

# Consultation Round Up 2008/09

Surrey Heath Borough Council carried out a total of 24 consultations in 2008/09, giving residents, community panel members, partners and council staff the opportunity to give their feedback about important decisions that may affect the future of the borough. Consultations carried out included:

- **New waste and recycling scheme**  
Residents on the community panel were invited to take part in the consultation to make key decisions about the new scheme and what it should involve.

92.5% of community panel members thought that the council should introduce waste collection initiatives designed to help residents reduce the amount of waste thrown away and 85% supported the use of a kerbside recycling collection.

Surrey Heath Borough Council's new recycling and waste collection scheme will be introduced in September 2009.

- **Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan**  
Residents and partners were given the opportunity to influence the future strategic direction of the council and the community.

The issues that were important to residents included: to feel safe in our homes and on our streets, good quality accessible learning for all ages, to have safe provision for the elderly and young people and to have a diverse range of leisure facilities and good access to well maintained open spaces.

This consultation will go on to help inform other areas, such as the Housing Strategy and the Local Development



Framework (LDF) process and will help ensure equality and diversity is maintained across council services.

- **Place Survey (residents' satisfaction with the Surrey Heath area)**

The Place Survey gave residents an opportunity to give their views on the local area. The responses revealed that 87% of people are satisfied with the local area and that 86% of the borough's residents believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area.

- **Community Safety Survey**

The Safer Surrey Heath Partnership, of which the borough council is a member, carried out a community safety survey among residents, businesses and young people. The surveys revealed that the main

community safety priorities of respondents were household burglary, fear of crime and criminal damage – the reduction of which remain key priorities for the Safer Surrey Heath Partnership for 2009/10.

The council is committed to ensuring consultation is representative of the whole community and that it provides the opportunity for a wide range of Surrey Heath's population to get involved.

- **Join Surrey Heath's Community Panel**

The Surrey Heath community panel is a forum for residents to have their say about local issues, and panel members will be asked to give their views on particular subjects a few times a year. Anyone from teenagers to pensioners, from Camberley to Chobham are welcome to participate in the scheme.

The Council is always keen for new members to join its Community Panel, if you wish to join please visit the council's website [www.surreyheath.gov.uk/community](http://www.surreyheath.gov.uk/community) or telephone 01276 707100 and ask for Community Partnerships.