and Horley to introduce people to waling. This includes 'pram walks' for new mothers, especially those who are socially isolated.

The two Councils will co-operate to identify and deliver other such public health initiatives.

WASTE SERVICES

To maximise the level of recycling and reduce the level of land fill in the Borough and develop the Surrey First waste initiative.

We will also work together on a joint project to deliver an integrated waste /recycling and processing centre at Earlswood based on the sites owned by the two Councils.

CAR PARKING SERVICES

In partnership with other East Surrey Authorities, ~~the two Councils will work to~~ to produce a financially viable on street parking service which meets the needs of the town centres and car users in the Borough. This will support parking enforcement across Surrey more widely, reduce operating costs and generate additional income that will be invested in highways infrastructure improvements.

FLOOD MANAGEMENT

To make the most effective use of collective resources to implement the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

To make the most effective use of collective resources to sustain and improve economic competitiveness.

STREET SCENE

To make the most effective use of collective resources to improve the street scene, including co-ordination of our on street presence.

TRANSPORT

To jointly plan improvements to transport infrastructure, identify funding and co-ordinate delivery.

OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE

To jointly plan improvements to other infrastructure, identify funding and co-ordinate delivery.

ASSET PLANNING AND TOWN PLANNING

To align town planning policies with joint asset management policies and to meet financial objectives and deliver priority infrastructure. This will be primarily through the five priority areas identified above, but as and when other opportunities arise the partners will work together to optimise mutual benefit.

Signed

Signed

Date

Date

Cllr Joan Spiers
Leader Reigate & Banstead Borough Council

County Cllr Dr Andrew Povey
Leader Surrey County Council