

Growing Together

December 2025



**Inclusion and conservation
in the Surrey Hills**



Contents

Executive Summary	3
Introduction & Background	5
Aims and Objectives	7
Delivery	8
Evaluation Process	19
Impact	21
Legacy	25
Challenges & Learnings	29
Recommendations	33
Finances	35
Conclusion	36
Appendices	38

Executive Summary

Unequal access to nature is one of the biggest challenges facing the nature sector today. Across the country millions of people are missing out on the wellbeing benefits and pure joy of getting out in nature, with major implications for community and individual wellbeing, health outcomes, social wellbeing and engagement.

The Growing Together project was developed as the Surrey Hills Society's local response to this national problem, following on from the Glover Landscapes Review (2019). It aimed to address longstanding inequalities in access to protected landscapes by engaging communities traditionally underrepresented in countryside use and environmental volunteering.

Growing Together has been very successful in bringing together diverse communities with the natural beauty of the Surrey Hills and the benefits of engaging with nature.

The project successfully delivered its core aim: to widen participation in heritage while improving wellbeing, building confidence and developing skills through inclusive, nature-based activity. Over the project period, 93 events were delivered across Surrey, resulting in 756 participations. More than a third of participants identified as being from minority ethnic backgrounds, nearly 30% had a learning disability, over a quarter reported mental health concerns, and around one in ten identified as disabled. This demonstrates strong progress in engaging audiences who face significant barriers to countryside access.

Delivery was structured around four co-designed pathways which offered a broad mix of creative, wellbeing, conservation and skills-based activities tailored to different needs and interests. Partnerships with expert and community-led organisations were central to success, enabling trusted engagement and accessible delivery.

Independent evaluation by the University of Surrey and Air Time CIC confirmed that the project met and exceeded its agreed outcomes. 92% of participants reported improved wellbeing, 88% reported increased confidence, and over 85% said they had developed

new skills, including conservation and practical countryside skills. The NatureWorks pathway, which focused on 19–27 year olds with long-term physical or mental health conditions, showed particularly strong outcomes, including a 19% average increase in wellbeing and high progression into volunteering, training and green career pathways.

Beyond social impact, Growing Together delivered tangible nature benefits across the Surrey Hills, including planting of over 1000 trees and 235m of hedge or dead hedge creation or improvement, 340 sqm of woodland coppicing, and biodiversity surveying. The project also contributed to longer-term legacy environmental outcomes. These include feeding trained participant staff and volunteers into the newly established Surrey Hills Ranger Service and informing accessibility improvements at key gateway sites into the Surrey Hills National Landscape.

As well as community and nature benefits, the project also generated significant organisational learning. Key challenges included ambition outstripping initial staffing capacity, underestimating the time required for relationship-building, and the need for more flexible, inclusive evaluation methods. Travel and transport barriers were a persistent challenge, highlighting the importance of accessible locations, gateway sites and partnership with transport providers. These lessons have delivered key organisational learnings including on strategic and legacy planning; resourcing and project management capacity; formalised partnership agreements; and prioritising collaboration with established community leaders and organisations.

Growing Together represents a significant step forward in making the Surrey Hills National Landscape more inclusive, accessible and representative, while also strengthening the Surrey Hills Society's capacity to deliver impactful, community-focused heritage projects in the future.

Introduction and background

The National Lottery Heritage Fund is the largest dedicated fund for the UK's heritage.

Money is raised from lottery sales to distribute grants of £10,000 to £10 million to support UK projects connecting people and communities to natural and built heritage – protecting that from the past which we value and want to pass on to future generations.

“Understanding, valuing, and sharing our heritage brings people together, inspires pride in place, and supports local economies”.

- National Lottery Heritage Fund

In 2019, the UK government published the Landscapes Review, led by Julian Glover, assessing whether the UK's protected landscapes— National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) now renamed as National Landscapes—were fit for purpose. The review stated that these landscapes were:

“...created in part to provide a healing space, both mentally and physically, for the many who had given so much to protect our country during the Second World War. They were meant for everybody. Much has changed in the 70 years since. Modern Britain is a very different place socially and demographically. Today we recognise diversity as the mark of a healthy and resilient society. However, many landscape bodies have not moved smartly enough to reflect this changing society...”

- Landscapes Review 2019

The proposals given in the review were:

- Proposal 7: Stronger mission to connect all people with our national landscapes, supported and held to account by the new National Landscapes Service.
- Proposal 9: New long-term- programmes to increase the ethnic diversity of visitors.
- Proposal 10: Landscapes catering for and improving health and wellbeing.
- Proposal 11: Expanding volunteering in our national landscapes.

In response to the review, the Surrey Hills Society developed the ‘Growing Together’ project, with the ambition of supporting communities to connect to the Surrey Hills National Landscape, ensuring it welcomes everyone.

Conversations were had with stakeholders from a range of local organisations to help feed into the design of the project. With further shared conversations with peer organisations developing similar schemes in other areas such as Kent Downs National Landscape and their Putting Down Routes project team, ensuring effective sharing and learnings from each other in project development.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund awarded £144,093 to the Surrey Hills Society to deliver “Growing Together: Inclusion and Conservation in the Surrey Hills” between June 2024 and December 2025.



Aims and objectives

The aim of Growing Together was to engage communities underrepresented in the Surrey Hills countryside by co-designing a programme of nature-based activities to **build confidence, develop skills, and improve health and wellbeing.**

The focus audience was people who traditionally and currently face barriers to engaging with the countryside and environmental volunteering, which includes people with disabilities, people with learning disabilities and people from a minority ethnic background.

The agreed outputs and outcomes with the Heritage Lottery Fund were:

Outputs

- A developmental phase to co-produce the activity programme with beneficiaries engaged through key partners. These included taster sessions and sharing sessions, discussing challenges and barriers in accessing natural heritage along with co-designed activity planning and workshops with beneficiaries.
- 50 sessions with 10 beneficiaries in each, including a range of talks, conservation, identification, monitoring, wellbeing and creative activities.
- Evaluation sessions with beneficiaries.
- A wider range of people embedded in the Surrey Hills Society's governance structure.

Outcomes

- A wider range of people will be involved in heritage (mandatory outcome).
- People will have developed new skills.
- People will have greater wellbeing.

The full list of Heritage Lottery Fund Approved Purposes is in the Appendices.

Delivery

The Surrey Hills Society identified key partners for Growing Together, as it was through their role and connections that Growing Together was able to build inclusive and meaningful community engagement across Surrey. These were:

- **Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum (SMEF)**

SMEF strengthens social cohesion by supporting the needs of Surrey's ethnic minority population and building connections across over 50 local community and faith groups.

- **Surrey Choices**

Surrey Choices promotes active participation for its clients by providing person-centred support for disabled, autistic, and neurodivergent individuals, ensuring they can access and contribute to community life.

- **The Surrey Coalition of Disabled People**

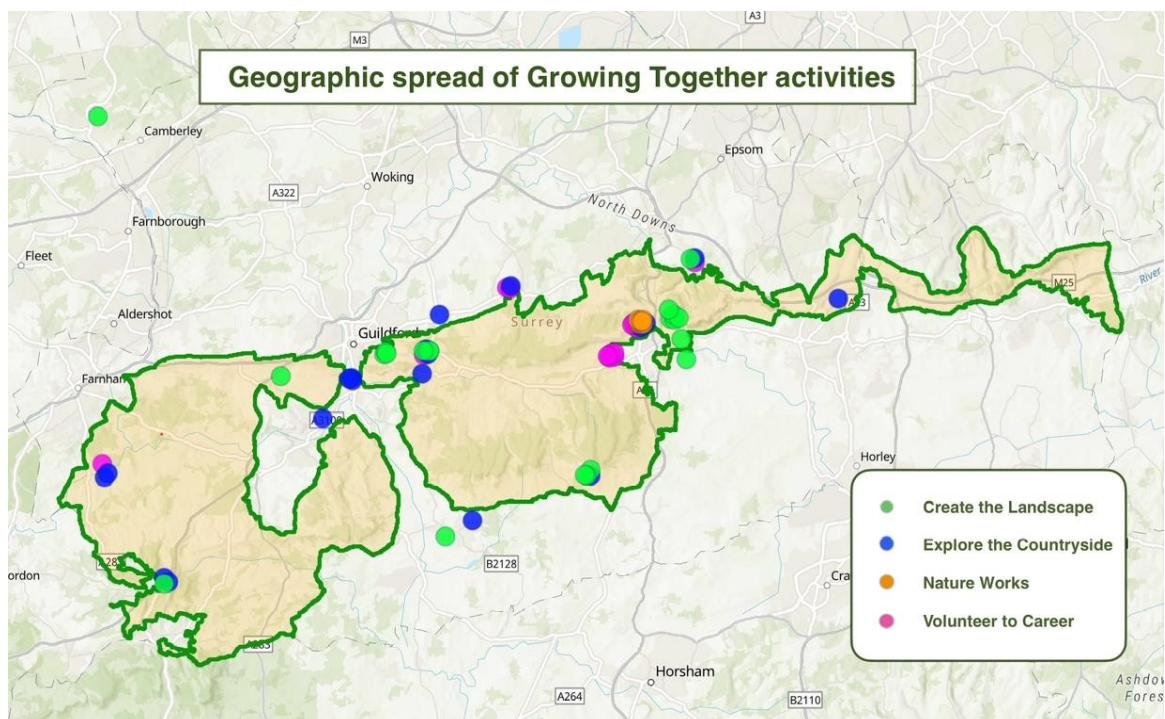
The Coalition advocates for equality and independent living, creating an environment where disabled individuals can engage confidently and without barriers.

Collectively, these partnerships ensured that the project's engagement opportunities were accessible, representative, and responsive to the diverse needs of the community. As the project progressed, engagement also came through new partners such as Halow learning disability charity, Akhawrat Muslim women's group, Shifa Asian Women's Wellbeing Network, Waythrough mental health organisation and Air Time CIC.

Stakeholder meetings and co-design sessions ensured the project reflected beneficiaries' interests and needs. These engagements highlighted how the countryside offers varied experiences for people. The Surrey Hills Society therefore aimed to

connect people to nature in ways that suited the different groups' experience and interests.

Four pathways were developed: Create the Landscape; Explore the Landscape; Volunteer to Career; and NatureWorks. Not only did these pathways provide variety to engage a wide range of beneficiary but they helped to focus the direction and management of the project.



Create the Landscape

This strand comprised of arts & crafts workshops, events and visits to heritage buildings – these ranged from flower and apple pressing to willow-weaving, storytelling, costume and camouflage.

Benefits included learning arts & crafts technique traditional to the Surrey Hills, discovering the rich arts and crafts scene, improving wellbeing associated with arts activities, and meeting new people.

Event	Total number of participations	Participations primarily with disability needs	Participations primarily with learning disability needs	Participations primarily from a minority ethnic group	Participations primarily with a mental health focus
Flower Pressing and crafts	7	3	0	4	0
Self-Film Storytelling	6	3	4	0	0
West Horsley Place Tour	11	4	5	2	0
Willow Weaving with Akhawrat Women's Group	12	0	0	12	0
Woodland Word Walking Workshop	11	4	5	2	0
Cyanotype at Leith Hill Place	13	0	0	0	13
Cobbing at Rosamund Gardens	14	0	0	14	0
Dioramas at Leith Hill Place	2	0	0	0	2
Costume & Camouflage Workshop 1	14	0	12	0	0
Costume & Camouflage Workshop 2	5	5	0	0	0
Shifa Clay Workshop at Watts Gallery	15	0	0	15	0
Woodland Word Walking	4	3	1	0	0
Costume & Camouflage Workshops with Freewheelers	8	8	0	0	0
Felting at Fluffatorium	8	3	5	0	0
Nature Calling Event	2	0	0	0	0
Cobbing at Rosamund	15	0	0	15	0

Community Garden					
Cobbing at Rosamund Community Garden	13	0	0	13	0
Woodfair	>30 scheme participants Hundreds of stand visitors				
Apple Pressing at Rosamund Gardens	16	0	0	16	0
Forest Bathing with Creative Music	8	0	0	0	8
Wreath making at Pontail Farm	8	0	0	0	8

Create the Landscape Case Study - The Surrey Coalition of Disabled People

‘P’ has fibromyalgia, a long-term condition that causes pain all over the body and mental illness.

She joined the Growing Together project to spend time outdoors in a safe, supportive environment and to connect with others who understand mental and physical health challenges. This was a significant step, as she had never previously felt able to be open and vulnerable about these issues.

‘P’ attended a range of activities, including forest bathing, birding, yoga, a honey talk, and Woodland Word Walking. The most meaningful and beneficial experiences for her were those that encouraged slowing down and creativity.

Looking ahead, ‘P’ hopes to continue gently pushing beyond her comfort zone and when asked to sum up the project in one word, she chose: “Inspirational.”



Explore the Landscape

Nature-based workshops, events and outings which developed a range of new skills and delivered inspiring and engaging new experiences, from bird and fungi identification, to forest bathing and rowing.

Benefits included learning about and identifying the flora and fauna of the Surrey Hills, gaining skills, hands-on working with nature and confidence in venturing into the landscape, including by using public transport. With trips on public transport to nature hotspots a particularly important element of building confidence and long-term continuation of nature access.

Event	Total number of participations	Participations primarily with disability needs	Participations primarily with learning disability needs	Participations primarily from a minority ethnic group	Participations primarily with a mental health focus
Forest Bathing at Newlands Corner	15		6	4	0
Birding at Broadwater Park	6	2	2	2	0
Fungi fun	9	5	4	0	0
Birding at Frensham Little Pond	Cancelled due to adverse weather				
Honey Talk	1	1	0	0	0
West Horsley Place Tour	11	4	5	2	0
Birding at Frensham Little Pond	9	1	0	8	0
Birding at Denbies Vineyard	17	6	0	11	0
Birding (Dawn Chorus Day)	12	3	1	8	0
Forest Bathing at Leith Hill Place	16	0	0	0	16
Introduction to Surrey Hills for Shaws Trust and Migrant Help	26	0	0	26	0

Try the train presentation (Camberley Nepalese Gurkha Association)	35	0	0	35	0
Surrey Hills 4x4 Safari recce at Devil's Punchbowl	2	2	0	0	0
Try the train journey + walk (Camberley Nepalese Gurkha Association)	13	0	0	13	0
Newlands Corner with SHAW	12	0	0	12	0
Rowing on the Wey session 1	6	0	6	0	0
Rowing on the Wey session 2	8	0	8	0	0
Shalford Ramble	18	0	1	17	0

Volunteer to Career

Explore the Landscape Case Study - Surrey Choices

'R' has learning difficulties and finds verbal communication challenging. While joining in with Surrey Choices organised activities he can find it difficult to put himself forward. This changed where he surprised Surrey Choices by his enthusiasm for rowing, particularly alongside different people and with an instructor he had not met before.

'R' clearly listened and watched, taking on board information and instruction as he did very well. Even more encouraging, he went out a second time to refine his rowing skills.

For 'R', what was great was that he learnt a new skill, in a different environment to normal, with an instructor he hadn't met before in front of people he didn't know. All valuable steps helping his development, self-esteem and confidence.

The skills he learns with Surrey Choices and the Growing Together project are all transferable to his everyday life.



A wide range of volunteering activities were provided to a range of individuals who were from ethnic minority communities, or had mental health needs, physical and/or learning disabilities. Concurrently access visits to advise landowners on how to make sites more accessible for more people.

Benefits included learning how to make a difference for nature, developing confidence with working outside, creating the foundations for progressing onto future opportunities of volunteering or working in conservation.

Event	Total number of participations	Participations primarily with disability needs	Participations primarily with learning disability needs	Participations primarily from a minority ethnic group	Participations primarily with a mental health focus
Denbies Heritage Hub x Growth Team	10	0	10	0	0
Denbies Heritage Hub x Growth Team	7	0	7	0	0
Halow Garden Session	7	0	7	0	0
Halow Garden Session	3	0	3	0	0
Tree planting with Halow and COPSE	6	0	6	0	0
Halow Garden Session	8	0	11	0	0
Hedge Planting with Camberley Nepalese Gurkha Association	16	0	0	16	0

Halow Garden Session	7	0	7	0	0
Halow Garden Session	9	0	9	0	0
Halow/SATRO Bench Assembly	15	0	15	0	0
Halow Garden Session	6	0	6	0	0
Halow Garden Session	6	0	6	0	0
Halow Garden Session	15	0	10	0	0
Moth Morning at Nower Wood	4	3	1	0	0
Denbies Heritage Hub Family Day	4	0	2	0	0
Access visit at West Horsley Place	5	5	0	0	0
Scything session at Newlands Corner	5	0	5	0	0
Coppicing training session 1	8	0	3	0	5
Coppicing training session 2	7		2		5
Coppicing training session 3	7	0	2	0	5
Coppicing training session 4	9	0	2	0	7
Halow Garden session	8	0	8	0	0

Coppicing training session 5	6	0	1	0	5
Coppicing training session 6	7	0	2	0	5
Halow Garden Session	8	0	8	0	0
Tool sharpening workshop at West Horsley Place	8	0	7	0	1
Hedge planting at West Horsley Place	10	0	10	0	0

Volunteer to Career and Explore the Landscape Case Study - Camberley Nepalese Gurkha Association

“Being part of the Growing Together initiative has brought a significant and positive change to the daily lives of the Gurkha veteran community in Camberley.

“Their lifestyle in the UK is often limited and restrictive, but involvement in this project provided meaningful opportunities to engage more deeply with their wider rural surroundings.

“Growing Together offered us direct access to the expansive lush green countryside, where they could reconnect with nature and observe local plants and animals as well as working on farms doing hedging and cobbing and allotments with apple pressing.”

Tek Gurung, community leader of the Camberley Nepalese Gurkha Association

NatureWorks

Youth-focused skills and nature-based experience sessions. Delivered by Air Time CIC these weekly 2.5 hour sessions in a fixed location at the Denbies Heritage Hub ran from March to October 2025 and had a particular focus on young people aged 19 – 27 from underrepresented communities, who had physical or mental health conditions lasting or expecting to last 12 months or more.

Sessions consisted of practical gardening tasks, heritage skills, therapeutic horticulture, wildlife conservation and wellbeing activities to deepen connection to nature. See appendix for report

Number of NatureWorks Events	Number of Participations
27	71

Natureworks Case Study

"Not to be dramatic but this [Growing Together] honestly been life-changing for me! When I had [severe mental illness] I never thought I'd even be able to leave the house again, let alone contribute to something meaningful like conservation."

'S' has been very ill for a long time, and has never had a job but is now embarking on "a career that I'm passionate about, while contributing to nature recovery." Her confidence has grown and she has shown a real shift from isolation to engagement.

'S' has successfully applied for a bursary to attend a residential ecology skills training programme, and she has recently been appointed as a volunteer with two conservation charities.



Celebration Day

In addition to regular pathway sessions, to thank the National Lottery players and Growing Together beneficiaries, both were invited to a free “celebration day” held at Denbies Vineyard in October 2025. With a variety of activities organised throughout the day, attendees enjoyed nature-based crafts, guided walks, the opportunity to try out a variety of off-road capable wheelchairs to gain an insight into the lived experience of needing mobility aids and tour the vineyard via its land train. There was also a small marketplace showcasing Growing Together, stakeholders and community groups. This celebration day also acted as the project’s rescheduled community celebration event.

Due to extreme weather conditions, an original community celebration event earlier in the year, had to be downscaled. The original included stalls from landowners, stakeholders and community groups with a variety of activities on offer. Nearly one hundred beneficiaries were booked to attend. A smaller scale event was held for a smaller group. This event still celebrated the project, through an indoor event with one community group who enjoyed crafts, colouring and views of the Surrey Hills from the safety of the Newlands Corner discovery centre.

Celebration Day Feedback

“I had a fantastic day out with my family at the Denbies’ Fun Day. My daughters, along with grandchildren aged 3,4,5 and 6 all had fun, making bug hotels, planting beans and riding the train – we were so lucky with the weather and everyone involved was very welcoming.”

Susie, Lottery Player and attendee at the Denbies celebration event



Evaluation process

A range of additional evaluation methodologies were adopted to enhance the core data-gathering initially conducted on the project with the University of Surrey. This reflected additional elements added to the scheme via the Natureworks pathway and enabled wider data gathering which helped better demonstrate and interrogate the impact of the project.

Evaluation was carried out through a range of qualitative and quantitative methodologies outlined below:

Method	Benefit	Limitation
Continuous consultations with partners through regular steering group meetings.	Regular feedback gained.	Some voices stronger than others.
Sliding scale end of project partner survey.	Considered the view of the key partners. Qualitative and quantitative feedback collected.	Did not include the smaller partner organisations that recruited beneficiaries.
SWOT analysis with Growing Together team members.	Promoted good communication between the team and allowed for a focussed, balanced discussion.	Susceptible to bias.
Analysis of end of session participant evaluation carried out by the University of Surrey. This was a snapshot of a 6-month period, from March – Sept 2025.	Rigorous academic approach that provided useful data analysis	Framework was not flexible enough to be changed to meet all participants' needs e.g. language. The evaluation also did not include NatureWorks data.

<p>Bespoke end of project face-to-face evaluation with lead partner beneficiaries, reported as case studies.</p>	<p>Diverse approaches to gain the best response for beneficiary groups:</p> <p>Those with English as a second language – ESOL practitioner and translator present to deliver questions in an accessible way and interpret responses.</p> <p>Those with learning disabilities – small, quieter group evaluation session. Individual interviews for those who did not like speaking in a group context.</p> <p>Those with physical disabilities – opportunity to take part in online evaluation to avoid travelling to a venue.</p>	<p>Face-to-face evaluation with Growing Together team member may not have resulted in honest responses, particularly around less positive aspects of the project.</p>
<p>Individual beneficiaries' case studies.</p>	<p>Personal accounts captured.</p>	<p>Only captured the feedback from those who stayed engaged.</p>
<p>Independent report from NatureWorks pathway.</p>	<p>A thorough account from the contractors who recruited and retained the participants and delivered the pathway.</p>	<p>Responses from this pathway were not included in the University's report.</p>

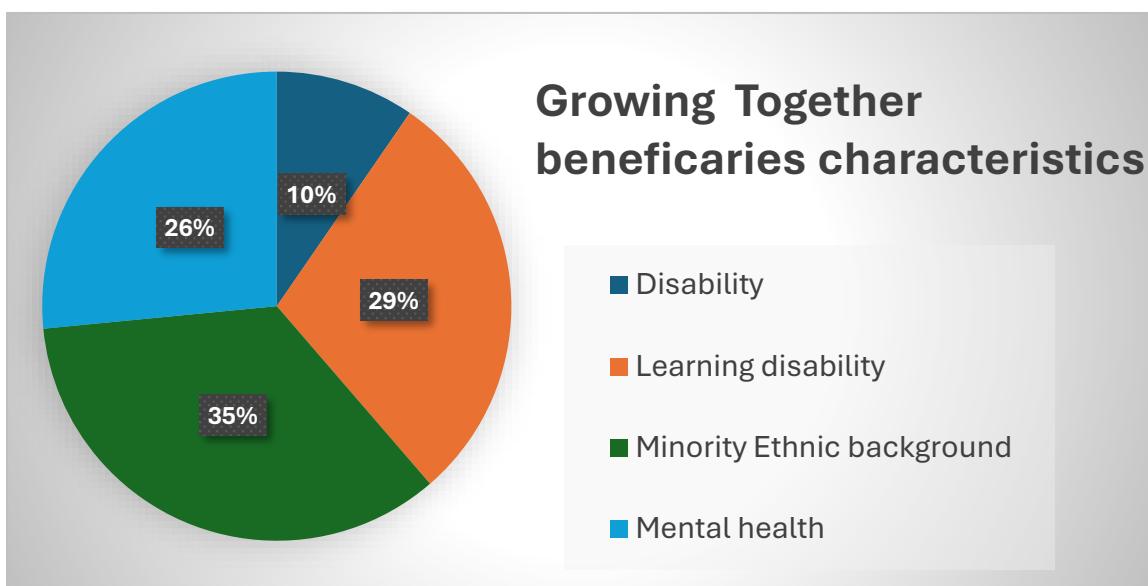
Impact

Growing Together had three clear objectives:

- To engage a wider group of people in heritage
- To help people develop skills
- To improve beneficiaries' wellbeing.

Based on broad-range analysis from the University of Surrey and Air Time CIC, and further qualitative analysis, Growing Together met these objectives. An overwhelming majority of beneficiaries across all pathways said they had developed skills and their wellbeing and confidence had improved as a consequence of engaging with the project.

The project met its objective of engaging underrepresented communities in heritage activities within the national landscape. Between June 2024 and December 2025 a total of 93 events were held with a total of 756 participations, not including support staff. A tenth of participants identified as disabled (72), more than a quarter said they had mental health concerns (200), nearly thirty percent had a learning disability (221) and more than a third were from a minority ethnic background (261).



Beneficiaries' characteristics across all 93 Growing Together events

University of Surrey analysis

The University of Surrey reported on three pathways, Create the Landscape, Explore the Landscape and Volunteer to Career, for the period of March 2025-Sept 2025. During this time, there were **592** participations.

In total 70 event evaluations from the three pathways were completed and analysed by the university, with respondents' ages ranging from 18-76 years. The results demonstrate a clear meeting of objectives:

BUILD CONFIDENCE	IMPROVED WELLBEING	DEVELOP SKILLS
88% felt confident	92% felt happier	85% felt they gained nature conservation skills
85% felt confident to explore the outdoors	93.2 felt relaxed during 91% felt connected to nature 90% felt connected to people	86% felt they gained new skills

NatureWorks Analysis

Air Time CIC carried out an independent evaluation of the fourth pathway, NatureWorks, during the period of March 2025-October 2025. 27 NatureWorks sessions were delivered to 11 young people from underrepresented communities in the Surrey Hills. Aged 19-27 years old, eight of whom identified as being neurodivergent and nine of whom identified as having a physical or mental health condition or illnesses lasting or expected to last more than 12 months.

The results demonstrate a clear meeting of the overall project objectives:

DEVELOP SKILLS	BUILD CONFIDENCE	IMPROVED WELLBEING
95% developed nature-based skills 90% felt the skills they learnt would be useful in everyday life	On average: self-confidence increased by 12% confidence in using public transport increased by 7%	On average, people's wellbeing improved by 19% Before 58% After 77%

“Long-term engagement allowed confidence and relationships to build gradually, while practical support such as reimbursed travel costs removed common barriers to attendance. Participants appreciated having a purposeful place to go each week, learning at their own pace, and being part of a group where expectations were clear but pressure was low.”

NatureWorks Programme Coordinator



Coppice and Connect analysis

Coppice and Connect was a six-week course of four-hour sessions running between October and November 2025 at Hole Hill copse in Westcott. Part of the Volunteer to Career pathway, it was run by and evaluated by Air Time CIC.

The sessions consisted of coppicing tuition and practise using traditional hand tools (bowsaws, billhooks, loppers); habitat creation (dead hedging, habitat piles); green woodworking (whittling, use of shave horse); and bushcraft (natural fire lighting).

Eight young people aged between 19 and 30 took part, with four young participants identified as male, three as female, and one as nonbinary. Seven participants identified as neurodivergent. In addition, six identified as having a disability, including cognitive disabilities (3), mental health disabilities (2), and sensory differences (1). Two were from global majority ethnic backgrounds. Half the group travelled by public transport to the site, the others got lifts, with an 89% attendance record.

The results demonstrate a clear meeting of the project’s objectives:

DEVELOP SKILLS	BUILD CONFIDENCE	IMPROVED WELLBEING
94% developed nature-based skills	On average: 90% felt their independence had increased	97% felt they had contributed to something good and meaningful
90% felt the skills would be useful in everyday life		

Positive impact on the National Landscape environment



In addition to meeting its stated social aim and objectives, Growing Together also had a positive impact on improving the natural landscape.

The impact was primarily on nature restoration and management – with tree-planting, hedgerow planting, dead hedge creation and improvement, and multiple nature enhancements at heritage hub sites. The project has also led to accessibility improvements in two gateway sites in the Surrey Hills – Polesden Lacey and West Horsley Place - following two access visits.



© Surrey Hills Society

“The positive impact Growing Together has had not just on making underrepresented groups realise the Surrey Hills is a place for them, but also on delivering real tangible benefits for nature cannot be underestimated.

“It is imperative that we find a way to sustain the momentum of Growing Together in making the Surrey Hills a more accessible and nature friendly place for all.”

Rob Fairbanks, director Surrey Hills National Landscape

Legacy

In addition to the immediate impacts from Growing Together activities, longer-lasting legacy impacts are anticipated from scheme interventions:

Engagement with, and insight for, future projects: Funds from Growing Together were utilised towards the 2025 Surrey Hills Symposium, an event designed to connect, inspire, and debate the future of our National Landscape. This celebrated the culmination of the project, the diverse opportunities created for people from all backgrounds, and the National Lottery Heritage Fund funding that made it possible.

The Symposium brought together guests from a wide range of communities, including the three key Growing Together partner groups (Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum, Surrey Choices and the Surrey Coalition for Disabled People). Together we explored how to build on the programme's success for local nature and communities into the future.

Over 100 ideas were submitted on how to build on the impact of this project and achieve the Surrey Hills' 75-year vision. This input will help shape an ambitious new multi-million funding bid, which the Surrey Hills National Landscape will be submitting to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for consideration. This follows a call for protected landscape organisations to bid for transformative programmes aimed at recovering nature, increasing resilience, developing heritage skills, and enhancing access for all.

Engaging diverse communities has also helped audit and advise on the investment of the Surrey Hills National Landscape and Defra Access for All Funds, thereby securing a bigger impact of NLHF investment. With another outcome having been to review the Governance of the Surrey Hills National Landscape to ensure better representation on an extended Partnership Board (currently in development).

Overcoming transport barriers to nature access and its benefits: For many of the member groups from the Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum, travel into the Surrey Hills is a major barrier. The scheme worked extensively on building confidence on using public

transport to visit key sites. To assist with future travel into the national landscape, funding has been provided for the Camberley Nepalese Gurkha Association and SMEF to use to fund journeys into the Surrey Hills while they seek alternative funding sources. This funding will help these groups remain engaged with Surrey Hills Society activities, such as the ranger service, while also giving them the means to independently build on their experiences through Growing Together.

Upskilling and employment readiness: A large number of participants from the Volunteer to Career & NatureWorks pathways consequently expressed interest in green careers or further participation in voluntary nature management, which led to the creation of training sessions for scything and coppicing under Growing Together.

These beneficiaries have been encouraged to participate in the Surrey Hills Society's new Ranger Service (initiated in Autumn 2025). This service was developed with the support of the Surrey Hills National Landscape, to fulfil a proposal from the 2019 Landscapes Review, that all national landscapes should have a ranger service.

Those beneficiaries who have undertaken training in the heritage skills are now joining the ranger service's volunteer workforce, which has a busy programme of work planned for 2026. Skills including scything, coppicing, and hedgerow management are also planned to be used by other projects and providers including Surrey Choices.



“The Surrey Choices Growth Team were really excited about the opportunity to learn about scything, and see how it fits in with our wider conservation work across Surrey. The course taught us everything we could need to begin scything, and showed how heritage skills still have a place in a modern world. Now we just need to acquire some scythes so we can continue practising what we learned!”

Mark Evenden, senior activity facilitator at Surrey Choices

Following on the model set by My Greener Future, an earlier project providing a pathway into green careers for young people, Growing Together was able to offer up to a £300 bursary for some young people. This is being used to help pay for courses to expand beneficiaries' knowledge of countryside skills, purchase PPE necessary for a conservation career and to assist with independent travel.

Site accessibility: The access visits and assessments undertaken with the Coalition of Surrey Disabled People are also proving invaluable in making the Surrey Hills more accessible. Through sharing their lived experienced at gateway sites, their advice on how to make these sites more accessible is filtering through into successful bids from landowners to the national landscape's Access for All fund.

Sites to benefit include Polesden Lacey, which has secured funding for a new accessible path and West Horsley Place, with a site accessibility programme of work.

The benefits of the Coalition's participation in Growing Together activities beyond access visits, such as birding at Frensham Little Pond and the Heritage Hub at Denbies have also led landowners to make further improvements to their sites. Funding was secured from the National Landscape for an accessible path at the Heritage Hub, which has set the site up for the future. At Frensham Little Pond, the National Trust now plans a series of access improvements, including an accessible bird hide.

Future access visits are intended to continue with Coalition supported by the Surrey Hills Society's Ranger service.

"Attending the Growing Together [Create the Landscape] sessions enabled me to try new things and to do so in a familiar environment. Being around like-minded people made me less anxious and gave me the courage and confidence to step outside of my comfort zone. In doing so, doorways have opened up which I never would have known were there."

Steve Swyer, Surrey Coalition of Disabled People member



Digital legacy: Another Growing Together legacy is digital. Throughout the project, the Society was able to work with photographers, video producers, podcasters and sound artists to create a suite of assets to use after project completion, to promote the Surrey Hills, nature, conservation and heritage skills across its channels.

These digital assets include the photo library built up during the lifetime of the project; the creation of three short films: the main project film, a short film looking at the Create the Landscape pathway and a film looking at the heritage skill of coppicing and its role in shaping the landscape; and a digital story map outlining the scope of the project.

The Society will run a social media campaign alongside traditional media outreach in February 2026, outlining the successes and findings of the project. This approach will allow the Society to create a meaningful narrative, using data, case studies and digital assets, while also demonstrating the National Lottery Heritage Fund's role.

Additionally, in March 2026 the Surrey Hills National Landscape will launch a series of half hour podcasts focussing on a series of locations across the Surrey Hills. The Society was able to secure two prominent placements in these podcasts. One podcast will focus on the Create the Landscape pathway and the other will look at accessibility into the landscape, highlighting the work Growing Together has done to break down barriers for multiple groups.



Forest bathing in Surrey Hills woodland

Challenges and learnings

Building resource

Prior to Growing Together, the Surrey Hills Society was a largely volunteer led body with only one paid member of staff. The charity is on a journey of growth and professionalisation and the project was a significant step up in ambition for the society.

Alongside the impacts of the project for local individuals, organisation, communities and nature, Growing Together has also provided valuable lessons to the Society for which it is very grateful to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Some of the learnings have already been implemented towards the end of the project including:

- Early recognition of insufficient staffing resource led to:
 - Mentoring from Surrey Hills National Landscape and Surrey Hills Arts on project management and event delivery
 - External contractors brought in to deliver specific pathways of the project (NatureWorks and Create the Landscape)
 - Reallocation of other society staff members' time to provide additional support to the project officer.
- As the project developed further:
 - A project manager was onboarded and project management tool implemented
 - An external evaluator contracted
 - Staff training, especially on safeguarding, was improved through NCVO courses

Planning and Processes

Rapid development of the project to fit in with the timelines meant that planning was rushed in some areas. A more in-depth project plan at the start of the project would have set clearer direction for strategy, delivery, data collection and analysis and

evaluation phases. Building in legacy planning at an earlier stage would also have been beneficial.

Planning and process challenges in this project have already contributed to a process of professionalisation for the society, including:

- The recruitment of a new CEO to the Society to provide greater focus and leadership on project development and planning
- Resourcing as a priority issue in developing new Society project plans and ensuring the long term investment needed to build relationships and trust is built in to our follow-on project
- Development of the administrative and operational resource needed to support project work and wider Society activity

Data collection and evaluation

Data collection and evaluation must work with the requirements of groups with diverse needs. For example, we found that the University evaluation in-depth written surveys were difficult for beneficiaries whose second language is English to understand. Flexible data-gathering approaches, tailored to participant needs will be important in future projects.

Travel & Transportation

Organising inclusive events in the Surrey Hills proved challenging due to diverse group needs and significant transport barriers.

Access to locations can be difficult, particularly for disadvantaged groups, because public transport is expensive, infrequent, does not reach all sites of interest, and is often not user-friendly for disabled individuals or non-English speakers. The lack of fully-accessible paths, and services - such as toilets, shelter, food and drink outlets - further restricted the access and suitability of some sites. Consequently, more staff coordination time and money were spent on transport than anticipated.

Future improvements could include partnering with community transport providers under a contract to cover all events, such as Community Rail Partnerships to build

confidence in public transport use and reduce travel costs and working with partner groups to identify and tackle access issues.

Countryside Challenges

Weather was a big factor for event suitability with extremes of heat, cold and rain detrimental to participation. Consideration to the length of activity and location of activity (with back-ups for inclement weather) are important. As is participant preparation - e.g. supply of appropriate clothing/footwear.

Events hosted at gateway sites, such as Box Hill, Nower Wood, and Newlands Corner incorporated accessible amenities including toilets, refreshments, indoor learning spaces, and adapted pathways, and gave flexibility. The establishment of a heritage hub at Denbies also demonstrated the value of a well-equipped, accessible and central site where beneficiaries were able to travel independently and build a regular routine.

There needs to be balance between universal access to the landscape and practicality. Attempting to cater to all needs simultaneously can dilute effectiveness. For a small team, a targeted approach, prioritising the most significant barriers, is more achievable.

Collaboration

The three key partners acted as bridges to the communities the project aimed to serve. Engaging with additional groups as the project progressed, broadened participation and deepened understanding of local needs.

Involving a wider range of partners from the outset could have helped identify limitations and challenges earlier and implement support sooner. The project would have benefited from a longer time-scale, to allow for time to establish stronger trust and build relationships between the society's facilitators and beneficiaries.

Contracting Air Time CIC to deliver the NatureWorks pathway proved effective in reaching new audiences because it was an established activity supported by a strong partnership. Collaborating with existing projects and contributing to other organisations' events—rather than creating events from scratch—could be more utilised.

Expectations on Participants and Partner Organisations

A shareable events calendar with fixed dates and details, communicated well in advance, was essential for partner outreach engagement with potential participants.

To broaden the reach to potential beneficiaries and maintain engagement from existing participants, the team introduced the concept of community ‘representatives’. This role was only effective with active community leaders who engaged well – such as the Nepalese community. Learnings involved ensuring individuals do not feel pressured to take on a new large role, the importance of working with established community leaders, and the need for longer timescales to build trust, understanding and rapport.

More time would also have been valuable for outreach to partner organisations, to more effectively determine where there was most opportunity for consistent participation, and to build in low-expectation introductory sessions to grow engagement and interest in the scheme.



Recommendations

The Growing Together project achieved high impacts for communities and nature in the Surrey Hills, built valuable networks, and created important infrastructure and internal expertise. All of which the Surrey Hills Society and Surrey Hills National Landscape are keen to build on further in future projects.

The following recommendations are important to factor-in to future similar work.

1. Strategic Planning

- Develop a fully comprehensive project plan at the outset
- Include legacy planning early to ensure continued engagement post-project.

2. Resource Allocation

- Rigorous interrogation of staffing resources is essential
- Project management tools to track and manage time is highly beneficial for such a large project

3. Partnership Management

- Partnership agreements from the outset of the project with clear outcomes and expectations are vital to shared understanding and delivery.
- Engaging a broad range of partners early helps identify potential challenges and leverage diverse expertise.

4. Diverse community outreach

- Partnering with community groups and existing trusted community leaders is particularly important for stronger engagement.

- The strong relationship building in Growing Together should be built on with other diverse communities and groups in the Surrey Hills and extended to partner London communities, but with longer-timelines in future projects.

5. Accessibility & Inclusivity

- Collaborate and secure support from community transport providers such as Community Rail Partnerships and the Connect bus service to address travel challenges.
- Adopt a targeted approach to accessibility—focus on the most significant barriers rather than universal solutions.

6. Event Design

- Plan for seasonal conditions and ensure participants are well-equipped.
- Balance activity length and complexity to suit diverse needs.

6. Communication & Engagement

- Work through trusted community leaders to avoid placing pressure on beneficiaries to become group representatives.
- Allocate extra time to the project timeline, for trust-building with communities facing barriers.

7. Evaluation & Continuous Improvement

- Build-in baseline and reflective post-participation data-gathering which is tailored to individuals needs to enable reliable measurement of impact
- Embed the learning from Growing Together into future funding bids across the Surrey Hills National Landscape family.

Finances

The project financial breakdown is outlined below.

Project Expense	Cost (£)
Project Co-ordinator Salary, NI & Pension	66645.72
Additional staff costs	14,000.00
Travel expenses - Staff	4915.63
Travel expenses - Volunteers	9919.81
Advertising	500.00
Recruitment	175
Digital outputs	5331.69
Event Costs	3,275
Equipment & Materials	4205.84
Training for staff	441.60
First Aid training	1109.66
Professional fees (Inc Steering Cttees)	5204.88
VAT	1486.71
Evaluation	2876.01
Activity sessions	28579.02
Contingency	158.24
Communications costs	933.86
Total expenses	149,758.67

Conclusion

The Growing Together project has successfully realised the Surrey Hills Society's ambition to foster inclusive engagement with the Surrey Hills National Landscape.

Through focused nature-based activities and collaborative working, the initiative delivered significant outcomes for communities traditionally underrepresented in countryside access and environmental volunteering.

The project achieved measurable impact, with 92% of participants reporting improved wellbeing and over 85% gaining conservation and practical skills, thereby fulfilling our designated heritage outcome and contributing to wider societal benefits.

The insights gained through Growing Together—particularly around strategic planning, partnership development, and legacy considerations—provide a valuable foundation for future initiatives.

By prioritising equity, strengthening collaborations, and addressing practical barriers such as transport challenges and data collection, the Surrey Hills Society can build on this success to create lasting opportunities for all communities to enjoy and care for the natural heritage and feel a sense of belonging.

This project represents a significant step towards ensuring that the Surrey Hills National Landscape remains welcoming and accessible to all, while contributing to the long-term resilience and growth of the organisation.



Preparing a Growing Together podcast for the Surrey Hills Society

Appendices

Appendix 1. Growing Together report by Laura Horton and Professor Birgitta Gatersleben - University of Surrey

University of Surrey report evaluating the three pathways: Create the Landscape, Explore the Landscape and Volunteer to Career, for the period of March 2025-Sept 2025.

Appendix 2. NatureWorks report by Jo Woodhams – Air Time CIC

Independent evaluation of the NatureWorks pathway.

Appendix 3. Coppice and Connect report by Jo Woodhams – Air Time CIC

Independent evaluation of the Coppice and Connect course conducted between October and November 2025. This course was part of the Volunteer to Career pathway.

Appendix 4. Case Study 1 – Surrey Coalition of Disabled People

Background

Surrey Coalition is run and managed by disabled people for disabled people. The aim of the Surrey Coalition is to campaign and promote the rights of disabled people to have equality of opportunity and to live independently. The organisation partnered with Surrey Hills Society to co-design the Growing Together project to meet the needs and interests of their members, stating that by adapting and facilitating inclusive events which support people with disabilities and accessibility needs, we can help build confidence, independence, reduces isolation and improve wellbeing and mental health.

Activities, Engagement & Impact

Surrey Coalition confirmed that the project objectives were met. Stakeholders were involved and events implemented promoted and made the Surrey Hills accessible, to those who struggled to engage with the landscape.

Beneficiaries took part in social, creative, and skills-based activities including Costume & Camouflage mask-making with natural materials, a Moth Morning, Woodland Word Walking poetry sessions, and birding.

Coalition staff noticed that as the project developed, beneficiaries:

- had increased confidence to attend events and try new activities. Improved accessibility information reduced queries, grew confidence and boosted engagement.
- had greater interest in nature and exploration of Surrey Hills.
- had a strong preference for creative and social activities.
- felt valued through active feedback collection by Surrey Hills Society.

“We have noticed regular participants really enjoying these sessions and adventuring into the Surrey Hills”. – Y. Broome, Coalition Involvement Lead

Challenges Encountered

- Timing of communications was often too close to event dates, limiting promotion.
- Transport remained a significant barrier. Other stakeholder organisations had existing transport/community solutions available for specific groups, where Coalition members were often individuals scattered across the county with variable needs.
- Volunteering opportunities were less inclusive than desired.
- Weather-related cancellations disrupted engagement.
- Regular stakeholder meetings fostered inclusion, though some discussions occurred too late to influence decisions.

Future Recommendations for Future Projects

To ensure the successful of future projects, Coalition recommends to:

- Continue co-production of activities with partner organisations.

- Plan events at least 3+ months in advance with confirmed details to allow partners to embed into calendar and recruit participants.
- Provide ready-to-share promotional materials for social media.
- Implement contingency plans for weather disruptions. Rather than cancelling an event, provide alternative activities which could be enjoyed regardless of the weather.
- Explore new activities such as off-road jeep experiences, rowing, accessible gardening, and beekeeping.
- Adopt a holistic approach to transport cost management; rather than focus on individual costs, consider overall project transport costs.

Appendix 5. Case Study 2 – Camberley Nepalese Gurkha Association

Background

The Camberley Nepalese Gurkha Association, comprising British Army pensioners who migrated from Nepal to England, faced challenges of integration and language barriers. Introduced to the Growing Together initiative by the Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum, the group embraced the opportunity to enhance their community building programme, by connecting socially and culturally, sharing stories and meals, through nature-based activities.

Activities, Engagement & Impact

Beneficiaries took part in a diverse range of activities.

- Bird Watching: Learning to identify native species, listen to birdsong and understand migration patterns.
- Apple Pressing: A multi-stage process that encouraged teamwork.
- Hedging at Norbury Farm: Hands-on conservation work.
- Cobbing: Participants said this resonated deeply due to its similarity to traditional Nepalese rural practices.
- Try the Train – Rail to Ramble: The group began to build confidence in using public transport to access the landscape.

- Shalford Ramble: a four-mile circular walk from Shalford station following the River Wey, taking in pill boxes and canal infrastructure.

Beneficiaries' Reflections

Feedback highlighted the emotional and cultural impact of the project:

- "You learnt to connect," shared one participant, reflecting on the bond formed with nature and peers.
- Another noted the joy of visiting new places and foraging for berries and fruits.
- The train journey and destination were described as "calm and soothing," evoking memories of Nepal.

Challenges Encountered

Accessibility emerged as a key challenge:

- Beneficiaries' mobility limitations required careful route planning to ensure they could access experiences in a safe and enjoyable manner.
- Availability of toilets was essential for comfort.
- An initial lack of confidence in using public transport was addressed through guided experiences by the Growing Together team.

Legacy and Future Aspirations

Inspired by their involvement in Growing Together, the group plans to continue outdoor exploration with monthly family-inclusive trips. Having already visited the New Forest, their aim is to sustain intergenerational engagement in nature, landscape and heritage. A travel bursary to the society through Growing Together will also allow them to return to the Surrey Hills independently as well as engage with nature-based volunteer work run through the Surrey Hills Ranger Service.

Recommendations for Future Projects

Beneficiaries expressed a desire for:

- Continuation of similar nature-based activities.
- Visits to heritage sites, particularly National Trust properties.

- Exploration of military history, including forts and pillboxes, reflecting their interest as former British Army members and the historical relevance of the Surrey Hills.

Tek Gurung, community leader said:

“Being part of the Growing Together initiative has brought a significant and positive change to the daily lives of the Gurkha veteran community in Camberley. Their lifestyle in the UK is often limited and restrictive, but involvement in this project provided meaningful opportunities to engage more deeply with their wider rural surroundings. The program offered them direct access to the expansive lush green countryside, where they could reconnect with nature and observe local plants and animals as well as working on farms (hedging and cobbing) and allotments (apple pressing).

Gurkha veterans and their families are relatively recent arrival to the United Kingdom, having been granted the right to settle since 2008. Their connection to Britain runs deep dating back over two centuries to 1816. The majority, if not all, of the elderly veterans now residing in the UK served alongside their British counterparts in the Far East - in Malaya and Singapore and lastly Hong Kong until July 1997. Thus, from this close and enduring service connection, Gurkha veterans feel a strong sense of loyalty and bond with Britain and its people.

Whereas their natural inclination is to participate, contribute, and support their local communities, Gurkha veterans and their families often encounter significant barriers to full integration into civilian life in modern Britain. Older members of the community, in particular, have limited opportunities to interact with local British people beyond formal and transactional environments—such as shop counters, hospital receptions, classrooms, and public transportation. These limitations are primarily due to factors such as advanced age, language barriers, and a lack of familiarity, which collectively impact their confidence and ability to navigate the infrastructure of contemporary British society.

Through shared participation in a variety of activities—such as cobbing, hedging, birding, apple pressing, and rambling- participants experienced close interaction required of teamwork. Working alongside facilitators, other beneficiaries, and members

of different communities fostered a spirit of equality and collaboration. This inclusive environment not only promoted active engagement but also cultivated a strong sense of belonging within the group, communities, and the country.

For the Nepali community, who come from traditional agrarian regions in the hills and mountains of Nepal, this contact with the countryside was especially meaningful. Some parts of natural landscapes of the UK evoked a sense of comfort and familiarity, allowing them to feel at ease and at home. The project has had obvious health and wellbeing benefits. Additionally, it has contributed significantly to educating the beneficiaries about history and the rich natural heritage of the United Kingdom.”

Appendix 6. Case Study 3 – Surrey Choices

Background

Surrey Choices has been a committed partner of the Growing Together project since its inception. The Vocational Projects Team played a key role in shaping and delivering activities, ensuring that adults with disabilities and neurodivergent individuals could experience the countryside in new and meaningful ways. The opportunities were also offered to Surrey Choices Community Hubs and Flexi-Days customers.

Activities & Engagement

Surrey Choices engaged in a wide range of workshops and experiences, including:

- **Nature-Based Activities:** Forest bathing, mobile bee hotels, leaf pressing on clay, and outdoor craft sessions.
- **Skills Training:** A certified scything course with a qualified tutor, a 6-week coppicing course and rowing sessions.
- **Community Engagement:** Participation in the Wood Fair, where customers interacted with the public, showcased Growth Team projects, and built confidence in speaking.
- **Partnership Work:** Collaborations at Camberley Horley Meadows with the Blackwater Valley Water Conservation Trust, promoting environmental stewardship and teamwork.

Impact

The project successfully impacted on the beneficiaries in the forms of:

- **Confidence Building:** The partner reported their customers feeling “brave enough to speak” and enjoyed meeting new people.
- **Skill Development:** Beneficiaries gained practical skills and certificates, enabling safe tool use and future application within the Growth Team.
- **Social Inclusion:** Opportunities to interact with other organisations and the public enhanced communication and broadened horizons.
- **Variety and Engagement:** The wide range of activities was a key factor in the project’s success, offering experiences that were described as “awesome” by team leaders.

Beneficiaries’ Reflections

Although some Surrey Choices customers may already spend more time in the countryside than many other individuals with disabilities, the activities offered through the Growing Together project have had a distinct and positive impact. Participants spoke enthusiastically about their experiences, with one individual highlighting how being outdoors with others and trying new things significantly supported his mental health.

Participants expressed enthusiasm for the variety of activities. One individual shared: “The rowing was funny – we all loved it! More of that please, as we’re always working so hard. I’d never done it before.”

There was also excitement about future sessions:

“It’s good to learn new skills. I can’t wait for my next session where I’ll be building a bonfire and learning how to make charcoal.”

Challenges Encountered

One common challenge for this group was accessing the countryside independently. Many beneficiaries found it difficult to get into natural landscapes on their own. Surrey

Choices addressed this by providing practical support, such as using their mini-bus to transport beneficiaries to activity locations. This ensured that everyone could take part in the experiences and benefit fully from the project.

Feedback

Surrey Choices felt their input was valued throughout:

- Working group meetings were inclusive, allowing fair representation and feedback.
- Customers were encouraged to share their views after each activity and at the project's conclusion.
- Communication was praised as “great,” ensuring smooth planning and participation.

“From our perspective Surrey Hills did nothing but go above and beyond to facilitate all of the groups so that every groups had things they could try and access that was suited to their demographics/needs/abilities”. – Lydia Simpson, Vocational Projects Development Manager

Recommendations for Future Projects

Building on the success of the Growing Together project, Surrey Choices recommends and aspires to:

- **Short Courses:** Introduce multi-session courses rather than one-off workshops to deepen skills and confidence.
- **Quarterly Updates:** Provide advance notice of upcoming activities to support scheduling (Surrey Choices plans up to 12 weeks ahead).
- **Shared Learning Space:** Create a dedicated countryside learning hub for immersive experiences and skill-building.
- **Woodland Work:** Expand practical conservation activities such as coppicing, habitat management, and woodland restoration.
- **Conservation Careers:** Support individuals whose long-term goals include working in conservation through relevant training and mentoring.

- **Heathland Projects:** Introduce activities focused on heathland ecosystems to broaden knowledge of flora, fauna, and habitat diversity.
- **Collaborative Learning:** Work alongside other trainers, teachers, and external groups to foster shared expertise and peer mentoring.
- **Leadership Opportunities:** The Growth Team enjoys taking the lead; future projects could include mentoring roles with external groups to build confidence and leadership skills.
- **Community Engagement:** Continue prioritising interaction with other groups, as meeting new people remains the most valued feedback.

Appendix 7. Full Approved Purposes of The Project

Growing Together Approved Purposes

Recruit a Project Officer (FT, 18-month FTC)	✓
Deliver a communications and social media campaign.	✓
<p>A Development Phase to co-produce activity programme with participants engaged through Surrey Choices, Surrey Coalition of Disabled People and Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum, to include:</p> <p>-Taster sessions, 2 per target group x 6 sessions total.</p> <p>-Introduction outreach sessions, 2 per target group x 6 sessions total.</p> <p>-Participant sharing sessions, discussing challenges and barriers in accessing natural heritage.</p> <p>-Co-designed activity planning and workshops with participants, at least 4 sessions.</p>	✓
Deliver an activity programme co-designed with project participants, to include a total of 50 sessions for 10 participants in each. Sessions could include a range of talks, conservation, identification, monitoring, wellbeing and creative activities.	✓

Orientation welcome days, at least three sites across the Surrey Hills.	✓
Deliver a sharing event at the project's mid-point with participants, community groups, land-managers and conservation organisations.	✓
Deliver evaluation feedback sessions with participants.	✓
Deliver a Community Celebration Event.	✓
Embed the involvement of a wider range of people in Surrey Hills Society's governance structure.	✓
High visibility acknowledgement of the National Lottery funding awarded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund on site, online and in all activities.	✓
Develop and deliver a plan for how you will use your project to thank National Lottery players for their support.	✓
Conduct a project evaluation	✓

Growing Together is a Surrey Hills Society project:



With huge thanks to our funder the National Lottery Heritage Fund and to our many partners for their contributions to the project's success, including:

