

One Surrey Growth Board

June 2025



Agenda

No.	Timings	Item	Speaker(s)
1.	09:00-09:10	Welcome and introductions	Matt Furniss (OSGB Chair)
2.	09:10-09:25	Surrey Economic Growth Fund update	Patricia Huertas (Assistant Director – Economy & Growth)
3.	09:25-10:15	Growth Board KPIs review	Patricia Huertas
4.	10:15-10:30	Local Government Reorganisation update	Dawn Redpath (Director – Economy & Growth)
5.	10:30-10:55	Governance and oversight changes	Dawn Redpath
6.	10:55-11:00	Reflections and Close	Matt Furniss (OSGB Chair)



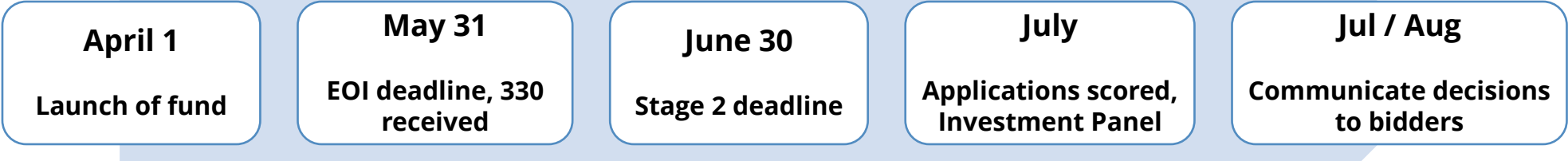
Welcome

- **Matt Furniss – One Surrey Growth Board Chair**
 - *Declarations of Interest*

Surrey Economic Growth Fund (SEGF) update

Item 2

SEGF so far



Over 300 Expressions of Interest received

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Total requested</i>	<i>Total value</i>	<i>Trends</i>
Business Growth Grant	£6.2m	£16.4m	EOIs from businesses in Guildford, Reigate and Banstead and Waverley account for majority at 45% Businesses equate for the highest percentage of EOIs (at 35%), yet top 5 highest requests come from Colleges, D&Bs and Universities for Innovation Spaces and Future Surrey Fund.
Future Surrey Fund	£13.3m	£15.9m	
Innovation Spaces Fund	£14.8m	£19.4m	

Emerging trends and links

SMEs asking for:

- Growing interest in digital transformation and AI as an enabler of growth
- Investment is being requested for workforce training.
- Many SMEs share a focus on reducing emissions and improving sustainability.

Partners putting forward:

- Focus on helping businesses grow through digital transformation.
- Projects aimed at training programmes, especially to upskill residents.
- An emerging focus on creative industries and mental health.

Rural England Prosperity Fund and Skills Bootcamps

- **Rural England Prosperity Fund**

- This year, REPF is aimed at farm diversification projects across three areas of Surrey (Guildford, Tandridge and Waverley).
- A total of £360k is available to support farms in diversifying into new income streams that will maximise impact, unlock rural economic value and develop farming resilience.

- **Skills Bootcamps**

- The DfE has awarded Surrey £3.1m to deliver Skills Bootcamps across the county which will equip Surrey's residents with the specific skills for in-demand jobs.
- A competitive grant award process is soon to be announced, where we will welcome submissions that align with the priorities set out in the Economic Growth Strategy and evidence increased opportunities for residents to secure meaningful employment and support business growth

Group discussion

- Reflections so far on progress to inform future funding rounds

Growth Board KPIs review

Item 3

Economic Strategy

Growing a sustainable economy so that everyone can benefit, which means we want to....
*Ensure that Surrey continues to retain its position as one of the country's **leading high-value and innovative regional economies** by increasing productivity (GVA) and **delivering wider socio-economic benefits to ensure no one is left behind.***

Residents



1. Ensuring Surrey's residents can support the workforce and skills demands of Surrey's businesses

Businesses



2. Creating the right conditions for Surrey businesses to start, grow and thrive

Places



3. Enabling economic infrastructure to unlock growth through place-based approaches










Points for consideration

- Some KPI metrics remain suitable, but the targeted position should be revisited (i.e. GVA, claimant count)
- Some targeted positions have been surpassed and might no longer relate to the refreshed priorities, consider removing
- Consider targeted positions for trackers
- Whether any of the new metrics presented as trackers should be included as part of the Growth Board KPIs












Current Growth Board KPIs – 2021

(Previous) Strategic Priorities	KPI Metric	Growth Board Targeted Position	2021	2022	2023
Growth	Surrey GVA	18% increase to £54.9 by 2030, from 2019 baseline	↑ £47.57bn	↑ £51.31bn	↑ £54.62bn
Growing our Leading Edge	Employment in Knowledge Intensive businesses	1 percentage point increase in number of jobs held by employees in knowledge intensive industries across Surrey, to 131,300 by 2030	↑ 125,000	↑ 134,000	↓ 120,000
Business landscape	High Growth Businesses	Maintain 5% of active businesses to be High Growth businesses to 2030	↓ 3.3%	↑ 4.1%	↑ 5.4%
Sustainable placemaking	Gigabit capability	Gigabit Capability Coverage to be 40% coverage by 2030	↑ 70.7%	↑ 76%	↑ 78.6%
	Housing Affordability	Improve housing affordability ratio from 11.5 to 10.5, bringing Surrey closer to the South East, by 2030.	↑ 12.6	↓ 12.2	↓ 11.9
Inclusion	Claimant Count	Claimant count to return to 1.1% within 3 years.	↓ 2.4%	↓ 2.0%	↑ 2.1%













Currently being tracked

KPI Metric	2021	2022	2023	Comparators
GVA per filled job	 £74,727	 £83,991	Data set to be released	£65,901 (UK) £62,649 (CIPFA)
GVA per hour worked	 £49.50	 £53.80	Data set to be released	£39.10 (UK and CIPFA)
GVA per head		£38,338	 £44,455	£36,103 (UK) £32,495 (CIPFA)
Knowledge intensive services share of GVA	28.5%	 30.1%	 28.3%	23.0% (UK) 16.7% (CIPFA)
Businesses in Knowledge Intensive Services			34.9%	24.4% (UK) 25.5% (CIPFA)
UKRI innovate funded projects			£12.89m	£2.76m (CIPFA)

Currently being tracked

KPI Metric	2021	2022	2023	Comparators
3-year survival rate of newly born enterprises	Data set to be released	Data set to be released	Data set to be released	2020 stats: 57.5% - Surrey 53.0% (UK) 56.2% (CIPFA)
Births of new enterprises	 6,940 (9.6%)	 6,520 (9.6%)	 6,460 (9.8%)	11% (UK) 9.5% (CIPFA)
Deaths of enterprises	 7,470 (10.7%)	 7,570 (11.1%)	 6,095 (9.2%)	10.8% (UK) 9.2% (CIPFA)
Dwellings completion rate	 2.6% (3,130)	 3% (3,600)	 2.5% (3,090)	3.1% (England) 4.0% (CIPFA)
Dwellings vacancy rate		2.6% (13,082)	 2.6% (13,275)	2.8% (England) 2.6% (CIPFA)
Office floorspace density		26.4%	 24.3%	14.5% (England) 12.0% (CIPFA)

Currently being tracked

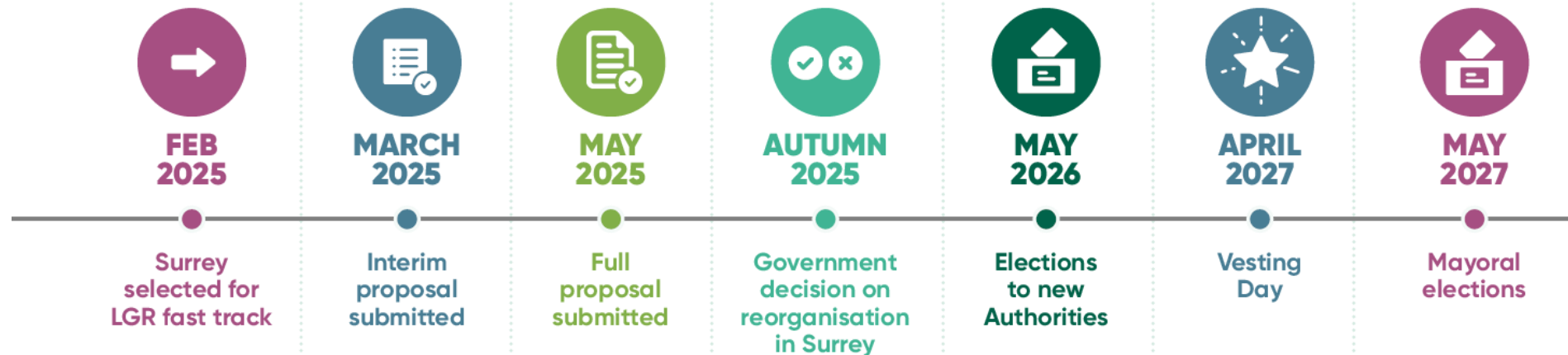
KPI Metric	2021	2022	2023	Comparators
Gross median weekly pay	 £739	 £773	 £812	£682 (UK) £703 (CIPFA)
Economic inactivity rates	 129,300 (17.8%)	 139,700 (19.3%)	 119,500 (16.3%)	18.3% (South East average 2023)
Employment rate for 16-64 year olds	 79.8%	 78.8%	 82.5%	75.7% (UK) 79.9% (CIPFA)
NEET / activity not known	 9.5%	 7.9%	 15.2%	5.2% (England) 4.7% (CIPFA)

Local Government Reorganisation update

Item 4

Timeline for LGR

- **2022 to 2024** – County Deal for Surrey, LEPs abolished and responsibilities devolved to Surrey County Council
- **Winter 2024** – Government white paper
- **February 2025** – Surrey on LGR fast track scheme, request for proposals focusing on growth, efficiencies, high-quality services and unlocking devolution
- **Summer 2025** – full proposal submitted, consultation with stakeholders
- **Autumn 2025** – government decision on LGR proposal for Surrey
- **May 2026** – elections to new ‘shadow’ authorities, go live in April 2027
- **May 2027** – mayoral elections



Next steps

Statutory consultation has been launched by Government (closes 5th August) which asks a number of questions about each proposal to help inform the assessment of the proposals submitted:

- [Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Surrey - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government - Citizen Space](#)

The 2 proposals in this consultation were made by the following councils on 9 May 2025:

•**Elmbridge Borough Council, Mole Valley District Council, and Surrey County Council proposed 2 unitary councils:**

1. East Surrey (Elmbridge, Epsom and Ewell, Mole Valley, Reigate and Banstead, Tandridge)
2. West Surrey (Guildford, Runnymede, Spelthorne, Surrey Heath, Waverley, Woking)

•**The Borough Councils of Epsom and Ewell, Guildford, Reigate and Banstead, Runnymede, Spelthorne, Surrey Heath, Waverley, and Woking, and Tandridge District Council proposed 3 unitary councils:**

1. East Surrey (Epsom and Ewell, Mole Valley, Reigate and Banstead, and Tandridge)
2. North Surrey (Elmbridge, Runnymede, and Spelthorne)
3. West Surrey (Guildford, Surrey Heath, Waverley, and Woking).

Governance and oversight changes

Item 5

Context

Surrey is required to produce three strategies in support of national workforce, employment and skills related objectives:

1. **Integrated work, skills, and health strategy** – to tackle health-related economic inactivity
2. **Get Britain Working local plan** – to encourage more people into work
3. **Adult Skills Fund strategy** – to ensure people gain the skills to enter and sustain employment
4. **Surrey Local Skills Improvement Plan** (in development via the Chamber)

Governance alignment now required to oversee the executive management layer for the implementation of all these new components.

Surrey Workforce and Skills Handbook – Table of contents

Introduction

- I. Policy context

Part I: What do we know?

- I. Surrey overview
- II. Key Challenges
- III. Existing provision

Part II: Where do we want to go?

- I. Vision
- II. Objectives
 - I. Skills –getting the right mix of skills through our provision
 - II. Health –supporting people with health-related barriers and creating of health, and inclusive workplaces
 - III. Employment – targeting employment support to tackle economic inactivity

Part III: How will we get there?

- I. Local Skills Improvement Plan
- II. ASF Strategy
(including commissioning framework)
- III. **Get Surrey Working Plan
(including action plan)**
- IV. Working in partnership

Current picture

Latest employment and workforce data

**133,000 people economically inactive in Surrey
(18.1% vs 21% in UK)**

22,000 want a job
(16.5% vs 18.3%
nationally)

27,800 on long-
term sick
(2024)

17,800 on
employment
support – half of
national average
but increasing
since 2022

National future
skills gap

Get Surrey Working Plan – Summary

The Get Surrey Working Plan is our partnership approach to addressing employment and skills needs in the County. It explores Surrey's position within six nationally identified issues:

1. People excluded from the labour market
2. Young people without skills or access to further learning
3. Insecure, poor quality, low-paying work
4. Women caring for families who are experiencing challenges in staying in/progressing in work
5. Employers unable to fill vacancies due to labour market skills shortages
6. Disparity in labour market outcomes between different places and groups of people

Our plan identifies key partners and activities that are in place to improve Surrey's position within these key areas as well as specific, local priorities.

The plan includes short and long-term actions to tackle the issues that are impacting Surrey the most. Key to this is the establishment of a new Growth Board Executive to oversee delivery and provide direction to three multi-sector, thematic delivery groups.

Connect to Work is the first programme under the Government's Get Britain Working Strategy and will deliver against the Plan for Surrey from Summer 2025 by supporting those with health conditions and complex barriers into sustainable employment, including care leavers, refugees, veterans and ex-offenders. It will support up to 900 people a year in Surrey at peak and will be worth £10.1m over 5 years. The programme is funded by DWP.

Get Surrey Working Plan – Next steps

Please review the Proposal for our Get Surrey Working Plan, which we will submit to DWP on 27 June – see attached document as part of pre-reading.

DWP require our proposal for the development of the plan which sets out:

- Approach to partnership working
- Governance
- Summary of the key issues and labour market challenges
- Emerging action plan

The final Get Surrey Working Plan will be submitted to the Department of Work and Pensions and published in September.

Reflection / Asks of the Board

- We are seeking the Growth Board to approve the Get Surrey Working proposal template.

One Surrey Growth Board

- Holds oversight of Economic Growth Strategy and priorities
- Provides endorsement for economic growth initiatives and key link to SCC Leader and Cabinet as economic advisory Board

Cabinet

Surrey Business Leaders Forum

- Provides local business voice and insight
- Check and challenge for economic public sector initiatives
- Business perspective input across all priority areas

Growth Board Operations

Oversees 'big picture' economic priorities

Provides evidence-led specialist vision

Amplifies and connects across networks

Key escalation decision point

Management and Delivery

Oversees execution and operational delivery of economic priorities

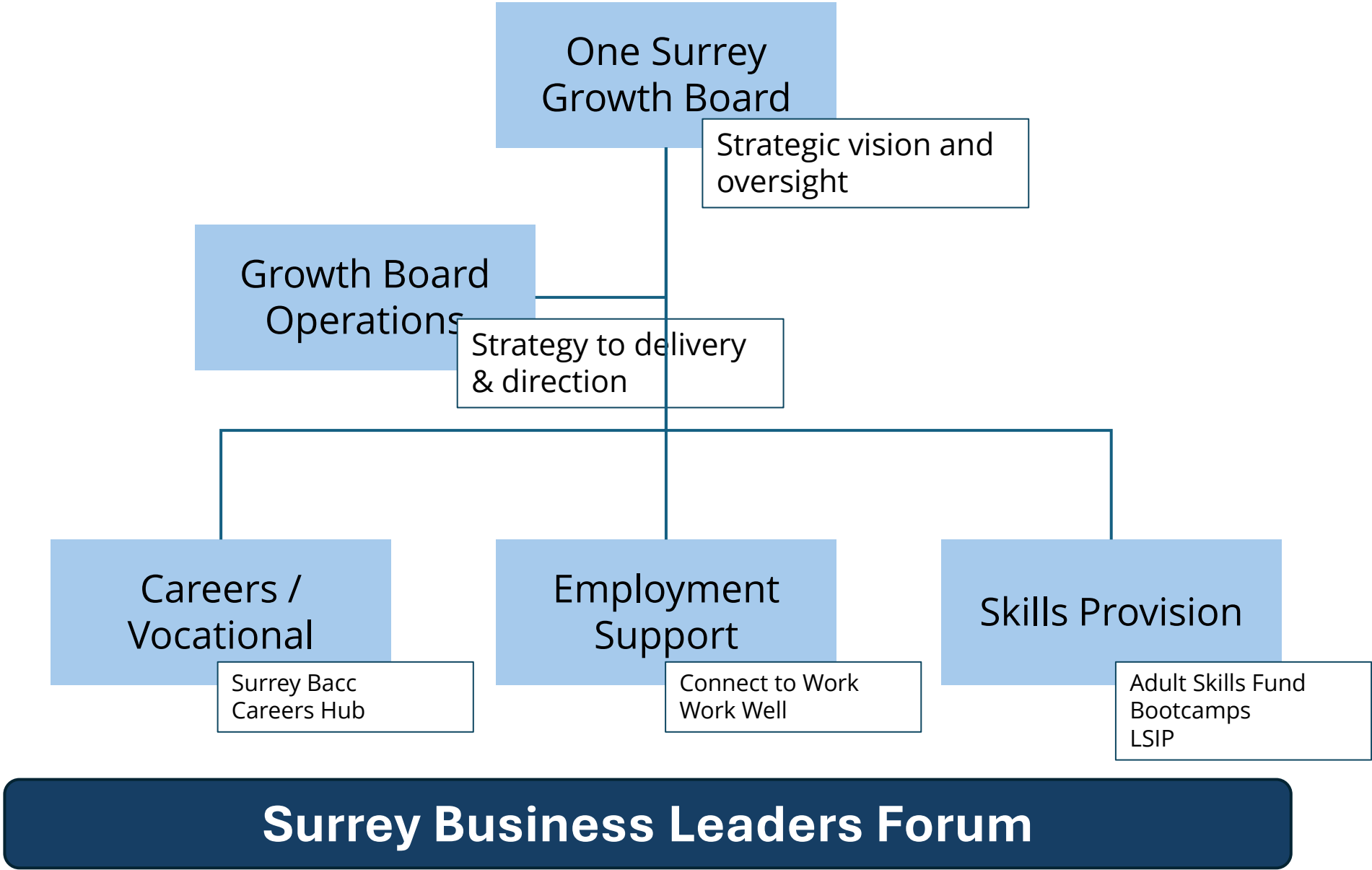
Monitoring of ongoing work programmes

Ownership of delivery plans with a specific focus on work programme areas / themes

Leverages resource and connections to ensure successful delivery and performance

Manages day-to-day delivery activity

Evolution of E & G Workforce, Employment and Skills related Governance 2025



Proposals for change

- Expand One Surrey Growth Board membership to include DWP and Health representation
- Establish OSGB operational group to oversee work programme delivery
 - OSGB to identify operational members and
 - Membership to be expanded to include Job Centre Plus representative
- Consider representation of VCFS as part of delivery programmes

Reflections and close