



## ANNEX H

### SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY WORKSHEETS AND OTHER SUPPORTING DATA

- H1 WORKSHEET S1 POPULATION
- H2 WORKSHEET S2 HOUSING
- H3 HEALTH AND SAFETY
- H4 WORKSHEET S4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS
- H5 MOLE VALLEY CREDIT UNION



H1 WORKSHEET S1 POPULATION

Q1a and b Total population of town and surrounding countryside showing which wards they live in.

	Total	Males	Females
<b>Leatherhead Town</b>			
North ward	5848	2890	2958
South ward	3837	1890	1947
TOTAL LEATHERHEAD TOWN	9685	4780	4905
<b>Mickleham, Westhumble &amp; Pixham</b>	1932	934	998
<b>Bookham</b>			
North ward	5616	2679	2937
South ward	5391	2556	2835
TOTAL BOOKHAM	11,007	5235	5772
<b>Box Hill and Headley</b>	2122	1066	1056
<b>Ashtead</b>			
Common	4040	1973	2067
Park	3796	1803	1993
Village	5658	2649	3009
TOTAL ASHTEAD	13,494	6425	7069
<b>Fetcham</b>			
East	3676	1814	1862
West	4069	2006	2063
TOTAL FETCHAM	7745	3820	3925
<b>TOTAL FOR WHOLE AREA</b>	<b>45,985</b>	<b>22260</b>	<b>23725</b>



**Q. 2a Population of retirement age**

	<b>Age 65+</b>	<b>Age 75+</b>
<b>Leatherhead Town</b>		
North ward	805	391
South ward	846	432
<b>TOTAL LEATHERHEAD TOWN</b>	<b>1651</b>	<b>823</b>
<b>Mickleham, Westhumble &amp; Pixham</b>	353	176
<b>Bookham</b>		
North ward	1298	620
South ward	1245	572
<b>TOTAL BOOKHAM</b>	<b>2543</b>	<b>1192</b>
<b>Box Hill and Headley</b>	503	183
<b>Ashtead</b>		
Common	664	319
Park	911	498
Village	1276	730
<b>TOTAL ASHTEAD</b>	<b>2851</b>	<b>1547</b>
<b>Fetcham</b>		
East	647	169
West	707	312
<b>TOTAL FETCHAM</b>	<b>1354</b>	<b>481</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR WHOLE AREA</b>	<b>9258</b>	<b>3679</b>

	<b>Percentage of population that are 65+</b>	<b>Percentage of population that are 75+</b>
Whole Leatherhead area	20.13%	8%
Mole Valley D.C. area	19%	9.3%
Surrey	16.25%	7.9%
England	13.3%	7.5%
South-East region	21.2%	8%
UK	15.9%	7.4%



**Q.3. Younger population (under 16)**

<b>Leatherhead Town</b>	
North ward	1158
South ward	639
TOTAL LEATHERHEAD TOWN	1797
<b>Mickleham, Westhumble &amp; Pixham</b>	337
<b>Bookham</b>	
North ward	1024
South ward	951
TOTAL BOOKHAM	1975
<b>Box Hill and Headley</b>	244
<b>Ashtead</b>	
Common	861
Park	674
Village	1095
TOTAL ASHTEAD	2630
<b>Fetcham</b>	
East	773
West	884
TOTAL FETCHAM	1657
TOTAL FOR WHOLE AREA	8639

	Percentage of population under 16
Whole Leatherhead area	18.8
Mole Valley D.C. area	19.02
Surrey	Not Avail.
England	20.2
South-East region	Not Avail.
UK	20.2



**Q4 Employed population economically active 16-74**

		<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
<b>Leatherhead Town</b>			
North ward	3214	1742	1472
South ward	1803	1017	786
<b>TOTAL LEATHERHEAD TOWN</b>	<b>5017</b>	<b>2759</b>	<b>2258</b>
<b>Mickleham, Westhumble &amp; Pixham</b>	967	531	436
<b>Bookham</b>			
North ward	2572	1436	1136
South ward	2534	1381	1153
<b>TOTAL BOOKHAM</b>	<b>5106</b>	<b>2817</b>	<b>2289</b>
<b>Box Hill and Headley</b>	1137	632	505
<b>Ashtead</b>			
Common	2051	1120	931
Park	1673	927	746
Village	2599	1434	1165
<b>TOTAL ASHTEAD</b>	<b>6323</b>	<b>3481</b>	<b>2842</b>
<b>Fetcham</b>			
East	1789	1023	766
West	2028	1106	922
<b>TOTAL FETCHAM</b>	<b>3817</b>	<b>2129</b>	<b>1688</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR WHOLE AREA</b>	<b>22367</b>	<b>12349</b>	<b>10018</b>
<b>TOTAL POPULATION FOR WHOLE AREA</b>	<b>45985</b>	<b>22260</b>	<b>23725</b>

	<b>Percentage of population economically active</b>
Whole Leatherhead area	48.6
Mole Valley D.C. area	50
Surrey	Not Avail.
South-East region	Not Avail.
England	44.1
UK	43.6



**Q6. Household population**

	Total households	Pensioners only households & % of total	One-pensioner households & % of total
<b>Leatherhead Town</b>			
North ward	2599	585 22.5%	434 16.7%
South ward	1693	547 32.3%	327 19.3%
<b>TOTAL LEATHERHEAD TOWN</b>	<b>4292</b>	<b>1132 26.4%</b>	<b>761 17.7%</b>
<b>Mickleham, Westhumble &amp; Pixham</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>201 25.3%</b>	<b>110 13.9%</b>
<b>Bookham</b>			
North ward	2359	809 34.3%	424 18.0%
South ward	2263	787 34.8%	392 17.3%
<b>TOTAL BOOKHAM</b>	<b>4622</b>	<b>1596 34.5%</b>	<b>816 17.7%</b>
<b>Box Hill and Headley</b>	<b>1014</b>	<b>301 29.7%</b>	<b>150 14.8%</b>
<b>Ashtead</b>			
Common	1598	428 26.8%	246 15.4%
Park	1557	551 35.4%	268 17.2%
Village	2280	760 33.3%	421 18.5%
<b>TOTAL ASHTEAD</b>	<b>5435</b>	<b>1739 32.0%</b>	<b>935 17.2%</b>
<b>Fetcham</b>			
East	1417	371 26.2%	157 11.1%
West	1573	441 28.0%	216 13.7%
<b>TOTAL FETCHAM</b>	<b>2990</b>	<b>812 27.15%</b>	<b>373 12.4%</b>
<b>TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS FOR WHOLE AREA</b>	<b>19127</b>	<b>5781 30.22%</b>	<b>3145 16.4%</b>



**H2 WORKSHEET S2: HOUSING**

**Task:** to find out the basic information needed to assess the housing situation in the town and surrounding countryside

Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes																																								
<b>Sub-section 1: Housing Availability and Need</b>																																										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local estate agents (for general information on housing market)</li> <li>District Council &amp; Local Housing Associations (for information on their housing stock)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Q1</b> Currently available housing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What types of properties are there? Look at type, size and tenure (freehold, leasehold, rented).</li> <li>Where are they located? For example, are they clustered in the town centre, town edge or hinterland settlements?</li> <li>Is there an under- or over-supply of housing of different types?</li> </ol> <p>(Worksheets EN1; EN2; EN3 Q4; EC6 Q1; EC6 Q18 also refer to the built environment)</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>By type</th> <th colspan="2">Leatherhead</th> <th colspan="2">North Mole Valley total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>1029</td> <td>24%</td> <td>8455</td> <td>45%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Semi-detached</td> <td>1250</td> <td>29%</td> <td>5337</td> <td>28%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Terraced</td> <td>662</td> <td>15%</td> <td>1562</td> <td>15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flat</td> <td>1431</td> <td>33%</td> <td>3093</td> <td>16%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non permanent</td> <td>9</td> <td></td> <td>548</td> <td>3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vacant</td> <td>88</td> <td>2%</td> <td>451</td> <td>2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>4381</b></td> <td><b>100%</b></td> <td><b>18986</b></td> <td><b>100%</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Under supply of 3 and 4 bed semis</p>	By type	Leatherhead		North Mole Valley total		Detached	1029	24%	8455	45%	Semi-detached	1250	29%	5337	28%	Terraced	662	15%	1562	15%	Flat	1431	33%	3093	16%	Non permanent	9		548	3%	Vacant	88	2%	451	2%	<b>Total</b>	<b>4381</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18986</b>	<b>100%</b>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council Planning Dept</li> <li>Local Plan</li> </ul>	<p><b>Q 2</b> New housing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How much new housing is being planned in the area?</li> <li>What type is it?</li> <li>Where is it?</li> </ol> <p>(Worksheets EN1 Q7,14; EN3 Q4; EC6 Q1,8,9; T1 Q3 also refer to development)</p>	<p>Surrey Structure Plan requires 155/yr in MV to 2016 but not phased. At current rate will exceed by 55%, i.e. build faster than required rate. 264 in progress in Leatherhead of which 100 are affordable. Mainly 1 and 2 bed On Leatherhead sites larger than 10, 275 built 2001-5</p>																																								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local estate agents</li> <li>County council</li> </ul>	<p><b>Q 3</b> Housing costs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the cost of buying or renting property?</li> <li>Can local people afford to buy houses in the area?</li> <li>Where is there a supply of affordable (social) housing at below-market prices?</li> <li>Where is there a supply of starter homes?</li> <li>Does supply meet local needs based on current statistics?</li> </ol>	<p>2003 prices</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Leatherhead</th> <th>Mole Valley District</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 bed Flat</td> <td>£127,800</td> <td>£145,370</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 bed Flat</td> <td>£144,500</td> <td>£172,300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 bed Terraced</td> <td>£196,600</td> <td>£209,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Average price of property in Mole Valley £331,000</p> <p>600 households forming each year that cannot afford to buy</p> <p>100 affordable flats in new build on larger sites in progress in Leatherhead</p>		Leatherhead	Mole Valley District	1 bed Flat	£127,800	£145,370	2 bed Flat	£144,500	£172,300	2 bed Terraced	£196,600	£209,000																												
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Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council figures for Housing Investment Programme</li> <li>Local charities</li> <li>Local survey</li> </ul>	<p>Q 4 Homeless people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many people are homeless in the area?</li> <li>How many of these are formally counted as homeless by local authorities compared with those that may be staying with friends and are without a home of their own?</li> <li>How does this compare with regional and national averages?</li> </ol>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council (ask for waiting list allocation rules)</li> <li>Nomination Agreement between Council &amp; Housing Associations</li> </ul>	<p>Q 5 Housing priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the local council give local people priority in accessing affordable housing?</li> <li>What provision is there for people who may want to move back to their local area following time away to train or study?</li> <li>Does this differ in settlements in the surrounding countryside and in the town?</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> <li>Housing list points awarded for previous residency up to 5yrs</li> <li>Previous residence in a rural parish can earn extra points</li> </ol>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council and Housing Association (ask for comparisons of demand for specialist housing with current and planned)</li> </ul>	<p>Q 6 Supported housing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What supported housing is available to those who need it through special units (for example, for the elderly or disabled)?</li> <li>Does this meet current or projected demands?</li> </ol> <p>(Worksheets EC7 Q8T2 Q4,5; T3 also refer to disability issues)</p>	<p>There is a good supply of sheltered housing. But not for people with mild to moderate learning difficulties and special needs, ie supported living</p>
<p>District Council and Housing Associations (ask for comparisons of demand for specialist housing with current and planned)</p>	<p>Q 7 Housing for older people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the housing provision and cost provide for older people who may want to move to smaller/more manageable homes or from villages to market towns?</li> <li>Is this provision sufficient?</li> </ol>	<p>MVDC provides incentives to people to down size in council property</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council</li> <li>Social Services</li> </ul>	<p>Q 8 Housing for elderly/disabled people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What support is provided for people such as the elderly or disabled in their own homes?</li> <li>Does this meet current or projected demand?</li> </ol> <p>(Worksheets EC7 Q8T2 Q4,5; T3 also refer to disability issues)</p>	<p>Considerable support but anecdotal evidence that not all reasonable needs met when needed</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Census of Population</li> <li>Council Tax records (compare number of 2<sup>nd</sup>/holiday homes with total number of households)</li> </ul>	<p>Q 9 Availability of homes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there a high number of homes not available to the local population?</li> <li>Is there a high level of second home ownership or holiday lets locally?</li> <li>Are these confined to particular parts of the area? (for example, those attractive to tourists or near business centres, etc)?</li> </ol>	<p>No evidence of many second homes in the area</p>



Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council Housing Investment Programme or Housing Needs Surveys</li> <li>Local survey of premises</li> </ul>	<p>Q 10 Empty houses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there a high level of vacancy or empty houses?</li> <li>Where are these located?</li> <li>Are there opportunities to make redundant housing and additional homes available to local people?</li> <li>What opportunities are there to bring housing into the town centre (for example, flats over shops) back into use?</li> </ol> <p><i>(compare number of vacant houses with total number of premises)</i></p> <p><i>(Worksheets EN1; EN2; EN3 Q4; EC6 Q1; EC6 Q18 also refer to the built environment. Worksheets EN1 Q7,14; EN3 Q4; EC6 Q1,8,9; T1 Q3 also refer to development)</i></p>	<p>Not a high level of empty houses</p> <p>MVDC aims to bring all property up to benchmark standards by 2010</p>

**Sub-section 2: Quality of Housing**

Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council Housing condition survey</li> </ul>	<p>Q 11 Housing conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the condition of existing local housing?</li> <li>How many properties suffer from damp, lack of central heating, external and structural problems, or disrepair?</li> <li>Where are they located?</li> </ol>	<p>MVDC completed survey of all their property by 2001 to the extent that met the Government's decent homes standard. A programme of improvement is in hand to complete all work needed by 2010.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council</li> </ul>	<p>Q 12 Where there is poor quality housing, how is this being addressed through improvement/investment programmes?</p> <p><i>(Worksheets EN1; EN2; EN3 Q4; EC6 Q1; EC6 Q18 also refer to the built environment. Worksheets EN1 Q7,14; EN3 Q4; EC6 Q1,8,9; T1 Q3 also refer to development)</i></p>	<p>See above</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council</li> </ul>	<p>Q 13 Are there areas of poor quality private housing that are not being addressed?</p> <p><i>(Worksheets EN1; EN2; EN3 Q4; EC6 Q1; EC6 Q18 also refer to the built environment. Worksheets EN1 Q7,14; EN3 Q4; EC6 Q1,8,9; T1 Q3 also refer to development)</i></p>	<p>Not significant</p>



**SWOT ANALYSIS**

You need to consider what the information you have gathered tells you in the light of these questions:	Write your answers here. Base them on the information you have gathered:	Conclusion					
		It's a Fact	Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threat	Need more info
Is there sufficient housing available to meet the needs of all sectors of the population? If there are shortfalls, where are they? Do current housing strategies and plans take these areas into account?	House building rate exceeds the Surrey Strategic Plan forecasts. The property market is active but the problem is one of affordability for those not yet "on the rung"		*	*			
Is the available housing stock in good condition? Where is the poor housing stock? What is being done to improve it?	Housing generally in good condition. MVDC is working on a programme to improve council housing which is below standard by 2010	*					

**H3 HEALTH & PUBLIC SAFETY**

Time and resources have not permitted the abstraction of information and completion of the data on these subjects in the standard format. The following notes have been prepared by Hilary Porter who chairs the Leatherhead Society and maintains an active interest in these matters.

**H3.1 Health**

My main concern on this survey of provision is that it does not seem to concern itself with services specific to the elderly or disabled and Leatherhead has a particular need for these services – it affects the need for increased services by volunteers and the increased difficulty that Mole Valley District Council has in providing financial support for these organisations.

Over the past fifteen years a number of locally based support organisations have been lost including Cruse, Carers, Epilepsy, and Leatherhead Mental Health Support Team (now based in Dorking).

There is a seeming lack of understanding amongst senior Professional Service providers about the concerns of the service users, who lack information due to the increased need to access information through websites as a means of cutting costs.



Whilst opportunity exists for members of the public to access and input information through SCC websites into the 50 plus areas of interest, and this provides sources of consultation for members of the PPI forums which have replaced the former Community Health Councils, the present all-change climate in health service provision makes it difficult to assess local concerns – apart from those of lack of transport to hospitals, high cost of taxi services, and difficulties of getting appointments with GPs.

Cuts in podiatry and chiropody services and minimal provision for needs of disabled patients needing occupational health services are putting extra strain on personal finance with the consequence that some disabled or elderly residents are unable to afford the Mole Valley emergency telephone systems. It is probable that many are unaware of additional support which may be obtained through the Leatherhead United Charities, the SSAFA, Royal British Legion or the Voluntary Association for Surrey Disabled.

Regrettably at the end of December budgetary restrictions resulted in the closure of Rentwood.

The Direct Payments funding is overstretched and although the People Empowering People Chat meetings, held at Park House, give excellent advice and up-dated information on service provision for disabled members, with representatives of SCC, MVDC and Social Services attending, it is still the case of too many people and not enough funding.

### **H3.2 Safety**

The work of the Night Hostel has increasingly re-established homeless residents into employment and housing and the increased facilities at Pitstop have considerably benefited the concerns of elderly residents who were anxious about the presence of alcoholics in the town centre.

There have been a number of incidents of purse and bag snatching in Sainsbury's during the past few months. The police have been engaged during the past year in locating drug dealers in Poplar Road and using the Travelodge. There is some concern over the increased licensing hours of pubs in the High Street.

The police are also actively concerned in reaching community groups as the use of the Town Centre Forum for the Leatherhead local Police and Community Partnership group consultations reaches too few members of the public and only meets bi-monthly. Local neighbourhood police officers in the villages hold regular meetings and have developed good relations with the community by addressing directly many of their concerns. Crime in the area is among the lowest in Surrey and in the country.

Safety in the High Street continues to be a matter of concern; parked cars and A-boards create considerable hazards for pedestrians particularly those with visual impairment. There is frequent deliberate flaunting of the no-entry and one way signs at the top of the High Street.

The Leatherhead Volunteer Bureau is unfortunately difficult to find and needs a more visible presence. Barbara Watts would welcome greater involvement with the public and community groups and is keen to support the re-establishment of the quarterly meetings of voluntary group representatives to help co-ordinate support for their public events and need for volunteer support and publicity. There is a very real concern that the Leatherhead Advertiser gives insufficient publicity for Leatherhead events, (even when material is submitted for inclusion), which detracts from the community feeling amongst Leatherhead Residents.

### **H3.3 Alternative & Complementary Therapies and Support Groups**

Leatherhead and Mole Valley District is fortunate to have a number of highly qualified complementary therapists and support groups:

**Chiromkinetic** Therapy is practised and taught by David Stevens in the Crescent, Leatherhead at the Vital Body Clinic. He is consulted by the NHS on his successful treatment of **allergies**.

**Cancer** Support and **Lymphatic Drainage** - Lesley Pearce in Park Rise Close is one of the top British authorities in nutritional support for Cancer.

## LEATHERHEAD *Tomorrow*



The Leatherhead and Epsom **Homoeopathic and Healing Group** maintains a register of qualified alternative therapists and meets in Ashted monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday evening at the RC Church Hall in the Marld, with visiting speakers from a variety of therapies.

The Leatherhead **Homoeopathic** Group meets in Leatherhead, contact Mrs. Eileen Scott.

Surrey **Spiritual Healers** has members living in Ashted.

There are several locally based private **Counsellors** in addition to those attached to GP practices.

There is to be a new group for helping sufferers from **depression**, meeting at the Leatherhead Institute.

**Lip-reading** classes (Surrey Adult Education) on Tuesday afternoons at the Institute. A social club for the deaf.

The SWANS sports and social club for the **Disabled** meets on Thursday evenings in term time at the Leatherhead Leisure Centre.

There is also a wide variety of indoor sport and physical exercise classes or groups including Tai Chi and Barn Dancing.

The Garlands Club (Mental Health Support Group) holds a Thursday lunch club with table games and an art group at the Leatherhead Institute. (Contact 376247).

Attached to the Leatherhead Day Centre is the Conservatory Club, an Alzheimer's support group run by the Mid Surrey Dementia Care Trust.

The Voluntary Association for Surrey Disabled (VASD) is based in Dorking. It provides advice, equipment, and organised holidays for the disabled. Staff visit the Leatherhead Help Shop in the High Street in Leatherhead.

The Patients Advisory Liaison Service (PALS) support officer Heather Gallagher is based at Leatherhead Hospital.

## **H4 WORKSHEET S4: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS**

**Task:** to find out about the level of community involvement in local decision-making and activity in both the town and surrounding countryside

### **H4.1: Introduction to the task**

It is important to assess the level of involvement of the local community when researching the well-being of a market town and when planning for the future. Effective local government is important to the well being of a town, and the numbers of people voting in national and local elections is one measure of community involvement.



**H4.2: Getting the following information will help to assess the extent of community involvement in local decision-making.**

Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<b>Sub-section 1: Local Government Structure &amp; Access</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County Council</li> </ul>	<p>Q 1 Councils: a. What councils are there in the area? <i>Identify County, District or Borough, Town and Parish Councils</i></p> <p>b. What services do they cover (for example, planning, payments, environmental health, social services, youth, and school)?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC2 Q18; T2 Q11,12; T3 Q16 also refer to local government services)</p>	<p>1a) Mole Valley District Council and Surrey County Council</p> <p>1b) MVDC: Parking, Recycling, Street Cleaning, Community Safety, Community Alarm, Services for Elderly People and People with Disabilities, Housing and Homelessness, Development Control, Planning Policy, Trees and Hedges, Conservation Areas, Building Control, Environmental Health including Pollution Control, Animal Welfare, Energy Efficiency, Food Hygiene, Licensing, Leisure including Parks and Open Spaces, Sports, Arts, Markets and Youth Voice.</p> <p>SCC: Children’s Services, Early Years and Childcare, Libraries, Adult Learning, Care Services, Advice, Registration and Emergencies, Planning, Waste, Countryside, Recycling, Roads, Transport, Footpaths, Cycling, Tourism and Leisure Information.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town, Parish, District/Borough and County Councils</li> <li>Individual councillors</li> </ul>	<p>Q 2 Council access: a. How can local residents access these Councils? b. Where are the Councils’ offices? c. Where are Council information points located (for example, the library or town hall)? d. Where and when do councillors hold local surgeries?</p>	<p>2a) Residents’ access to MVDC locally is through the Help Shop in the High Street Leatherhead otherwise access is by bus to Dorking, train from Leatherhead to Dorking or communication through the website, telephone or indirectly through the Leatherhead Help Shop.</p> <p>b) The main offices are in Dorking. There are few Council information points in Leatherhead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help Shop</li> <li>Notice board in Church Street</li> <li>Notice board in King’s Head Alley</li> </ul> <p>d) Local Councillors hold surgeries on the second Saturday in the month at the Leatherhead Help Shop.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council</li> <li>LSP</li> </ul>	<p>Q 3 Is there a Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for the County and/or District (or for the unitary authority area)? If so: a. Who are the co-coordinators of the LSP(s)? b. What agencies are involved? c. Which of these agencies have a presence locally? d. What thematic or local sub-groups do the LSP(s) have, and who chairs and administers them? e. What local issues are being addressed by the LSP(s)?</p> <p>(Worksheets EN2 Q11; EN3 Q1; EC2 Q5; EC3 Q19 also refer to community involvement)</p>	<p>There is a Local Strategic Partnership.</p> <p>a) It is chaired by MVDC.</p> <p>b) County and District Councils with other partners as needed.</p> <p>c) They all have a local presence.</p> <p>d) Sub groups cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traffic Congestion,</li> <li>Road Safety &amp; Maintenance</li> <li>Community Safety</li> <li>Neighbourhoods at Risk</li> <li>Community Learning</li> <li>Access to Services in Rural Areas &amp; Public Transport</li> <li>Health &amp; Welfare</li> <li>Affordable Housing</li> <li>Local Economy and Viability of Town Centres</li> <li>Safeguarding the Countryside</li> <li>Waste &amp; Recycling</li> <li>Services &amp; Facilities for Young People</li> </ul>



Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mole Valley Cycling Forum (Local Agenda 21). County and District officers share the task of coordination.</li> <li>e) All these areas of work impact upon Leatherhead.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Strategy</li> </ul>	<p>Q 4 Community Strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What does the Community Strategy specifically say about the town or local parishes?</li> <li>Where is your area mentioned by name?</li> <li>Where are your local issues mentioned?</li> <li>How well have your needs and aspirations been taken into account?</li> <li>What commitments in the Community Strategy of both the District and County Councils, or unitary authority, may have an impact on your town and surrounding countryside?</li> <li>When they are planned to take effect?</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Community Strategy has a section devoted to Leatherhead Common.</li> <li>&amp; c) Leatherhead is mentioned by name in the sections on traffic congestion, road safety and maintenance, on community safety and on lifelong learning.</li> <li>MVDC surveyed residents' views by questionnaire, and then engaged consultants to run a series of three sets of workshops in various locations including Leatherhead. The first set identified key issues, the second set went into more detail on the identified issues and finally the main community priorities were identified. The Strategy is currently under review.</li> <li>Progress has been made, at differing speeds, on all the prioritised areas of activity and many of the proposed actions in the first Community Strategy Document have been completed.</li> </ol>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District and County Councils</li> <li>LSP</li> </ul>	<p>Q 5 Future action plans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do the LSP or local authorities intend to 'bridge the gap' between the Community Strategy and your future action plan?</li> <li>What protocols, guides, discussion forums or templates are there for drawing together research and actions?</li> <li>How would the local authority or LSP like you to liaise with them during preparation of your action plan and afterwards?</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Our draft action plan has been discussed already with the MVDC Partnership Officer. Those actions which fit into existing work plans are to be adopted. Those which do not are to be discussed, first with Members of the Council and then, in greater detail, with officers and with other agencies as appropriate.</li> <li>We have set up informal meetings with key players to facilitate the implementation of our action plan.</li> <li>As above, liaison is already in existence and working well.</li> </ol>

**Sub-section 2: Community Involvement**

Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District/ Borough Council's Electoral Services Unit</li> </ul>	<p>Q 6 These questions will help assess how thriving democracy is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What was the turnout in the last General Election?</li> <li>How does this compare with the 2001 national average of 59%?<sup>1</sup></li> <li>What was the turnout at the last District/Borough election?</li> <li>How does this compare with the 2003 national average for Shire Districts of 35%?<sup>2</sup></li> <li>How many seats were contested at the last Parish/Town Council election?</li> <li>Has the local Town or Parish council been awarded</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In May 2005, at the last General Election, voter turnout was 67.88%.</li> <li>This was well above the national average in 2001 of 59%.</li> <li>In June 2004 turnout was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>35.09% in Leatherhead North</li> <li>51.4% in Leatherhead South.</li> </ul> </li> <li>One result was average, the other was above average.</li> <li>n/a</li> </ol>



Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
	<p>Quality Parish status?</p> <p><i>This recognises councils that have a full electoral mandate and a high standard of management by qualified staff.</i></p> <p>(Worksheets EN2 Q11; EN3 Q1; EC2 Q5; EC3 Q19 also refer to community involvement)</p>	<p>f) n/a</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County, District, Town &amp; Parish Councils</li> </ul>	<p>Q 7</p> <p>Local community representation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What representation does the local community have on partnership and council committees or sub-committees?</li> <li>How many representatives are there?</li> <li>How active are they?</li> <li>Which committees or sub-committees do they sit on?</li> <li>Which groups of the community do they represent?</li> </ol> <p>(Worksheets EN2 Q11; EN3 Q1; EC2 Q5; EC3 Q19 also refer to community involvement)</p>	<p>a) The Shared Agenda Group is a partnership of local organisations from the public, voluntary and business sectors responsible for the preparation of the Community Strategy comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ashcombe School</li> <li>Buchanan &amp; Curwen Security Ltd (Leatherhead)</li> <li>Central Surrey Council for Voluntary Service</li> <li>Dorking Churches Together</li> <li>East Elmbridge and Mid Surrey Primary Care Trust</li> <li>ExxonMobil (Leatherhead)</li> <li>Government Office for the South East (COSE)</li> <li>Johnston Engineering Ltd</li> <li>KBR (Leatherhead)</li> <li>Mary Frances Trust (Leatherhead)</li> <li>Mole Valley District Council</li> <li>Mole Valley LA 21 Group</li> <li>Mount Green Housing Association (Leatherhead)</li> <li>NESCOT</li> <li>Peter E. Firth &amp; Company (Leatherhead)</li> <li>Surrey County Council</li> <li>Surrey Learning &amp; Skills Council</li> <li>Surrey Police</li> <li>UNUM Provident</li> </ul> <p>Subsequently this has become the Local Strategic Partnership. Members of the public are invited to consultative meetings. They also have the right to present questions at council meetings provided they do so in advance. In particular, members of the public can address the Development Control Committee, by prior arrangement, to express their support or objections to planning applications.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Council</li> <li>Local Community groups</li> </ul>	<p>Q 8</p> <p>Community influence:</p> <p>What mechanisms do community groups have to influence developing policies or strategies?</p> <p><i>Look, for example, at what influence they have in preparing Village Design Statements, Supplementary Planning Guidance, or delivering local services.</i></p>	<p>The Leatherhead Town Centre Forum is a forum for local discussion and exchange of information, providing an opportunity for interaction with local and county councillors and officers as well as the Town Centre and Swan Centre Managers, the Police and other agencies. The Forum has a sub group which comments on planning applications. There is also an independent Town Centre Festivities committee. From time to time working groups are set up to look at particular issues such as Parking and Access or Environment. It was the Forum that commissioned the Healthcheck, with encouragement from MVDC.</p> <p>The Leatherhead Society (Residents' Association) and other representative community organisations are invited to consultative meetings such as those concerning Transport, Waste &amp; Recycling.</p> <p><b>The Leatherhead Society</b> (membership approx 200) is supported by local Councillors and MVDC</p>



Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
		<p>Officers, represents local residents concerned with planning applications and takes part in consultations from Central Surrey CVS , MVDC, SCC and SEERA; attends meetings of the Town Centre Forum, Mole Valley Local Committee and MVDC. Committee members also have connections with a number of voluntary organisations, CPRE, Norbury Park Consultative Committee, Churches Together in Leatherhead, Mental Health, and other sports and social groups.</p> <p>The <b>Leatherhead Community Association</b> although primarily a social organisation also takes a keen interest in local consultation, hosting public meetings and representing their members on the Town Centre Forum.</p> <p><b>Leatherhead AHEAD</b> takes a keen interest in the viability of the Town Centre, and is an active member of the working groups and the Town Festivities Committee.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County Council</li> <li>• District Council</li> <li>• Local Housing Association</li> </ul>	<p>Q 9 Are there any active neighbourhood forums, residents' or tenants' associations?</p>	<p>In Leatherhead Common, community groups have made great achievements in the past two years with the refurbishment of the Kingston Road Recreation Ground.</p> <p>There are two tenants' and residents' groups in Leatherhead, one on the Cleeve Estate and the other on the St Johns Estate. They both send representatives to the Mole Valley-wide Tenants' Forum.</p> <p>The main amenity society is the Leatherhead Society, but there are small residents' associations in Givons Grove, Tyrrell's Wood, Randalls Road and possibly elsewhere.</p> <p>There are two Police and Community Partnership Groups In Leatherhead, one in the North and the other in the South.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Council</li> </ul>	<p>Q 10 Involvement in community development:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What opportunities have local people had to experience being actively involved in community development?</li> <li>b. What community consultation programmes have been run in the last year?</li> </ol> <p>(Worksheets EC2 Q18; T2 Q11, 12; T3 Q16 also refer to local government services. Worksheets EN2 Q11; EN3 Q1; EC2 Q5; EC3 Q19 also refer to community involvement))</p>	<p>a) The community of Leatherhead Common was greatly involved both in the development of the design of the new recreation ground and in the implementation of it, to the extent that local young people helped fabricate the new bespoke seating, residents of all ages left their hand-prints, literally, on the new metal arches at the entrances to the rec. and local people planted hundreds of wild flowers in the meadow behind the youth club.</p> <p>b) Community consultation programmes have been run on the following subjects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste &amp; Recycling – MVDC</li> <li>• Community strategy - MVDC</li> <li>• NHS Acute Hospital and Local Hospital Provision</li> <li>• Housing SEERA and MVDC.</li> <li>• Town Centre Access Study - SCC</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Council</li> <li>• Rural Community Council</li> </ul>	<p>Q 11 What support is there to help develop community involvement or co-ordinate building capacity in the community?</p> <p><i>Is there, for example, a dedicated local authority or rural community council officer?</i></p>	<p>A Partnership Worker, funded by the LSP, has worked in Leatherhead Common for two years, fostering and promoting community initiatives. The timescale of the post has been extended. Capacity building in the voluntary sector is mainly done by the Local and County voluntary service councils, supported by officers at District and County level.</p>



**H4.3: SWOT analysis**

You need to consider what the information you have gathered tells you in the light of these questions:	Write your answers here. Base them on the information you have gathered.	Conclusion					
		It's a Fact	Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threat	Need more info
How easily can local people gain access to local government officials or members?	Residents can easily reach the Help Shop, which is in Leatherhead, but they cannot so easily reach the Council offices in Dorking. MVDC has improved its performance on answering phone calls, which is the usual mode of contact. SCC has a contact centre.		*	*			
How well is the community represented in, or consulted by, local government?	Consultation has much improved of late, although hard-to-reach residents do not always have their say. Neither Council is doing so well at involving local people in their policy and decision making meetings.		*	*			
How well are local issues fully considered in local strategies and community planning?	Usually they are.						
How active and influential is the community in local decision-making?	It depends on the issue. We are not impressed with the consultation process on the replacing of our local leisure centre as the main decisions had already been made, but the consultation on the transfer of the council housing stock was thorough.		*	*			
How well is the community encouraged and supported to become involved in decision-making/development issues?	Those people who like going to meetings and are not afraid of voicing their opinions have good opportunities to influence policy making. The Partnership Worker has been able to engage some hard-to-reach people in decision-making about very local issues. Decision-making on the whole is something that the two councils do after they have done their consultations.	*	*				



## H5 MOLE VALLEY CREDIT UNION STUDY GROUP

The study group is a set of representatives and individuals who recognise the need for a Credit Union. They came together after a public meeting and were prepared to invest time and effort in trying to establish a CU in the area. Some of the members of a Credit Union Study Group, typically, progress to become Directors of the Credit Union. These are all, and will continue to be, voluntary posts.

### Meetings

The Study Group has met regularly throughout 2005. Issues discussed have included:

- fund raising
- marketing
- training
- publicity
- feasibility study
- the business plan

### Progress

- Mole Valley District Council and Surrey County Council have given grants
- The Leatherhead Rotary Club and individuals have given donations.
- We have registered with the FSA (Financial Services Authority) as a CU Study Group and have joined ABCUL (The Association of British Credit Unions Ltd).
- We organised two Saturday Training days for the group, with an ABCUL trainer.
- We prepared an introductory leaflet
- We opened a bank account and researched the experience of other CU's.
- We organised a freepost address, a PO mailbox and an internet domain ([www.molevalleycreditunion.org](http://www.molevalleycreditunion.org)), which are all currently dormant.

In April 2005 we re-assessed progress. We felt we had made some mistakes (we had not yet been able to carry out the feasibility study, so the leaflet was a bit premature), but we agreed that we had made some good progress and that we should continue.

*Grant created an excellent draft "Power Point" presentation, which we are editing.  
The Training days had taught us a lot about Credit Unions. As a result we felt more able to prioritise. We identified a fresh set of objectives.*

We decided:-

- To seek to commission a "professionally" organised feasibility study.
- To seek more donations and grant funding to pay for the above study.
- To appoint a Training Officer and to hold training at every meeting.
- To strengthen the future board of directors by seeking new members, particularly senior people in financial and management posts.
- To continue to visit and learn from similar sized, operating Credit Unions.
- To co-operate with neighbouring CU Study Groups.

**At the moment** we have assembled funding for a feasibility study covering the Mole Valley, Woking and Guildford areas. The work is being carried out through ABCUL and the cost (about £17,000) will be shared by the three Study Groups. The study has started.



**We are continuing** with training and attended the International Credit Union Day on 15<sup>th</sup> Oct in London. We do not yet have a target date for registering as a fully-fledged Credit Union (when we will be able to start taking in and lending out money). Our next task is to identify people who will “pledge” to save with us and to find 50 people who will become “**foundation members**” by depositing £1000 each, so that we can start to build up a working capital for loans

The Study Group currently consists of: - Grant Buchanan – Independent Financial advisor; Jean Cox - All Saints Family Project; Dave Harnett – Independent; Sally Irvine – SCC Supporting People; Hilary Porter- Leatherhead Society; Andy Smithyman – Independent; Natalie Smithyman - Independent, Heather Ward – Leatherhead Town Centre Forum; Mike Ward - Leatherhead Rotary Club, and several supporters who wish to be kept informed.

Many other members of the community have been involved and have helped us in various ways, for which we are grateful. We are currently seeking to recruit more members to the study group, with appropriate skills and experience.

Contact Mike Ward, 01372 377488, or email: [mikeward@abard.com](mailto:mikeward@abard.com) for more information.



**Draft of Revised Constitution of the “Mole Valley Credit Union Study Group”**

1. The Group shall be called “Mole Valley Credit Union Study Group”. (MVCUSG) with the shorter title “MV Credit Union SG”.
2. The Group commenced operation from 6th May 2004.
3. A review of progress will be undertaken annually.
4. The aim of the MVCUSG is to oversee, support and steer a business planning process for the creation of a credit union for people who are living or working in the Mole Valley District area.
5. The goal is to create a mutual member-owned and controlled financial organisation, which will be authorised to:
  - collect money
  - operate a savings bank
  - give out affordable loans and financial advice, to meets the needs of local people.
6. The objectives are:
  - To maximise access to credit union membership in Mole Valley.
  - To create a vibrant sustainable (live or work) credit union in the district.
  - To enable access to affordable, quality, financial services for those on low and middle incomes living or working in Dorking, Leatherhead and the surrounding areas.
  - To promote financial literacy among the members.
  - To promote financial inclusion.
7. This will be achieved through:
  - Clarifying the vision for credit union services in the district, supported by evidence of need from CAB, Community Development workers, All Saints Family Project, etc.
  - Assessing the opportunities and realities as to what will be required to create a ‘live or work’ credit union for Mole Valley.
  - Facilitating and supporting the most appropriate option for the “Common Bond”.
  - Supporting a phased board development and training programme for the proposed credit union in co-operation with the Association of British Credit Unions and the Financial Services Authority.
  - Exploring support, both financially and in kind, from potential sponsors including the local authorities, NHS, housing associations and local businesses.
  - Building a partnership with local major employers to facilitate payroll saving by employees.
8. The Study Group will meet regularly (the frequency of meetings may vary by agreement), but not less than 6 times a year.
9. Study Group members are volunteers. Out of pocket expenses, such as postage, are paid out of group funds, but personal expenses, such as a travel costs, will only be paid if funds permit.