Elmbridge Borough Council and Surrey County Council are developing a joint youth strategy for Elmbridge. The strategy will set out local partners shared ambitions for young people and the services to them. It will cover the activities undertaken by a range of public, voluntary, community and faith organisations in the borough to support young people. The strategy is primarily focussed on young people aged 13 – 19, however some services will cover a wider age range.

The research summary below sets out what we know about young people in Elmbridge as well as young people in Surrey more generally. The document draws on a range of existing sources including existing needs analysis, the Elmbridge Health profile and the Streets Apart report (a full list of sources can be found at the end of this document). The research in this summary has been used to inform the development of the Elmbridge Youth Strategy.

**Elmbridge:**

Elmbridge lies in the north-east of the county of Surrey. It is bordered by the London Boroughs of Richmond and Kingston and Surrey boroughs of Spelthorne, Runnymede, Guildford, Woking and Mole Valley.

According to the 2011 Census:\(^1\):

- There are 130, 900 people living in Elmbridge, making it the third most populated of Surrey’s 11 district and boroughs.
- 48% of the Elmbridge population are male and 52% are female.
- The average age of an Elmbridge resident is 39.8 years.
- 16.5% of the population is over 65 years old and 23.9% of the population is 18 years old.
- Almost 80% of the Elmbridge population are White British, 10% are other white ethnic groups and 10% are non-white ethnic groups.

**Young people in Surrey:**\(^2\):

Surrey’s Services for Young People ‘One in ten 2010’ needs assessment stated that there are approximately 100,000 10-19 year olds in Surrey (approximately 10% of the Surrey population). The report suggests the majority of young people in Surrey make a successful transition to adulthood with support from their families, schools and communities, plus additional services offered to the most vulnerable. However one in 10 of Surrey young people do not make a successful transition.

A refreshed needs analysis in 2014, ‘One in ten 2014’, builds on the analysis in ‘One in ten 2010’ and highlights a number of emerging needs for young people in Surrey:

- There are individual young people in surrey who face multiple and complex barriers to participation and are at risk of becoming NEET (not in education, employment and training).

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2 One in ten: 2014
There are also families that have a number of support needs and there are neighbourhoods where young people are more likely to experience a range of negative outcomes.

- A range of negative experiences before and during teenage years can have a big impact on young people’s outcomes later in life, particularly when these are not responded to quickly and effectively.
- The number of young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) is increasing, as is the complexity of need within this group.
- Young people who are looked after, on child protection plans and children in need are more likely experience a range of negative outcomes than many of their peers.
- There are growing unmet emotional and mental health needs amongst young people, which limit their ability to participate.
- Young people face practical, physical barriers to participation that stop them from participating, in particular transport, lack of income and homelessness.
- Some vulnerable young people choose to hide their particular needs and circumstances for fear of discrimination, alienation or bullying, whilst others may not see themselves as facing barriers to participation.
- Young people need to develop the skills and experience that meet the needs of local employers and make them ready for work.
- Young people are all different and need to access information, advice and guidance in a way that is right for them, so they can make informed choices about their future.

In response to the needs assessment carried out by Services for Young People, young people in Surrey highlighted the following key issues:

### Education, work and training
- Education is important but it can be hard to stay in school and achieve.
- Young people want to learn practical skills.
- It can be hard to get and keep jobs.
- Information, advice and guidance is really important.

### Transport
- Cost of public transport is too high, including fares to get to school and college.
- Buses are late/ don’t turn up/ aren’t available.
- Transport issues make it hard for people to stay behind for extracurricular activities, to find work, and to take part in positive activities.

### Boredom/ things to do
- Lots of nice open spaces but there is a lack of affordable activities.
- It is important for young people to be recognised for the good things they do.
- If there is a lack of things to do and people don’t get praise, they can start getting into trouble.

### Health and Wellbeing
- Peer pressure
- Drugs and alcohol
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health
- People to talk to who they trust
- Sexual health
- Risk taking behaviour

### Personal Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Worries about the impact of adult anti-social behaviour and alcohol use.
- Young people feel safer when they are in groups.
- People with dealt with issues themselves rather than involving the police.
- The police should talk and listen to young people rather than telling them off.
Young people in Elmbridge:

According to the 'Elmbridge Young People’s Needs Assessment' (June 2014), there are approximately 15,300 young people aged between 10 and 19 in Elmbridge. This is predicted to grow by 3.9% over the between now and 2019.

The sections below provide some key facts about the young people in Elmbridge, from a variety of sources.

Young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) or at risk of being NEET (RONI)³:

- Between April 2014 and March 2015, there were 126 young people in years 12 – 14, not in employment, education or training in Elmbridge (NEET). The Community Youth Work: Elmbridge Youth Work Needs Assessment (2015) highlights there is a higher number of NEET 19 year-olds in Elmbridge than the Surrey average.
- In the same period, 326 young people in years 7-11 were identified as being at risk of being not in employment, education or training (RONI).
- The wards with the highest numbers of young people who were either NEET or RONI during this period were: Walton North; Hersham North; Walton Ambleside; Molesey South; and Molesey North.
- The Community Youth Work: Elmbridge Youth Work Needs Assessment also highlights there is a strong link between RONI data and deprived areas.

Youth Support Service⁴:

- Between April 2014 and March 2015, 28 young people received a judicial outcome as a result of offending behaviour.
- In the same period 75 young people received a Youth Restorative Intervention (YRI) as a result of offending behaviour.
- The wards with the highest numbers of young people with a substantive outcome or YRI during this period were: Walton North; Walton Ambleside; Molesey North; Esher and Hersham North.

Children in Need, Looked After Children and Child Protection Plans⁵:

- Between September 2013 and August 2014 there were 70 Children in Need in Elmbridge.
- Data from the same period shows there were 32 looked after children and also 32 children on Child Protection Plans.

Young carers⁶:

- There are 90 registered young carers in Elmbridge, which in reality means there are likely to be significantly more unregistered young carers.

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³ Community Youth Work: Elmbridge Youth Work Needs Assessment
⁴ As above
⁵ As above
⁶ As above
Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)7:

- Surrey’s SEND 16-25 Needs Assessment indicates that 284 young people in Elmbridge (1.9%), aged between 10 and 19, have special educational needs or disability.
- The number of young people with SEND in Elmbridge is predicted to grow. Between 2014 and 2033 the numbers of young people with SEND in North East Surrey are forecast to increase by 18% or by approximately 300 young people.

Health of young people in Elmbridge8:

According to Public Health England’s Elmbridge Health Profile, the health of people in Elmbridge is generally better than the England average. The Health Profile 2015 highlights the following key points about health in Elmbridge and particularly child health:

- Life expectancy for both men and women is higher than the England average. However life expectancy is 6.0 years lower for men and 2.4 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Elmbridge compared with the least deprived areas.
- Health priorities in Elmbridge include skin cancer, mental health and physical activity.
- 9.6% of children in year 6 are classified as obese which is better than the average for England.
- The rate of alcohol-specific stays among those under 18 was 17.8 per 100,000 population which is better than the England average.
- Levels of teenage pregnancy are lower than the England average.
- The Community Youth Work: Elmbridge Youth Work Needs Assessment also highlights (that Elmbridge has high levels of 16/17 smokers, with 433 young people being regular smokers and a further 224 occasional smokers. It also highlights that sexual health has steadily improved from 2009 to 2013.

Deprivation in Elmbridge:

- Levels of deprivation in Elmbridge are lower than the national average. However there are pockets of deprivation across the borough and approximately 8% of children (under-16s) live in poverty.
- The table below shows the areas of Elmbridge with the highest levels of deprivation, according to the Index of Multi Deprivation (2010) There is also a map in Annex 1 which maps the level of need in Elmbridge including data on deprivation, employability and crime.
- Based on data relating to employability, health, crime and deprivation, The Community Youth Work: Elmbridge Youth Work Needs Assessment identifies the following wards in need of provision of open access youth work:
  - Walton Ambleside and Walton North;
  - Hersham North;
  - Molesey (North and South);
  - Cobham – areas of Fairmile and Downside;
  - Lower Green (in Esher);
  - Weybridge North;
  - Hinchley Wood/ Claygate.

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7 Surrey Special Education Needs and Disability 16 – 25 Needs Assessment
8 Public Health England Elmbridge Health Profile 2015
Streets Apart: working together for Elmbridge young people

The Streets Apart project is a partnership which is looking to find innovative ways to address exclusion and reduce inequality for children, young people and their families in Elmbridge. Streets Apart was commissioned by the Walton Charity and Surrey County Council, with support from Elmbridge Borough Council, and the initial phase of the project focussed on producing a report which looked at the impact of social exclusions and wider inequalities on young people in Elmbridge.

The Streets Apart report highlighted the following about young people and their families in Elmbridge:

- **Poverty** - there are 2,610 children and young people, aged 0-19, living in poverty in Elmbridge.

- **Socially isolated neighbourhoods** - Elmbridge has socially isolated neighbourhoods which are significantly more deprived than the rest of the borough which are characterised by higher levels of social housing and limited public transport. Examples include Lower Green (Esher) and Fieldcommon Lane (Hersham).

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LSOA name</th>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>IMD Score</th>
<th>Surrey Ranking (out of 709)</th>
<th>Surrey Percentile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 008A</td>
<td>Walton Ambleside</td>
<td>27.85</td>
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<td>1.27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 004D</td>
<td>Walton North</td>
<td>24.48</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2.40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 017D</td>
<td>Cobham Fairmile</td>
<td>22.34</td>
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<td>4.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 004B</td>
<td>Walton North</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>4.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 013D</td>
<td>Esher</td>
<td>20.03</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>7.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 003D</td>
<td>Molesey South</td>
<td>17.14</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>9.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 014B</td>
<td>Hersham North</td>
<td>15.69</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>12.69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 014A</td>
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<td>99</td>
<td>13.96%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 003C</td>
<td>Molesey South</td>
<td>14.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 012A</td>
<td>Weybridge North</td>
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<td>122</td>
<td>17.21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elmbridge 017A</td>
<td>Cobham and Downside</td>
<td>14.12</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>17.49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9 http://www.waltoncharity.org.uk/walton/Letters/FormForm-93-41836.5823611111.pdf
- **Foodbanks**: increasingly families in Elmbridge are making use of the four foodbanks in the borough. The Walton and Hersham foodbank fed 991 people (470 families) between May 2013 and March 2014.

- **Housing** - Elmbridge has a particular challenge around affordable accommodation which makes it challenging for young people in Elmbridge to be able to afford to buy their own house in the borough. Elmbridge’s average ratio of house price to income was 22:1 in 2013 compared to 14:1 in Surrey and 11:1 nationally. This is emphasised by the fact that while earnings are 18% above the national average, house prices are 260% above the national average. 10% of housing in the borough is social housing.

- **Domestic Abuse** - in North East Surrey, a local domestic abuse charity supported 134 young people aged 16 – 24 in the first nine months of 2013/14. The prevalence of domestic abuse in adult relationships in Elmbridge, as elsewhere will have an impact on young people. According to Surrey Police there were 1,549 reports of domestic abuse in Elmbridge in 2013 (although research suggests that many incidents of domestic abuse are unreported).

- **Mental health** - the Surrey average for children and young people diagnosed with a mental health disorder is 7.15%. Two areas in Elmbridge exceed the Surrey average; Walton North 10.1% and Molesey North 9.8%.
**Priorities around young people in Elmbridge:**

**Elmbridge Youth Task Group:**

The Elmbridge Youth Task Group assists and advises the Elmbridge Local Committee on youth issues. In 2014, the Task Group identified a number of priorities for young people in Elmbridge and also a number of priority neighbourhoods as set out below. In September 2014, Elmbridge Local Committee, approved the Local Specification for Prevention (which included these priorities), based on recommendations from the Youth Task Group.

**Priorities**

- **Transport** – young people being able to access services and youth provision that already exists.
- Young people’s **mental health**
- **Careers advice and work experience** – enabling young people to understand and adjust when moving from education to employment.
- Young people with **caring responsibilities**
- Lack of designated **youth spaces** in parks

**Priority Neighbourhoods**

- Molesey South
- Hersham North
- St Johns, Walton Ambleside, Walton North
- Cobham Fairmile, Cobham and Cobham Downside
- Thames Ditton

**Residents’ Priorities:**

A Residents’ Panel Survey in Elmbridge in 2014 asked residents to identify their main local priorities for the next five years. It is worth noting that ‘finding useful things for young people to do’ was identified as a priority by 22% of respondents. This was identified as a priority by 23% in 2013 and 27% in 2012.

**Conclusion:**

The information in this summary is intended to provide a snapshot of young people in Elmbridge. The information and data in this summary has been combined with feedback from consultation and engagement with young people and those who work with young people to help determine the priorities in the Elmbridge youth strategy.
References:

- ‘One in ten 2010’ – Surrey County Council Services for Young People
- ‘One in ten 2014’ – Surrey County Council Services for Young People
- Streets Apart: Growing up on the margins in Elmbridge – Commissioned by Surrey County Council and Walton Charity with support from Elmbridge Borough Council
- Elmbridge Young People’s Needs Assessment (June 2014) – Surrey County Council Services for Young People
- Community Youth Work: Elmbridge Youth Work Needs Assessment (2015) – Surrey County Council Services for Young People
- Local prevention in neighbourhoods: Elmbridge – Surrey County Council Services for Young People
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Surrey
- Surrey–i Local Area Profile for Elmbridge
- Elmbridge Fact Sheet – Surrey Community Action
- Elmbridge Health Profile 2015 – Public Health England
- Knowing Our Communities Report (2012) – Elmbridge Borough Council
- Elmbridge Residents’ Panel Survey 2014 – Elmbridge Borough Council