



PRESS RELEASE

23rd April 2018

SUPPORTING WAVERLEY RESIDENTS IN LATER LIFE – OFFICIAL OPENING OF NEW GODALMING OFFICE

Age UK Surrey and Waverley Borough Council are delighted to be working in partnership to deliver vital Services to older residents in Waverley. A new office in Godalming, located at Wey Court is now the local hub for delivering Age UK Surrey Services across the Borough.

Waverley Borough Council officially opened the centre on Monday 9th April. A community event is planned for the summer.

Waverley has the highest number of residents aged 65+ and 85+ compared to other Boroughs in Surrey, (Source Surrey-i) and the need for Services to support our growing ageing population has never been greater.

Sue Zirps, Chief Executive Age UK Surrey said: *'Our work is all about improving the quality of later life through one to one support or through group activities We help combat loneliness, improve wellbeing and support people in their day to day lives. We are very grateful to Waverley Borough Council for providing this local hub to support Waverley residents, making our Services more accessible at a local level'.*

Services in Waverley include: free impartial and confidential Information and Advice, Help at Home for a helping hand with housework, shopping, errands and companionship, Making Connections – our innovative befriending Service, Feet First – providing a basic toe nail clipping and filing and Counselling (home sessions available) for people who may be feeling anxious or depressed.

Councillor Carole King, Portfolio Holder for Housing at Waverley Borough Council, said: *"I'm so pleased that Age UK Surrey are moving into Wey Court. The space they are occupying was under used, so this move will provide income to the council from a reliable leaseholder and offer our tenants and local residents important, invaluable services that could improve their wellbeing."*

Councillor Jenny Else, Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Culture at Waverley Borough Council, said: *"Age UK Surrey already do wonderful work across the borough to support older people. I am delighted that the new hub in Godalming will enable Age UK Surrey to have an information and advice morning every Monday, open to older residents across the borough. It will also be the new base for the Help at Home team, who provide a vital service to people who need a helping hand."*

Godalming office address and contact details:
Wey Court, Weycourt Close, Godalming, GU7 3HF
Telephone: 01483 503414
Email: enquiries@ageuksurrey.org.uk

For more information about Age UK Surrey Services across the County please visit our website: www.ageuk.org.uk/surrey

End of press release.

Notes to Editor

Age UK Surrey is an independent local charity. We work across Surrey to help improve the lives of older people. Our services are designed to enable older people remain independent and informed, healthy and active and connected to their communities. We help combat loneliness and social isolation.

Services include: Information and Advice, Counselling, Help at Home, Computer Drop-in Centre in Guildford, Tea and Chat in Tandridge, Foot Care in clinics across the County, Shopmobility in Guildford, Men in Sheds in Ash, Making Connections in Guildford & Waverley, and Runnymede & Spelthorne, Café Culture in Cranleigh, Staines and Guildford.

Numbers of people over 85 continues to grow in Surrey:

- A 25% rise since 2001;
- 32,300 people in this age group (2014).
- Nearly 214,000 people are over 65 (2014).
- Statistics show that people in Surrey generally live longer than the national average.
- In 2012 there were 15,456 people in Surrey living with dementia, predicted to rise to 19,000 by 2020.

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www.ageuk.org.uk/surrey