# **Public Document Pack**



#### **Corporate Management Committee**

#### Thursday, 21 April 2022 at 7.30 pm

## Council Chamber, Runnymede Civic Centre, Addlestone

#### Supplementary Agenda

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# **Chapter 1: Introduction**

Runnymede is home to many national and international companies and is an important centre for business within the Southeast of England. The Borough's locational advantages and excellent connectivity combined with its skills base and high-quality environment, makes it an attractive location for business. The economy is growing and those parts of the economy which are growing the fastest are in the knowledge economy, particularly the IT and Communication sector and Arts, Entertainment and Recreation sector where 'the jobs of the future' will be created.

COVID-19 had a momentous impact on the UK economy in 2020-2021, and businesses have had to adjust to significant challenges to their operations to continue operating. The number of residents on furlough rose to over 5,800 in 2021 and unemployment rates increased by 400 per cent. However, since lockdown ended the early signs are that the economy is recovering well. Nearly 60 per cent of businesses who responded to the Runnymede Business Survey in July 2021 believed that their business would improve over the next 12 months and companies are proactively responding to the challenges of the pandemic, developing plans to change and grow.

In August 2021 1,895 residents were claiming unemployment benefit 3.2% of the working age population slightly higher compared with Surrey (3%), but lower than the Southeast (4.2%) and England (5.3%).

Despite the challenges, COVID-19 has created opportunities for businesses and government, with the rise of home working, the acceleration of the importance of the digital economy and a renewed focus on localism and building, in the longer term a sustainable, inclusive economy.

This report shows that Runnymede is well positioned for recovery following the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to embrace the opportunities that this recovery provides. It provides data and analysis to inform the development of a new Economic Development Strategy for Runnymede for 2022 to 2026. This strategy will identify the priorities and actions to develop and promote sustainable growth in the borough's economy.

#### What is covered by the assessment?

This assessment outlines the overall economic performance, competitiveness, and productivity of Runnymede. It covers the following themes:

- People and communities
- Labour supply and demand
- Economic Competitiveness
- Business and Enterprise
- Transport and Infrastructure
- Employment land and property

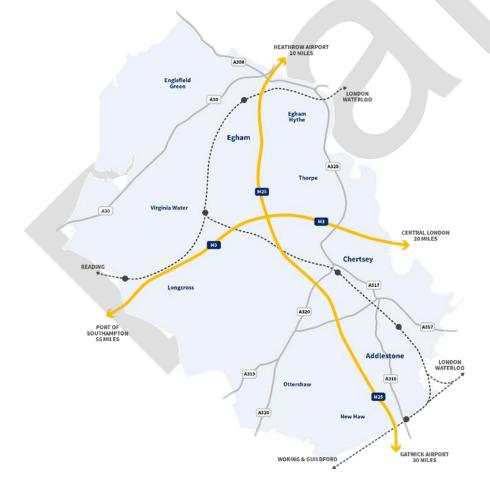


It is informed by official, updateable measures of economic well-being and competitiveness and other economic, social, and environmental indicators. To help understand the borough's economy the report compares not only with regional and national data, but also with data for neighbouring boroughs in Surrey, the Enterprise M3 Local Economic Partnership (EM3 LEP) area, and Runnymede's Functional Economic Area (FEA). The technical annex includes all the comparator areas, while the main body of the report includes comparators of scale from Runnymede level all the way to national level.

## Runnymede: an overview

Figure 1 : Map of Runnymede

The Borough of Runnymede is in the North-West of Surrey, 20 miles from central London. Runnymede has an estimated population of 88,000 (ONS, 2021), an increase of 7,490 people from the 2011 census. By 2028, Runnymede is expected to have a population of 94,236.



# The principle urban centres in the Borough are Egham, Chertsey and Addlestone. Other important settlements in the Borough include Virginia Water and Ottershaw.



Each of these towns offers a range of shops, services and employment uses. Addlestone, where Runnymede Borough Council is based has recently undergone regeneration with the introduction of Addlestone ONE. Chertsey is a historic town developed around a benedictine abbey dating from the Saxon era. Egham is a town that is currently undergoing regeneration with the construction of Egham Gateway West, to the west of the town centre.

Chertsey is home to the 170-acre Chertsey Meads Local Nature Reserve, with meadows adjacent to the River Thames providing leisure opportunities including walking and cycling. The recently reconstructed leisure centre 'Egham Orbit', completed in 2019, offers a gym, 25 metre swimming pool and a range of other sports activities for residents. The Borough is also home to the historic landscapes of Runnymede Meadows (of historical significance as the location where the Magna Carta was signed), the Air Forces Memorial, Savill Garden, Windsor Great Park and the site of the former Chertsey Abbey.

Runnymede is well connected by rail and road, with 6 railway stations located within the Borough providing links to Reading, Bracknell, Weybridge, Staines-Upon-Thames as well as other towns in West London and London. Travel to London Waterloo from Egham, on the fastest, most direct services is 48 minutes, with Chertsey taking 1 hour and 16 minutes direct, or 53 minutes with a change at Weybridge. Addlestone has a travel time of 1 hour and 19 minutes on the direct London Waterloo service, or 50 minutes with a change at Weybridge. The M3 and M25 provide good connections to Southampton and Basingstoke alongside the connections that the M25 facilitates, including Heathrow Airport, only 5 miles away.

Runnymede is adjacent to five local authorities. Four of these are in Surrey, with Windsor and Maidenhead Unitary Authority being in Berkshire. Nearby towns within these local authorities include Staines-Upon-Thames in Spelthorne, Walton-on-Thames and Weybridge in Elmbridge, Woking, and Windsor. Camberley and Maidenhead are also significant settlements in Surrey Heath and Windsor and Maidenhead, respectively, but are some distance geographically from the boundaries of Runnymede.

The borough sits on the boundary of two Functional Economic Areas (FEAs), with the Northern half of Runnymede within an FEA focussed on London Heathrow Airport, forming strong relations with the Borough of Spelthorne, the London Borough of Hounslow, and the London Borough of Hillingdon. Secondly, the Southern half of Runnymede is within an FEA covering South-West London and the A3, M3 corridor market. The local authorities most relevant to Runnymede within this FEA are the Boroughs of Woking and Elmbridge. The purpose of an FEA is to give an idea about the nature of the broader local economy. They include travel to work areas, housing market areas and other connected indicators such as transport networks and flows of goods, services, and people.



Local Enterprise Partnerships, are the main drivers of economic development at the sub-national level, bringing business and civic leaders together to drive sustainable economic growth and create the conditions for private sector job growth in their areas.

The Borough of Runnymede is located within the Enterprise M3 Local Economic Partnership (LEP (See figure below)). Local Enterprise Partnerships, are the main drivers of economic development at the sub-national level, bringing business and civic leaders together to drive sustainable economic growth and create the conditions for private sector job growth in their areas. The major settlements in the M3 LEP include Guildford. Basingstoke and Farnborough. As of December 2020, the EM3 LEP finds itself in collaboration with Catalyst South an alliance of 6 LEPs including Coast to Capital, Hertfordshire, Southeast, Solent and Thames Valley Berkshire.



#### Figure 2: Map of the M3 LEP

In summary, Runnymede has diverse connections with other local authorities within Surrey, but also more broadly across the Southeast. This makes a coordinated approach to the wider local economy, including infrastructure, development, and transport, necessary to the sustainable economic development of Runnymede. This is, in part, because Runnymede is a two-tier local authority with Surrey County Council responsible for education, transport as well as social services while the



Borough Council leads on a more localised approach to the economy and local planning.



# **Chapter 2: People and communities**

Runnymede has a small but growing population. The 2011 Census recorded the population of Runnymede to be 80,510 (ONS). This had grown by 2018 to an estimated 88,000 people. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest of the local authorities within Surrey, in front of Epsom and Ewell, Mole Valley and Tandridge. (Source: Surrey-i).

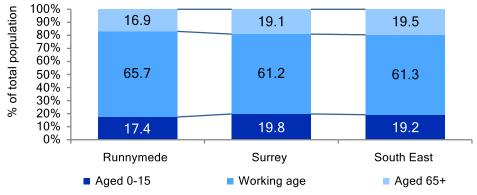
Between the 2011 census and 2018, the population grew by 9.3% making Runnymede the fastest growing borough in Surrey and the EM3 LEP. The population grew faster than the average rate for Surrey (4.8%), the Southeast (5.6%) and England (5.4%). This is considerably faster than the growth that was experienced in Runnymede between 2001 and 2011 (3.2%). (ONS mid-year population estimates and 2011 census).

Despite a relatively small population within the County of Surrey, Runnymede has an estimated population density in 2018 of 1,146 people per square kilometre, making it the sixth most densely populated borough/district of the eleven boroughs/districts in Surrey. Table 1 below compares the population density of Runnymede to the Southeast and England, while table 1 in the technical annex compares Runnymede to other local authorities within Surrey and the EM3.

| Table 1: Population Density (people per square kilometre) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Runnymede Southeast England                               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1,146 481 432   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: ONS Mid year actimates 2010                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Source: ONS Mid-year estimates 2019

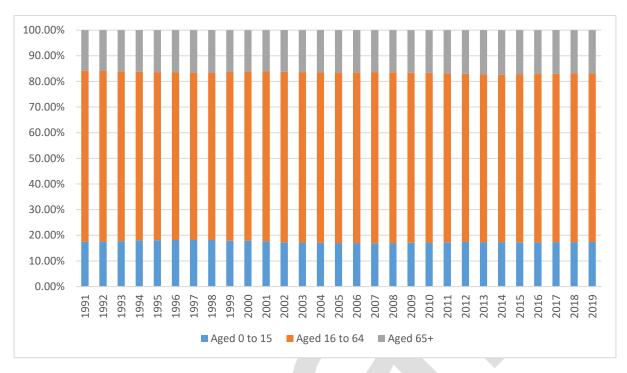
The stacked bar chart, below, shows the age breakdown of the population in Runnymede compared with Surrey and the Southeast. It shows that Runnymede has fewer young people ages 0-15 and fewer older people aged 65 plus.



## Figure 3: Population by of Runnymede by Age

Source: ONS Mid-year estimates 2019





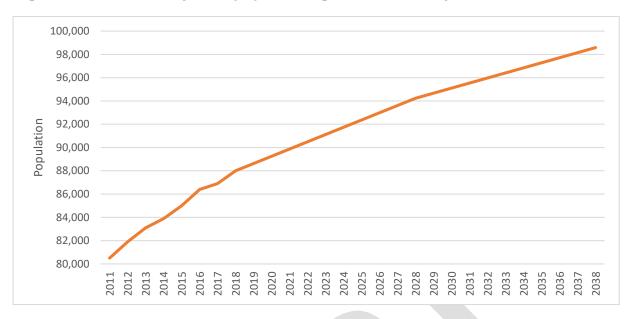
#### Figure 4: Age Profile of Runnymede since 1991

Source: NOMIS Population estimates - local authority based by single year of age (1991-2019)

Between 1991 and 2019 the proportion of over 65s in Runnymede rose from 15.80% of the total population to 16.92%. This reflects a trend in the United Kingdom whereby there is an aging population, however this is not as dramatic as across the UK (a rise from 15.77% to 18.53%). An aging population causes wider economic challenges including increased spending on health and pensions.

The population of the borough is expected to continue to grow at a fast rate. Population growth between 2001 and 2011 had been relatively slow (3.2%) compared to more recent growth between 2011 and 2018 (9.3%). The population is expected to be 94,236 in 2028, an increase of 7.1% from today. Between 2028 and 2038 the population is expected to be 98,584, leading to a further increase of 4.5%. This is faster than the expected rate for England which is 5.5% for 2018-2028 and 3.9% for 2028-2038.





#### Figure 5: Past and Projected population growth for Runnymede

Source: ONS. Note: 2011-2018 are based on the mid-year estimates, 2028 and 2038 are based on estimated population sizes for the borough.

Runnymede is an affluent borough, ranked 61<sup>st.</sup> least deprived out of 317 local authorities. It has a high domain rank for employment and income but low domain rank for barriers to housing and lack of services. This means that Runnymede has high levels of employment opportunities, however affordability of housing continues to be a problem in the borough, as it does across the Southeast. In 2015 Runnymede was ranked 46<sup>th</sup> least deprived out of 326 authorities. In 2019 the borough had fallen in the overall rankings to 61<sup>st.</sup> least deprived (Source: Index for Multiple Deprivation IMD 2019).

Surrey is an affluent county. Table 2 shows how the Surrey local authorities rank in order of deprivation when compared against each other. The table therefore highlights Runnymede's relative deprivation when compared to the other Surrey local authorities.

| Table 2: IMD across the Surrey Authorities |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Local authority<br>district/borough        | Index rank within Surrey<br>(one = most deprived) | Index rank across<br>England out of 317<br>(lower values means it<br>the district is more<br>deprived) |  |  |  |  |
| Spelthorne                                 | 1   | 201  |  |  |  |  |
| Runnymede                                  | 2   | 256  |  |  |  |  |
| Tandridge                                  | 3   | 258  |  |  |  |  |
| Reigate and Banstead                       | 4   | 276  |  |  |  |  |
| Woking                                     | 5   | 283  |  |  |  |  |
| Mole Valley                                | 6   | 294  |  |  |  |  |



| Guildford        | 7  | 296 |
|------------------|----|-----|
| Epsom and Ewell  | 8  | 299 |
| Surrey Heath     | 9  | 309 |
| Elmbridge        | 10 | 310 |
| Waverley         | 11 | 313 |
| Source: IMD 2010 |    |     |

Source: IMD 2019

Figure 1 in the Technical Annex highlights the marked variations in levels of deprivations in the wards within Runnymede Borough. Runnymede does not have any LSOAs that classify as being within the 10% most LSOAs in England, however pockets of deprivation do exist in the Borough.

Runnymede is a relatively healthy borough. Life expectancy at birth for both men and women are higher than the average for the rest of England. Mortality for under 75s is lower than the England average. The under 75 mortality rates from cancer and suicide rates are similar to the rest of the England. Death and injury from car accidents are significantly higher than the England average.

| Table 3: Public Health within Runnymede and England        |                  |                   |  |  |  |
|--|------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Indicator  | Runnymede        | England           |  |  |  |
| Life expectancy (men)                                      | 81.0 years       | 79.8 years        |  |  |  |
| Life expectancy (women)                                    | 84.7 years       | 83.4 years        |  |  |  |
| Under 75 mortality rate<br>from all causes                 | 288 per 100,000  | 326 per 100,000   |  |  |  |
| Under 75 mortality rate<br>from cardiovascular<br>diseases | 54.7 per 100,000 | 70.4 per 100,000  |  |  |  |
| Under 75 mortality rate<br>from cancer                     | 128 per 100,000  | 129.2 per 100,000 |  |  |  |
| Suicide rate   | 8 per 100,000    | 10 per 100,000    |  |  |  |
| Death and Seriously<br>Injured on roads                    | 65.8 per 100,000 | 39.7 per 100,000  |  |  |  |

Source: Public Health England Local Authority Health Profiles and reports 2017-2019

## Implications for the Economic Development Strategy

These economic and social indicators provide a long-term outlook on the social and economic wellbeing in Runnymede. Like most of the UK, the local authority will need to be aware of the longer-term challenges arising from having an aging population. Furthermore, planned population growth will need to be accounted for in local plans for housing stock and services. Despite having a high-quality living environment, issues of relative deprivation in particular the lack of affordable housing and poor access to public services for some communities compared to the rest of Surrey should be addressed to have a more inclusive economy as well as improving life chances for residents. Increasing population sizes will also strain the road network, leading to an increase in congestion and pressure on the capacity of the public transportation systems, as well as other health facilities.



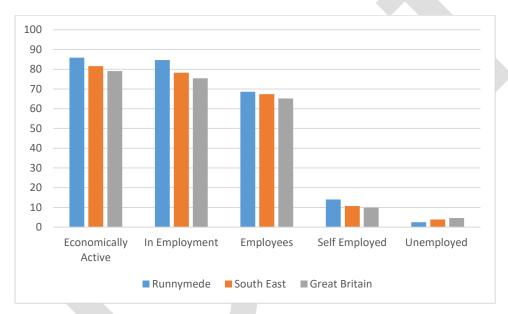


# **Chapter 3: Labour supply and demand**

One of the key components of any successful economy is the availability of an appropriately skilled labour market. This chapter considers the supply of labour in Runnymede, its working age population, economic activity rates, skills and qualifications, employment by sector, earnings, and occupations.

## **Economic Activity**

Runnymede has a higher participation rate in the workforce compared with the regional and national rates. 85.9% (53,200) of the working population are economically active (ONS annual population survey 2020). There are higher rates of employment and self employment in the borough compared with both the region and for Great Britain.





#### Source: ONS annual population survey 2020

The rate of economic activity amongst men in Runnymede is higher compared to the Southeast and Great Britain. The number of women economically active in the borough has increased from 65.1 per cent in 2015 to 78.8 per cent in 2021.

| Table 4 : Male and Female Economic Activity |                       |                  |            |                  |                      |  |  |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|----------------------|--|--|
|   | Runnymede<br>(number) | Runnymede<br>(%) | Surrey (%) | Southeast<br>(%) | Great Britain<br>(%) |  |  |
| All People                                  | All People            |                  |            |                  |                      |  |  |
| Economically<br>Active (all)                | 51,900                | 84.5             | 82.3       | 80.8             | 78.4                 |  |  |





| Male<br>Economically<br>Active   | 28,300                                    | 90.1 | 86.2 | 84.8 | 82   |  |  |
|----------------------------------|---|------|------|------|------|--|--|
| Female<br>Economically<br>Active | 23,500                                    | 78.8 | 78.6 | 76.8 | 74.8 |  |  |
| Source: ONS                      | Source: ONS annual population survey 2021 |      |      |      |      |  |  |

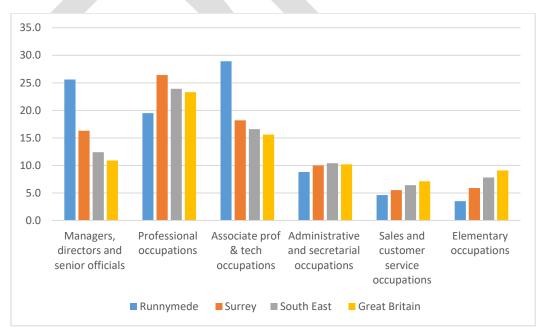
#### **Employment by Occupations**

There are more people working in higher level occupations in Runnymede compared with Surrey, the Southeast and Great Britain

| Table 5 Economic Activity in Higher Occupations   |                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| RunnymedeRunnymede (%)Surrey (%)Southeast (%)Great Britain (%)  |                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 37,200  | 37,200 24.7 20.3 17.6 16.6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source Nomis June 2021.<br>Higher Occupations include managers, directors, senior officials, professional and technical occupations |                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

When we look in more detail at high level occupations we see that Runnymede has a particularly high number of Managers, Directors and Senior Officials (26%) and Associate Professional and Technical occupations (29%). Fewer residents are employed in lower level occupations.





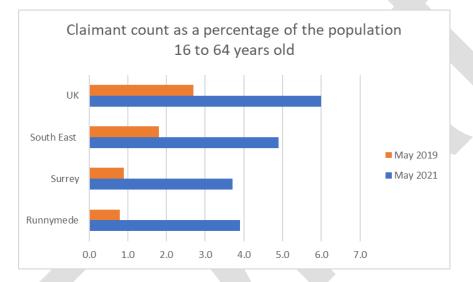


Source: Annual population survey July 2020 to June 2021. Figures are not available for the borough for : i) Skilled trades occupations, ii) Caring, leisure and service occupations, and iii) Process, plant and machine operatives.

# The Impact of Covid 19

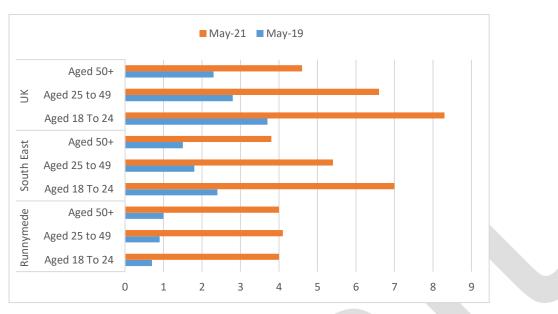
The number of residents in Runnymede claiming universal credit increased by over 400% between May 2019 and May 2020 because of the Covid 19 pandemic. In May 2021 the borough still had a lower claimant count rate when compared with the Southeast and the UK. Although the rate in the borough was higher than the rate for Surrey in May 2021.

#### Figure 8: Impact of Covid : out of work benefits



Source: ONS July 2021





## Figure 9: Impact of Covid : out of work benefits by age

Source: ONS July 2021 Clamant count rate (as a percentage of all 16-64 year olds).

Figure 8 shows more detail on the age breakdown for residents who are claiming out of work benefits during this period. The rate for all age groups in May 2021 remains relatively low for Runnymede, (at around 4% for all age groups), compared with the Southeast and the UK. However, the increase in Runnymede over the 12 months is higher for all age groups. It has increased by over 300% for people aged over 25 years and over 400% for young people aged 18-24 years old.

As part of the UK Government's central response to the COVID-19 economic crisis, the Job Retention Scheme was introduced, commonly known as the furlough scheme. This programme was introduced to pay workers 80% of their salary in cases where they were unable to work because of local or national restrictions impeding the course of everyday business.

The number of residents on furlough has reduced as the Covid 19 restrictions are eased and people start to return to work. The table below shows the percentage of jobs furloughed as a share of jobs which are eligible to be furloughed by the Job Retention Scheme.

|           | March | July |
|-----------|-------|------|
| Runnymede | 14%   | 7%   |
| Surrey    | 15%   | 6%   |
| England   | 15%   | 6%   |

#### Table 6: Percentages of those furloughed



Source: HM Revenue & Customs. Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme statistics: 9 Sept 2021

In March 2021, 4,600 people in Runnymede were on furlough. 1,170 of these were in retail and hospitality sectors.

As we emerge out of lockdown unemployment rates have fallen. The number of residents claiming out of work benefits in Runnymede in September 2021 is below the national and regional rate but still slightly higher than the rate for Surrey.

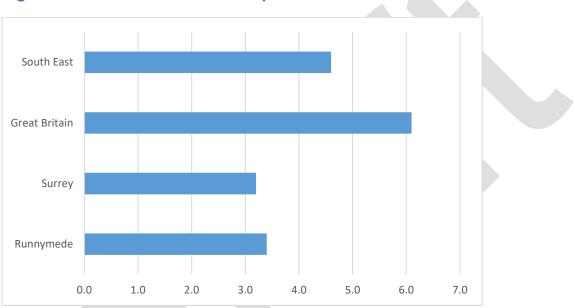


Figure 10: Out of work benefits September 2021

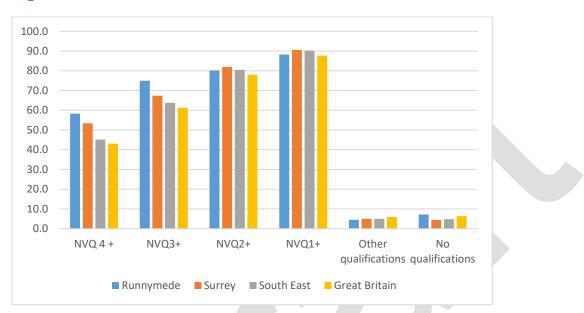
Source Nomis. Claimant count as a percentage of all economically active September 2021

# **Qualifications and skills**

Skills enhance productivity and competitiveness and are linked with higher levels of innovation and workforce flexibility. High level skills are required to drive innovation and leadership within an economy, and to enable businesses to compete globally. In terms of labour market performance and skills, there is a significant positive correlation between high-level graduate skills and the proportion of the workforce within knowledge-intensive industries

Runnymede has a population that is on average more skilled than the rest of the region and the rest of the country. Table 10 shows that 75% of residents have an NVQ level 3 or above compared with only 60% for Great Britain. However the number of residents with no qualifications at 7.2% is higher than for Surrey (4.4%) the Southeast (4.8%) and Great Britain (6.4%).

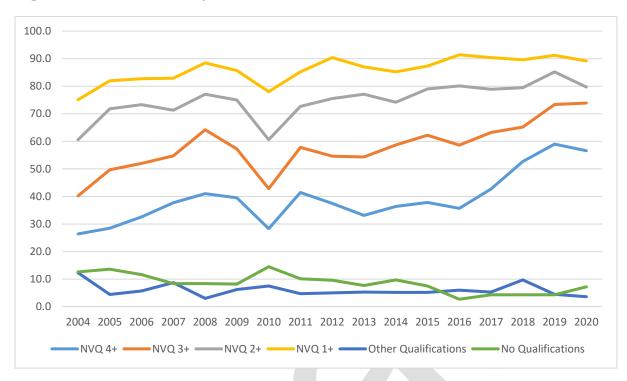




#### Figure 11: Skill Levels

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (January 2020 - December 2020)





#### Figure 12: Skills in Runnymede over time

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2004-2019)

Runnymede has generally seen an increase in the levels of skills in the population, creating new opportunities for growth. To continue economic development, it must be made a priority to continue to increase skill levels NVQ 3 and 4, reduce the number of people with no qualifications and improve basic skills.

There are five state funded academy secondary schools in the Borough: Jubilee High School, Salesian School, Magna Carta School, Chertsey High School and Fullbrook School. In addition, there are four private schools, all with sixth form provision, including two international schools. Strodes College, Egham is mainly focussed on A-Level delivery. Egham is also home to Royal Holloway, University of London ranked a top 25 in the UK in the Times and the Sunday Times Higher Education rankings 2021.

## Earnings by residence

Runnymede records higher earnings than the Southeast and United Kingdom averages for earnings by residence, however Runnymede records lower earnings compared to the Surrey average.

#### Table 7: Earnings by residence

| Gross Weekly    | Runnymede (£) | Surrey (£) | Southeast (£) | United  |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------|
| Pay (FT worker) |               |            |               | Kingdom |



| Full Time      | 682.20 | 708.60 | 631.80 | 585.50 |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Workers (All)  |        |        |        |        |
| Male Full Time | 692.00 | 793.30 | 683.70 | 619.00 |
| Workers        |        |        |        |        |
| Female Full    | 606.30 | 614.90 | 560.60 | 543.00 |
| Time Workers   |        |        |        |        |

Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings – Resident Analysis (2020).

Table x in the Technical Annex compares median earnings for residents within the LEP, and other authorities within Surrey. This shows that although earnings in Runnymede are high in comparison to the Southeast region and the United Kingdom as a whole, they tend to be lower than the neighbouring boroughs. Figure X highlights how earnings rose in Runnymede following the recession, before dipping to fall more in line with the regional average. Between 2017 and 2019 earnings steeply increased before falling in 2020, although this dip is likely to result from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.

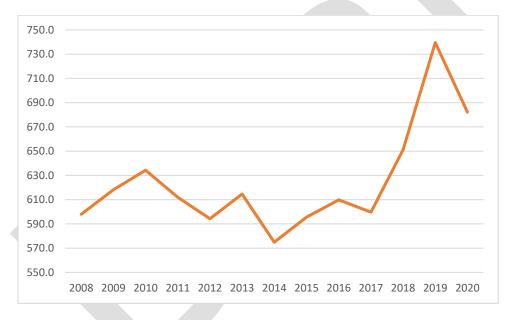


Figure 13 : Medium earnings for Runnymede residents 2008 to 2020

Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings – Resident Analysis (2008-2020).

Since 2008, there has been a slight closing of the earnings gap between males and females. Female earnings increased by £113.90 between 2008 and 2019, while male earnings increased by only £87.20 during the same period. In 2020 both male and female earning decreased.



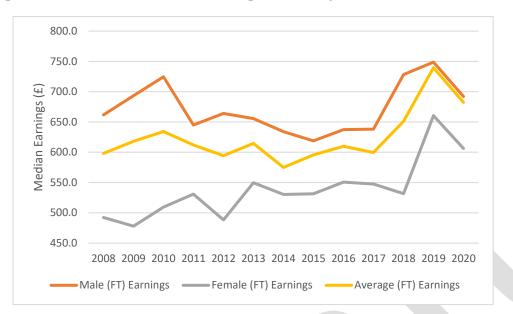


Figure 14: Male and female earnings in Runnymede 2008 to 2020

Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings – Resident Analysis (2008-2020)

Runnymede records high earnings in the workplace with the median gross weekly pay recorded as approximately £700 per week for full-time workers, compared to £608 in the Southeast and £586 in the United Kingdom. It also records higher earnings in the workplace compared to Surrey and the EM3 LEP. Workplace earnings are higher than resident earnings suggesting that there are a number of well-paid jobs in Runnymede, but a higher percentage of these are held by in-commuters rather than the resident workforce.

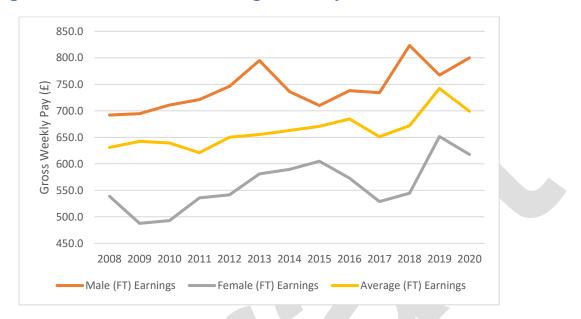
| Gross<br>Weekly<br>Pay (Full<br>time<br>workers) | Runnymede<br>(£) | Surrey (£) | EM3 (£) | Southeast<br>(£) | United<br>Kingdom<br>(£) |
|--|------------------|------------|---------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Full time<br>workers<br>(All)                    | 699.20           | 651.00     | 644.40  | 608.60           | 585.50                   |
| Male full-<br>time<br>workers                    | 800.00           | 699.40     | 697.50  | 658.90           | 619.00                   |
| Female<br>full-time<br>workers                   | 617.70           | 596.90     | 582.30  | 543.60           | 543.00                   |

#### Table 8: Workplace earnings



Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings – Workplace Analysis (2020)

Male full-time workplace earnings are significantly higher than female full-time earnings (some 23%).





Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings – Workplace Analysis (2008-2020).

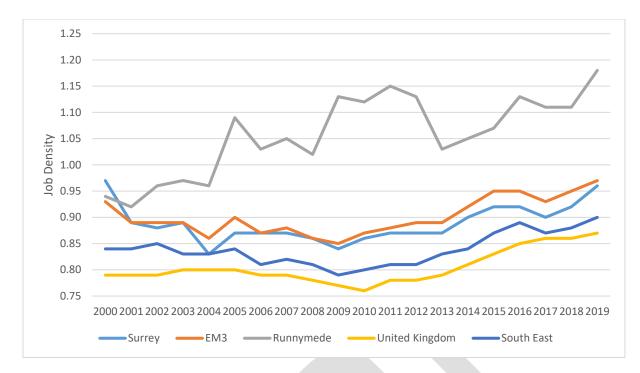
#### **Job Density**

There are a high proportion of jobs based in the borough relative to the number of working age residents. A job density of one would mean that there is one job for every resident of working age. The data in figure x below shows how the job density in the Borough increased between 2010 and 2011, reaching a high of 1.15 in 2011, before dipping to 1.03 in 2013. This dip was short lived because by 2019, the job density figure has reached a peak of 1.18. Unlike Surrey, the Southeast or the United Kingdom, Runnymede witnessed an increase in job density between 2008 and 2010 at the height of the recession. Whether this can be replicated following the 2020 recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic is yet to be measured.

In 2019, Runnymede had the highest job density in Surrey, 20% higher than the Surrey average and the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest job density in the EM3 LEP area. This job density is due to the fact that; i) there is a relatively small population compared to the level of business in the borough and ii) that there are more people travelling into the borough than out of the borough on a typical working day.

#### Figure 16: Job Density over time







## **Workforce Jobs**

In 2019, there were 69,000 workforce jobs within Runnymede Borough (ONS jobs density). As Figure 16 shows, since 2000 there has been a general increase in job numbers.





Source: NOMIS Workforce Jobs



# Commuting

Data on travel to work is based on the 2011 Census and is somewhat out of date. It also does not account for changes to travel to work patterns as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic and in particular the increase in the number of people working from home.

According to the 2011 Census only 43% of residents live and work in Runnymede. This is similar to neighbouring boroughs: Elmbridge (43%), Spelthorne (39%), Surrey Heath (44%), Windsor & Maidenhead (51%), Bracknell Forest (51%) and Woking (47%), indicating high levels of cross boundary commuting flows within the sub-region.

There is an overall net inflow of workers into the Borough (approximately 9,000), with the largest numbers coming from other Surrey districts and boroughs (approximately 3,100). Inner and Outer London and Elmbridge Borough were the only destinations that received a net outflow of workers from Runnymede. 19% of Runnymede residents commuting to Inner London. The proportion of people commuting to Greater London as a whole is higher still with 24% of working residents in Runnymede commuting to work in London.

In 2011 by far the most popular method of travel to work for those commuting from and into Runnymede was driving a car or van (64.5%). Other popular methods of commuting included walking (9.9%) and using the train (8.5%).

## Implications for the Economic Development Strategy

Runnymede has a high skilled economy, with high levels of participation in the workforce. The demand for skills will continue to increase and change driven by automation, growth in the digital economy and green economy. To remain competitive businesses and residents will need to increase their investment in skills. Schools, colleges, and skills providers will need to align skills provision to employer demand.

In order to develop the economy sustainably for the future, access to quality employment for young people should be improved, including access to affordable accommodation. There should be targeted intervention on improving skill levels for those with no, or very few qualifications. Digital skills are vital for the modern economy, especially given the growth in homeworking during the COVID-19 pandemic. Runnymede should continue to grow the number of people with NVQ 3 and 4, to cement Runnymede's position as a highly skilled economy.



# **Chapter 4: Economic Competitiveness**

There are a number of studies of the UK economy which use a variety of indicators to rank the competitiveness of regions and boroughs. This chapter summarises the assessment of Runnymede's competitiveness from two of the leading indexes's for competitiveness; i) the UK Competitiveness Index, Cardiff University, 2021, and; ii) Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth Index 2019. Both studies are designed to be an integrated measure of competitiveness focusing on both the development and sustainability of businesses and the economic welfare of individuals.

.... competitiveness is considered to consist of the capability of an area to attract and maintain firms with stable or rising market shares in an activity, while maintaining stable or increasing standards of living for those who participate in it.

UK Competitiveness Index, Cardiff University, 2021

# UK Competitiveness Index, Cardiff University (2021)

Runnymede is ranked by the UK Competitiveness Index 2021 as the most competitive borough in the UK outside of London.

The top 10 ranked localities in the UK

|      |                        |            | UI    | KCI   |      | Change | 2018-2021 |
|------|------------------------|------------|-------|-------|------|--------|-----------|
| Rank |                        |            |       |       | Rank |        |           |
| 2021 | Locality               | Region     | 2021  | 2018  | 2018 | UKCI   | Rank      |
| 1    | City of London         | London     | 928.3 | 991.9 | 1    | -63.6  | 0         |
| 2    | Westminster            | London     | 205.7 | 207.1 | 2    | -1.3   | 0         |
| 3    | Camden                 | London     | 167.7 | 172.4 | 3    | -4.7   | 0         |
| 4    | Tower Hamlets          | London     | 151.7 | 153.5 | 4    | -1.8   | 0         |
| 5    | Islington              | London     | 148.2 | 149.7 | 5    | -1.5   | 0         |
| 6    | Hammersmith and Fulham | London     | 134.0 | 135.2 | 6    | -1.2   | 0         |
| 7    | Kensington and Chelsea | London     | 132.4 | 129.2 | 9    | 3.2    | +2        |
| 8    | Southwark              | London     | 131.7 | 130.2 | 8    | 1.5    | 0         |
| 9    | Runnymede              | South East | 130.0 | 126.9 | 12   | 3.1    | +3        |
| 10   | Hounslow               | London     | 128.0 | 130.2 | 7    | -2.1   | -3        |

UK Competitiveness Index 2021



All of the top five most competitive LEPs are in the Southeast. Enterprise M3 LEP is ranked as the third most competitive LEP region. There continues to be an unbalance in economic growth across the UK with the less competitive areas in rural or post-industrial locations outside of the Southeast.

Top ranked LEP's in England

- 1 London
- 2 Thames Valley Berkshire
- 3 Enterprise M3
- 4 Hertfordshire
- 5 Buckinghamshire Thames Valley

UK Competitiveness Index 2021

Runnymede is ranked as the most economically competitive borough within both the EM3 LEP and Surrey areas.

#### Table 9: Runnymede's competitiveness ranking in the EM3 LEP and Surrey

| Authority                                  | 2019 | 2021 |
|--|------|------|
| Runnymede                                  | 3    | 1    |
| Elmbridge                                  | 2    | 2    |
| Windsor and Maidenhead                     | 1    | 3    |
| Mole Valley                                | 4    | 4    |
| Courses LIK Compatibility on and Index 200 |      | h. / |

Source: UK Competitiveness Index 2021, Cardiff University



Runnymede's high ranking is due in part to the borough's large GVA. The borough has the largest economy in the Enterprise M3LEP

|            | <b>£5.8bn</b><br>↑5.80% |                                     | £5.2 | 0%            |                           |     | <b>£4.6bn</b><br>↑ 2.60%                    |
|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---------------------------|-----|---|
| Runnymede  | <b>£5.7bn</b><br>个4.50% | Basingstoke and<br>£3.5bn<br>↑8.20% | Dear | f             | Guildfc<br>3.3bn<br>0.90% | ord | <b>£3.3bn</b><br>↑3.20%                     |
| Winchester |                         | Rushmoor<br>£3.1<br>↑0.8            | Lbn  | king          | <b>£2.8b</b> i<br>↑3.109  | 1   | <b>st Valley</b><br><b>£2.7bn</b><br>个4.20% |
|            | <b>£5.4bn</b><br>↑8.70% | Waverley<br>£3.(<br>↑2.2            |      | Spel          | thorne                    |     | Hart<br>5bn 个0.40%                          |
| Elmbridge  |                         | Surrey Heath                        |      | Let II mothin |                           |     |   |

Figure 18: GVA of boroughs in the M3 LEP

Source: SQW Headlines Productivity Report (2019) based on ONS data

But also due to having high jobs density, a strong portfolio of small, medium and large businesses, with a highly skilled labour force.

To further improve the ranking, affordability and access to housing should be addressed. Overall, Runnymede ranked 9th in the 2021 index, an improvement of 3 rank compared to the 2019 index.

Table 10 provides further details of Runnymede's competitiveness within the context of the M3 LEP, the county and other neighbouring authorities. It also shows a comparison with the ranking in 2019.

#### Table10: Runnymede's competitiveness ranking

| Authority                | 2019 Rank | 2021 Rank | Differences in<br>ranks<br>(+ represents<br>moving up the<br>ranking, -<br>represents a<br>fall) | Rank within<br>comparators |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|----------------------------|
| Basingstoke<br>and Deane | 36        | 38        | -2   | 13                         |



| East Hampshire                  | 99  | 123 | +24 | 20 |  |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|--|
| Hart                            | 39  | 32  | +7  | 8  |  |
| New Forest                      | 130 | 144 | -14 | 21 |  |
| Rushmoor                        | 31  | 35  | -4  | 11 |  |
| Test Valley                     | 84  | 75  | +9  | 17 |  |
| Winchester                      | 28  | 36  | -8  | 12 |  |
| Elmbridge                       | 11  | 12  | -1  | 2  |  |
| Guildford                       | 58  | 41  | +17 | 14 |  |
| Runnymede                       | 12  | 9   | +3  | 1  |  |
| Spelthorne                      | 44  | 42  | +2  | 15 |  |
| Surrey Heath                    | 46  | 33  | +13 | 9  |  |
| Waverley                        | 57  | 53  | +4  | 16 |  |
| Woking                          | 25  | 29  | -4  | 7  |  |
| Epsom and<br>Ewell              | 79  | 84  | -5  | 18 |  |
| Mole Valley                     | 16  | 21  | -5  | 4  |  |
| Reigate and<br>Banstead         | 34  | 34  | 0   | 10 |  |
| Tandridge                       | 112 | 103 | +9  | 19 |  |
| Bracknell Forest<br>UA          | 27  | 28  | -1  | 6  |  |
| Slough UA                       | 17  | 22  | -5  | 5  |  |
| Windsor and<br>Maidenhead<br>UA | 10  | 13  | -3  | 3  |  |

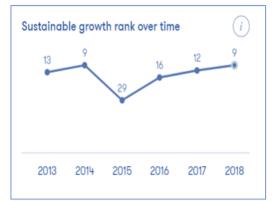
Source: UK Competitiveness Index, Cardiff University.

# **Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth Index 2019**

According to the Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth Index 2019 Runnymede is the ninth most competitive borough in the UK.

## Table 11: Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth Index

| Cambridge   | 1 | Richmond<br>Upon Thames   | 6  |
|-------------|---|---------------------------|----|
| Westminster | 2 | South<br>Cambridgeshire   | 7  |
| Camden      | 3 | Vale of White<br>Horse    | 8  |
| Oxford      | 4 | Runnymede                 | 9  |
| Wokingham   | 5 | Windsor and<br>Maidenhead | 10 |





Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth Index 2019

Runnymede is ranked 2nd out of 324 local authorities in the UK for 'Dynamism and Opportunity' behind only Cambridge.

## Table 12 Dynamism and opportunity index

| 1     | Cambridge                            |           |
|-------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 2     | Runnymede                            |           |
| 3     | Vale of White Horse                  |           |
| 4     | Oxford                               |           |
| 5     | Westminister                         |           |
| Sourc | e: Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth | Index 20' |

Source: Grant Thornton Sustainable Growth Index 2019.

Dynamism and Opportunity is described as a measure for how entrepreneurial and innovative an area is and whether it has the skills set necessary to drive future growth. The boroughs high score is due to having high productivity rates (a high GVA), high business growth rates (growth in employment), high skills, a concentration of employment in the knowledge economy and a large base of leading edge technology-based companies, particularly in the IT sector. The high ranking is also the result to having centres of research and innovation in the borough in particular the presence of Royal Holloway, University of London, and the Animal & Plant Health Agency. These research centres within the Borough provide strategic economic assets which can help drive innovation in the local economy

## Implications for the Economic Development Strategy

Runnymede has a strong expanding economy and should be in a good position to recover from the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic. However, the longer-term impact of the economic shock of 2020/21 is still yet to felt by businesses and residents.

Runnymede's strategic location, provision of high-quality offices and highly skilled workforce make it a highly attractive location for foreign companies wanting to set up UK and Global headquarters. Knowing and understanding the issues, barriers and opportunities for the growth and retention of large companies should be a key priority for the authority. The Council should work with Surrey Council and the EM3 LEP to support inward investment and business retention.

Runnymede has some strong sector concentrations of employment in Information and Communications, Cyber Security and in the Arts, Entertainment and Recreation sector. The council should work with Royal Holloway University of London, Neighbouring boroughs, the County Council and EM3 LEP to support these key sectors and to maximise the benefits for the local authority and wider region.

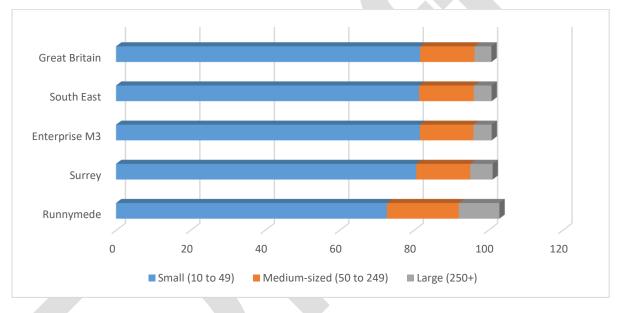
For Runnymede to become more economically competitive, there is a need to improve affordability of housing, as well as access to public services for disadvantaged and hard to reach communities. Runnymede should continue to build upon its strengths to attract inward investment and support growing businesses, which has the potential to create high quality jobs for local people.



# **Chapter 5: Business and enterprise**

A strong and diverse business base coupled with a healthy culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship are key elements of a successful economy. This chapter examines the business demographics of Runnymede, its sectoral strengths and the principal economic challenges faced.

There are 4,455 businesses in Runnymede employing 69,000 people. Nine out of 10 businesses in Runnymede are micro businesses employing 0-9 people. The borough has a higher share of medium and large businesses (ie businesses that employ over 50 people).



#### Figure 19: The size of businesses

Source: ONS UK Business Count October 2021

Runnymede is home to 15% of large companies within Surrey and 12% of large companies within the EM3. Runnymede therefore has a strength in catering to the headquarters of big companies who have the potential to create significant numbers of high quality jobs for local people.

When data on large enterprises is considered in more detail (see Figure 17) Runnymede is shown to have a comparatively high percentage of companies which employ over 1000 people. It should be noted that a significant number of these very large businesses have their headquarters in Runnymede and the figures may count employment on sites which these companies have outside of the borough.

There are proportionally fewer businesses sized between 250-499 people and between 500-999 people, compared to each of the comparator regions. This makes the local economy reliant on a small number of large employers, making it important to support and retain these employers.



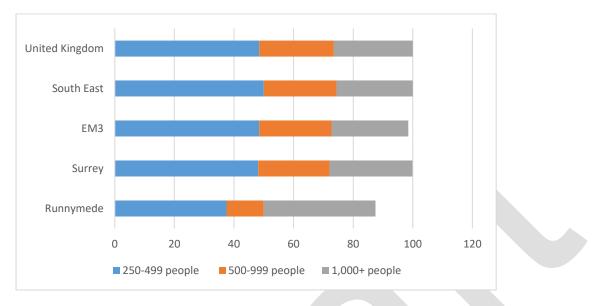


Figure 20: The size of large businesses

Source: ONS data (Inter Departmental Business Register 2020.

Examples of large enterprises and institutions in the Borough include several household names, organisations, and global groups.

Gartner Thorpe Park Samsung Bupa APHA (Animal and Plant Health Agency) Royal Holloway University of London Astellas Pharma VM Ware Crest Nicholson Enterprise UK Hitachi HCL St Peters and Ashford NHS Trust Future Electronics Kerry Foods



Between 2015 and 2020, there has been an increase of 5 large enterprises in Runnymede, this matches a similar increase between 2010 and 2015. A significant part of the local economy is reliant on the investment decisions of a small number of very large businesses. The uncertainty created by the Covid 19 Pandemic and the UK leaving the EU means that knowing and understanding the ambitions of these large enterprises is a key priority for the council.

# Growth in the number of businesses

The number of businesses in Runnymede grew by 900 between 2011 and 2021. This represents a growth rate of 25% over the ten years. Slightly above the rate for Surrey and M3 LEP (24%), but below the Southeast (28%) and Great Britain (34%).

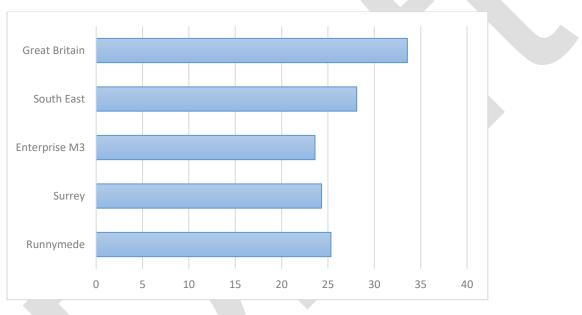


Figure 21: Increase in businesses 2011 to 2021

Source: ONS UK Business Count.

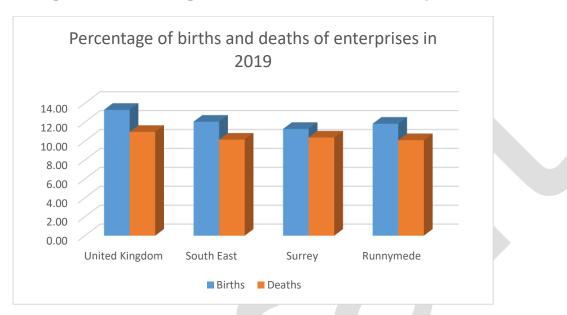
A significant proportion of the growth in new enterprises across the UK during this period is due to the shift in employment from PAYE to self-employment. This largely reflects a shift in working patterns to part time, insecure employment rather than an increase in business growth.

This makes a reduced rise in the business stock compared to the rest of the UK less concerning as job security within the enterprises in Runnymede are more likely to be secure, and jobs are higher paying. The relative high growth in the number of jobs in the borough as set out in Chapter 3 demonstrates the strength of business and enterprise within Runnymede.



# **Business survival**

In 2019, 11.83% of businesses in Runnymede were new businesses (births) and 10.10% businesses closed (deaths). Figure 17 shows how the churn of businesses is slightly below the national and regional average.



#### Figure 22: Percentage of births and deaths of enterprises.

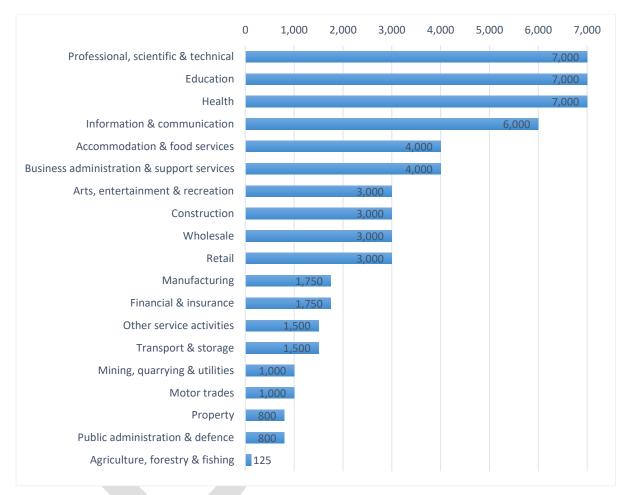
#### Source: ONS Business Ethnographies

Businesses in Runnymede are more likely to survive compared with both the national, regional and county. 64% will survive after three years in Runnymede compared with Surrey (63%) and 61% across the United Kingdom (Source: Business Ethnographies ONS, Survival of businesses born in 2014).



# Sectors of employment

Runnymede has a largely service-sector based labour market, dominated by high levels of employment in high-skilled professional sectors (Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities and Information and Communication), public sector services (Education and Health), business services, and leisure and recreation.



#### Figure 23: Employment by sector, Runnymede, 2019

Source: The Business Register and Employment Survey 2019.

# Sector specialisms

Compared to national averages, Runnymede has much higher shares of employment in Information and Communication, Education, Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities, and Arts, Entertainment and Recreation, and much lower shares of employment in Manufacturing and Retail

Of all 363 lower-tier authority areas across Great Britain, Runnymede has the 15th highest share of Information and Communication employment and the seventh



highest share of Arts, Entertainment and Recreation employment nationally. Conversely, Runnymede has the seventh lowest share of Retail employment

ICT and Digital, Cyber Security, Tourism, Hospitality and Leisure, and Animal Health<sup>1</sup> employ a greater share of people in Runnymede than local and national averages, while Retail accounts for a much lower share of the workforce.

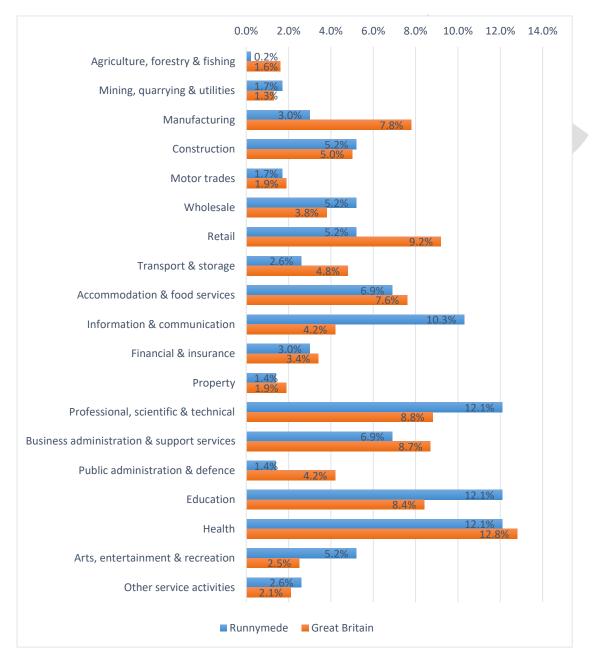


Figure 24: Percentage share of Employment by Sector, Runnymede, and Great Britain, 2019

<sup>1</sup> Due to the presence of the Animal and Plant Health Agency in the borough



Runnymede Borough Council Runnymede Economic Assessment

#### Source: The Business Register and Employment Survey 2019.

The picture is similar when comparing to the employment profiles of Surrey, the Enterprise M3 LEP area, and the Southeast region, with Runnymede having higher shares of employment in Information and Communication, Education, and Arts, Entertainment and Recreation. Entertainment and Recreation.

|                                      |           | % Share of Total Employment |            |           |         |  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------|---------|--|
|                                      | Runnymede | Surrey                      | Enterprise | Southeast | Great   |  |
|                                      |           |                             | M3         |           | Britain |  |
| Agriculture, forestry & fishing      | 0.2%      | 0.7%                        | 1.2%       | 1.3%      | 1.6%    |  |
| Mining, quarrying & utilities        | 1.7%      | 1.2%                        | 0.9%       | 1.2%      | 1.3%    |  |
| Manufacturing                        | 3.0%      | 4.5%                        | 6.1%       | 6.4%      | 7.8%    |  |
| Construction                         | 5.2%      | 6.2%                        | 5.7%       | 5.4%      | 5.0%    |  |
| Motor trades                         | 1.7%      | 2.1%                        | 2.2%       | 2.2%      | 1.9%    |  |
| Wholesale                            | 5.2%      | 4.6%                        | 4.9%       | 4.4%      | 3.8%    |  |
| Retail                               | 5.2%      | 8.2%                        | 9.5%       | 9.7%      | 9.2%    |  |
| Transport & storage                  | 2.6%      | 2.7%                        | 3.2%       | 4.4%      | 4.8%    |  |
| Accommodation & food services        | 6.9%      | 7.0%                        | 7.5%       | 7.6%      | 7.6%    |  |
| Information & communication          | 10.3%     | 6.5%                        | 7.2%       | 5.6%      | 4.2%    |  |
| Financial & insurance                | 3.0%      | 3.4%                        | 2.7%       | 2.6%      | 3.4%    |  |
| Property                             | 1.4%      | 1.5%                        | 1.5%       | 1.5%      | 1.9%    |  |
| Professional, scientific & technical | 12.1%     | 12.4%                       | 11.2%      | 9.1%      | 8.8%    |  |
| Business administration & support    | 6.9%      | 7.9%                        | 7.7%       | 8.2%      | 8.7%    |  |
| services                             |           |                             |            |           |         |  |
| Public administration & defence      | 1.4%      | 2.2%                        | 2.6%       | 3.1%      | 4.2%    |  |
| Education                            | 12.1%     | 9.5%                        | 8.6%       | 9.7%      | 8.4%    |  |
| Health                               | 12.1%     | 13.4%                       | 11.6%      | 12.6%     | 12.8%   |  |
| Arts, entertainment & recreation     | 5.2%      | 3.1%                        | 2.7%       | 2.3%      | 2.5%    |  |
| Other service activities             | 2.6%      | 2.7%                        | 3.0%       | 2.5%      | 2.1%    |  |

## Table 13: Percentage share of Total Employment, Runnymede, Surrey, M3LEP,Southeast and Great Britain

Source: The Business Register and Employment Survey 2019.

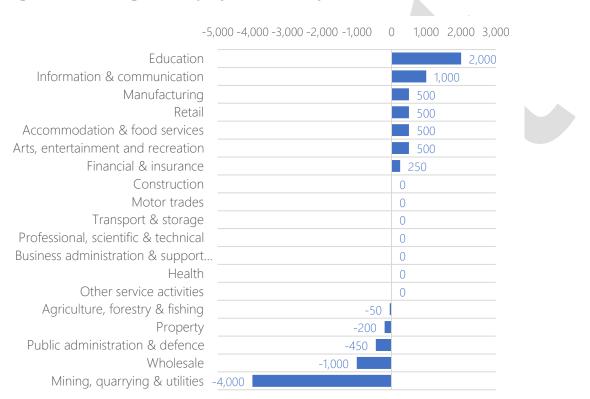
#### Change in employment 2015-2019

Employment levels across Runnymede were static over the period 2015-2019, against national average growth of 4%



Two of the district's largest employment sectors – Education and Information and Communication – experienced the largest absolute growth in employment and also some of the fastest growth rates in the district (along with Manufacturing, Retail, and Arts, Entertainment and Recreation)

Five sectors experienced declining employment against growth across Great Britain: Mining, Quarrying and Utilities, Wholesale, Public Administration and Defence, Property, and Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing



#### Figure 25 : Change in Employment, Runnymede, 2015 to 2019

Source: The Business Register and Employment Survey 2019.

Between 2015 and 2019, there were some stark differences in employment change between Runnymede and local and national comparators. There was national growth in employment in all sectors that experienced decline in Runnymede, particularly Property (-20% in Runnymede and +11% across Great Britain).

Conversely, Education, Information and Communication, Retail, and Arts, Entertainment and Recreation employment increased sharply in Runnymede against very slow growth or a slight decline across the county, region, and Great Britain. Manufacturing employment also increased much faster in Runnymede than local and national comparators.



|  |           | % Change in Employment 2015-2019 |                  |           |                  |  |
|--|-----------|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|--|
|  | Runnymede | Surrey                           | Enterprise<br>M3 | Southeast | Great<br>Britain |  |
| Agriculture, forestry & fishing            | -29%      | 0%                               | 0%               | 4%        | 1%               |  |
| Mining, quarrying & utilities              | -80%      | -22%                             | -30%             | 18%       | 5%               |  |
| Manufacturing                              | 40%       | 8%                               | 9%               | 9%        | 1%               |  |
| Construction                               | 0%        | 16%                              | 19%              | 18%       | 12%              |  |
| Motor trades                               | 0%        | 9%                               | 13%              | 14%       | 9%               |  |
| Wholesale                                  | -25%      | -7%                              | -7%              | -5%       | 1%               |  |
| Retail                                     | 20%       | -4%                              | 7%               | 1%        | -2%              |  |
| Transport & storage                        | 0%        | -6%                              | 4%               | 5%        | 11%              |  |
| Accommodation & food services              | 14%       | 2%                               | 4%               | 7%        | 10%              |  |
| Information & communication                | 20%       | -3%                              | -2%              | -6%       | 8%               |  |
| Financial & insurance                      | 17%       | -5%                              | 0%               | -4%       | 3%               |  |
| Property                                   | -20%      | -25%                             | -20%             | -18%      | 11%              |  |
| Professional, scientific & technical       | 0%        | -1%                              | 1%               | 4%        | 8%               |  |
| Business administration & support services | 0%        | -4%                              | -2%              | 8%        | 3%               |  |
| Public administration & defence            | -36%      | -7%                              | 0%               | 1%        | 4%               |  |
| Education                                  | 40%       | 0%                               | -4%              | -1%       | -1%              |  |
| Health                                     | 0%        | 7%                               | 6%               | 5%        | 3%               |  |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation         | 20%       | -5%                              | -9%              | 7%        | -4%              |  |
| Other service activities                   | 0%        | 7%                               | 10%              | 0%        | 5%               |  |
| Total employment                           | 0%        | 0%                               | 2%               | 3%        | 4%               |  |

## Table 14: Percentage change in Employment 2015 to 2019, Runnymede,Surrey, M3 LEP, Southeast and Great Britain.

Source: The Business Register and Employment Survey 2019.

In absolute terms, employment grew most strongly in Cyber Security (+2,000, +40%). The biggest increases in employment were in Computer consultancy activities (+1,000) and Business and domestic software development (+600)

Employment increased by 1,000, or by 17%, in ICT and Digital, with the largest increases in Computer consultancy activities (+1,000) and Business and domestic software development (+600), as above. Employment fell in Wireless telecommunications activities (-200), Repair of computers and peripheral equipment (-150), Wholesale of electronic and telecommunications equipment and parts (-100) and Publishing of computer games (-50)

Employment also increased by 1,000, or by 17%, in Tourism, Hospitality and Leisure. The biggest increases in employment were in Activities of sport clubs (+450), Unlicensed restaurants and cafes (+450), and Other food service activities



(+250). Employment fell in Event catering activities (-100), Travel agency activities (-50), and Gambling and betting activities (-50)

#### Innovation

The Borough benefits from a range of institutions and businesses that put it on the cutting edge of research and innovation. This pushes the borough towards being a highly driven knowledge-based economy, a key ingredient for continued economic growth in the UK. Runnymede benefits from:

- Royal Holloway, University of London and research establishments.
- A large base of international, leading-edge technology-based businesses; and
- Significant Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

Royal Holloway, University of London was the birthplace of information security as an academic discipline. It is a U.K Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research and is home to one of the largest and most established security groups in the world – ICT4D group. This group ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in a list of the world's top Science and Technology think tanks and is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the UK. (Source: University of Pennsylvania/Wharton Business School's global think tank ranking. This is based on a survey of over 1,100 international experts evaluating a pool of over 4,000 think tanks globally.) The ICT4D group is active in both education and research and cooperates with both Government and industry. It also promotes the use of information technology in developing countries and represents a great resource for companies looking for opportunities.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Royal Holloway's plans to build a new Regional Innovation Centre within the EM3 LEP have been currently suspended. However, Royal Holloway continues with its campus investment with 1,400 student study bedrooms planned to be constructed on the former Procter and Gamble research site.

The Borough is also home to the Animal and Plant Health Agency headquarters in New Haw (which includes the veterinary Investigation Centre).

#### Inward investment/tourism spend

Inward investment has played an important role in the success of Runnymede as a business location, with a number of national and international businesses being located in the borough.

Tourism is a significant contributor to the local economy. The borough hosts a range of hotels from 4\* establishments at the Runnymede-on-Thames, to historic Great Fosters, Foxhills and Savill Court. Runnymede also has a variety of budget hotel located in the town centres. Runnymede hosts a range of significant leisure and tourism businesses including Thorpe Park and Wentworth Golf Course. Other important attractions in Runnymede include the museums, located in Egham and Chertsey, hosting a range of exhibitions related to local history.



In 2020, Visit Britain published an analysis of the Great Britain Tourism Survey 2019. This report estimated that consumer spending on tourism in Surrey had an annual value of £176 million. The same report estimated that annual spend in Runnymede was at a level of approximately £14 million, with approximately £5 million of expenditure being generated from holidays, £3 million from visiting friends and relatives and £5 million from business tourism.

#### Implications for the Economic Development Strategy

The Borough's strong performance in attracting small and large businesses alike, however the borough will need to be aware of the nature of changing work patterns, following the effects of COIVD-19, in maintaining its business stock. Ensuring a presence of all kinds of businesses is important to the borough, however the borough needs to be agile and flexible to change. ICT and Cyber Security are increasingly important sectors worldwide, with the COVID-19 pandemic highlighting the importance of this sector. Runnymede continues to be attractive location for many businesses and the inward investment they provide and should continue its close relationships with businesses. Runnymede should continue support for its town centres and make the most of its placemaking powers to support businesse.



Runnymede Borough Council Runnymede Economic Assessment

### **Chapter 6: Transport and Infrastructure**

Runnymede is located at the intersection of the M3 and the M25, providing easy access to the wider road network as well as onward travel to the South-West. It is also situated near the M4. The borough is well connected by rail, allowing easy travel within the borough, as well as direct links to destinations such as London and Reading. Both Heathrow and Gatwick airports are accessible from Runnymede with Heathrow T5 just 10 minutes' drive-time from Egham.. These factors combined make Runnymede a highly desirable location for both businesses and workers.

#### Major Strategic Investments and place shaping

A number of regeneration projects have been completed recently within Runnymede to ensure that residents have housing and services that they expect and deserve. Regeneration is also important in contributing to the continued economic success of the borough, providing new opportunities for growth and employment. Runnymede has seen a £200 million investment as part of the Runnymede Regeneration Programme. The following initiatives have been undertaken:

- Egham Orbit Leisure Centre, completed in 2019, provides residents with leisure facilities fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This helps to promote health and well-being in the borough, which is significant given the renewed importance of living a healthy life, following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Magna Square has regenerated the Station Road North area of Egham, using brownfield sites to create additional housing for residents, over 100 student study bedrooms to cater for Royal Holloway students, and convenience retailing. It has also provided a new cinema and food and beverage offerings to boost the evening economy.
- Addlestone One provides a new shopping/leisure and residential hub for the town, which wraps around a central civic centre occupied by the library, police station and the Borough Council offices.
- Further regeneration opportunities exist within all three town centres with sites/opportunity areas allocated in the 2030 Local Plan.
- In addition to the above proposals, Royal Holloway, University of London, is also undertaking major redevelopment to its campus as is St Peter's Hospital, and major redevelopment is also taking place in a number of key employment areas throughout the Borough.

#### **Transport proposals**

Runnymede Borough Council in partnership with Surrey County Council has been successful in leveraging significant government grant funding in recent years to provide much needed investment in its transport infrastructure. Schemes delivered or planned include:

• Reconfiguration of the Runnymede Roundabout in Egham which was delivered using nearly £5m of grant funding from the EM3 LEP (84% of the



total cost). This scheme, completed in 2019, has reduced congestion and travel times and improved accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists to neighbouring areas and the River Thames.

- The Egham Sustainable package phase one completed in 2017 comprised cycling, walking and bus corridor improvements along the A308 The Causeway. This scheme attracted £1.4m of funding from the EM3 LEP (80% of the total cost).
- In 2020, almost £42m was awarded in grant funding through Homes England's Housing Infrastructure Fund to enable delivery of improvements to the A320. These improvements to the road, cycle and pedestrian infrastructure will enable delivery of housing allocated in the Runnymede 2030 Local Plan.

The Council actively consults with key transport stakeholders such as Network Rail and Southwest Railways (the current franchise for rail in the borough) on opportunities to improve and address issues of concern. Council was successful in ensuring additional rail services were provided to Longcross to service the new Garden Village and Enterprise Zone.

Transport for the Southeast (TfSE) is the sub-national transport body for the Southeast of England. Set up in 2017, it determines what transport infrastructure is needed to boost the region's economy. The Council have been active participants in consultations undertaken by TfSE to inform strategy development.

Heathrow Strategic Planning Group's (HSPGs) transport sub-group considers and lobby's on issues around access to the airport, including proposals for a southern access to Heathrow. The Council are active participants in HSPG.

The Government's ambition is to make walking and cycling the natural choices for shorter journeys. The aim is to increase the number of journeys on foot and by bicycle and to make cycling safer. The council is working with Surrey County Council on a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which will identify strategic route improvements and provide feasibility designs with outlines costs that can be used to attract grant funding from the Department for Transport for delivery.

#### **River Thames Scheme**

The council works closely with the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council to manage the risk of flooding from the River Thames. In summer 2021 funding was approved for the River Thames Scheme, the UK's largest ever flood protection scheme, which will deliver a number of initiatives to reduce the risk of flooding in Runnymede and the surrounding areas including a new flood relief channel in Runnymede.

#### Implications for the Economic Development Strategy

Infrastructure investment is crucial to maintaining the economic success of the Borough. Although RBC does not have statutory responsibilities for transport or



flooding the Council plays an important role in informing strategy development, lobbying for funds and responding to consultations on schemes.

Runnymede Borough Council Runnymede Economic Assessment



#### **Technical Annex**

Table 1: Population Estimates

| Authority                    | 2011 Census<br>Data | 2018 mid-year<br>estimates | Percentage<br>Increase | Population<br>Density per<br>square km 2019<br>mid-year<br>estimates |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|--|
| LEP Authorities              | T                   | -                          | 1                      |  |
| Basingstoke<br>and Deane     | 168,600             | 175,700                    | 4.2%                   | 279  |
| East Hampshire               | 116,000             | 120,700                    | 4.1%                   | 238  |
| Hart                         | 91,700              | 96,300                     | 5.0%                   | 452  |
| New Forest                   | 176,800             | 179,800                    | 1.7%                   | 239  |
| Rushmoor                     | 94,400              | 95,100                     | 0.7%                   | 2,426  |
| Test Valley                  | 116,700             | 125,200                    | 7.2%                   | 201  |
| Winchester                   | 116,800             | 124,300                    | 6.4%                   | 189  |
| Elmbridge                    | 131,400             | 136,700                    | 4.0%                   | 1,440  |
| Guildford                    | 137,600             | 147,900                    | 7.5%                   | 550  |
| Runnymede                    | 80,500              | 88,000                     | 9.3%                   | 1,146  |
| Spelthorne                   | 95,900              | 99,300                     | 3.5%                   | 2,219  |
| Surrey Heath                 | 86,400              | 88,900                     | 2.9%                   | 940  |
| Waverley                     | 121,800             | 125,600                    | 3.2%                   | 366  |
| Woking                       | 99,500              | 101,200                    | 1.7%                   | 1,575  |
| Other Surrey Aut             | horities            |                            |                        |  |
| Epsom and<br>Ewell           | 75,200              | 80,000                     | 6.4%                   | 2,371  |
| Mole Valley                  | 85,600              | 87,300                     | 2.0%                   | 338  |
| Reigate and<br>Banstead      | 138,400             | 147,800                    | 6.8%                   | 1,153  |
| Tandridge                    | 83,200              | 87,500                     | 5.16%                  | 355  |
| Oher neighbourin             | g authorities       |                            |                        |  |
| Bracknell<br>Forest UA       | 113,700             | 121,700                    | 7.0%                   | 1,124  |
| Slough UA                    | 140,700             | 149,100                    | 6.0%                   | 4,531  |
| Windsor and<br>Maidenhead UA | 145,100             | 150,900                    | 4.0%                   | 769  |
| Surrey                       | 1,135,400           | 1,190,000                  | 4.8%                   | -  |
| South East                   | 8,652,800           | 9,133,600                  | 5.6%                   | 481  |
| England                      | 53,107,200          | 55,977,200                 | 5.4%                   | 432  |

Source: Office for National Statistics: Population estimates by 5 year age groups and gender. Estimates have been rounded to the nearest 100 in accordance with the data set.



| Table 2. Indices of Multi | inle Denrivation acro | ss the sub-region (2019)  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
|                           | ipie Deprivation acro | 33  me 300  region (2013) |

|                                 | -          | _         |            | -         |        |       |          |          |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|--------|-------|----------|----------|
| Authority                       |            |           | nt         |           |        |       |          |          |
|                                 | IMD Score  | Income    | Employment | Education | Health | Crime | Barriers | Living   |
| LEP Authoritie                  | S          | •         |            |           | •      | •     | •        |          |
| Basingstoke and Deane           | 246        | 268       | 263        | 313       | 216    | 164   | 100      | 283      |
| East<br>Hampshire               | 285        | 287       | 285        | 279       | 281    | 215   | 122      | 188      |
| Hart                            | 317        | 316       | 316        | 309       | 316    | 255   | 192      | 305      |
| New Forest                      | 241        | 243       | 219        | 222       | 249    | 174   | 107      | 255      |
| Rushmoor                        | 196        | 177       | 233        | 149       | 156    | 128   | 113      | 249      |
| Test Valley                     | 262        | 280       | 272        | 251       | 262    | 220   | 80       | 203      |
| Winchester                      | 293        | 296       | 299        | 304       | 295    | 236   | 99       | 195      |
| Elmbridge                       | 310        | 306       | 311        | 310       | 311    | 191   | 193      | 240      |
| Guildford                       | 296        | 300       | 306        | 285       | 279    | 235   | 139      | 210      |
| Runnymede                       | 256        | 272       | 293        | 240       | 263    | 154   | 40       | 136      |
| Spelthorne                      | 201        | 234       | 243        | 163       | 232    | 120   | 37       | 75       |
| Surrey Heath                    | 309        | 313       | 310        | 289       | 284    | 262   | 143      | 288      |
| Waverley                        | 313        | 307       | 296        | 305       | 280    | 280   | 207      | 292      |
| Woking                          | 283        | 277       | 277        | 287       | 248    | 188   | 85       | 242      |
| Other Surrey A                  | Authoritie | es        |            |           |        |       |          |          |
| Epsom and<br>Ewell              | 299        | 305       | 305        | 301       | 300    | 143   | 162      | 225      |
| Mole Valley                     | 294        | 310       | 288        | 297       | 277    | 239   | 124      | 186      |
| Reigate and<br>Banstead         | 276        | 273       | 278        | 264       | 252    | 183   | 119      | 175      |
| Tandridge                       | 258        | 275       | 269        | 245       | 251    | 103   | 116      | 169      |
| Oher neighbou                   | iring aut  | thorities |            |           | •      | •     | •        | <u> </u> |
| Bracknell<br>Forest UA          | 284        | 269       | 282        | 188       | 273    | 288   | 51       | 316      |
| Slough UA                       | 73         | 82        | 165        | 126       | 100    | 49    | 8        | 89       |
| Windsor and<br>Maidenhead<br>UA | 304        | 299       | 308        | 295       | 287    | 232   | 217      | 235      |

Source: IMD 2019 (based on 2015/2016 data) from local authority dashboard. 1 most deprived-317 least deprived.



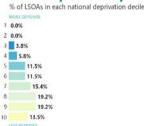
#### Figure 1

## **English Indices of Deprivation 2019 RUNNYMEDE**

# Wentworth Chert

## Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

#### Local deprivation profile



What this map shows This is a map of Indices of Deprivation 2019 data for Runnymed. The colours on the map indicate the deprivation decile of each Lower Layer Super Output Area (ISOA) for England as a whole, and the coloured bars above indicate the proportion of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile. The most deprived areas (decile 1) are shown in blue. It is important to keep in mind that the Indices of Deprivation relate to small areas and do not tell us how deprived, or weathly, individual people are. ISOAs have an average population of just under 1,700 (as of 2017).

#### More deprived

Relative level of deprivation

Less deprived

Source: GOV.UK



| Table 3: Students achieving Attainment 8 |       |       | Ofsted Inspections |   |   |
|--|-------|-------|--------------------|---|---|
|  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019               | Date of<br>Last<br>Ofsted<br>Inspection | Ofsted Rating                               |
| Fullbrook<br>School                      | 53.1% | 49.2% | 50.8%              | 1 <sup>st</sup> March<br>2017           | Good  |
| Jubilee High<br>School                   | 46.2% | 40.9% | 46%                | 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>October<br>2018      | Good  |
| Salesian<br>School                       | 62%   | 62.1% | 60.1%              | 12 <sup>th</sup><br>September<br>2013   | Outstanding                                 |
| The Magna<br>Carta School                | 51.8% | 51.2% | 49.3%              | 21 <sup>st</sup><br>February<br>2017    | Good  |
| Chertsey High<br>School                  | -     |       |                    | -                                       | Opened in<br>2017 with no<br>data available |
| Surrey<br>Average                        | 50%   | 50.3% | 50.3%              |   |   |
| England<br>average                       | 46.3% | 46.5% | 46.7%              |   |   |

Source: GOV.UK Schools Information Pages



| Table 4: Median Earning Re<br>Authority | Median Earnings | Ranking |
|---|-----------------|---------|
| Autionty                                | (£)             | Ranking |
| LEP Authorities                         |                 |         |
| Basingstoke and Deane                   | 686.30          | 10      |
| East Hampshire                          | 625.20          | 18      |
| Hart                                    | 751.10          | 4       |
| New Forest                              | 599.90          | 20      |
| Rushmoor                                | 660.60          | 16      |
| Test Valley                             | 603.30          | 19      |
| Winchester                              | 689.30          | 9       |
| Elmbridge                               | 739.00          | 5       |
| Guildford                               | 793.50          | 1       |
| Runnymede                               | 682.20          | 11      |
| Spelthorne                              | 667.30          | 14      |
| Surrey Heath                            | 736.50          | 6       |
| Waverley                                | 779.30          | 3       |
| Woking                                  | 665.70          | 15      |
| Other Surrey Authorities                |                 |         |
| Epsom and Ewell                         | 675.80          | 13      |
| Mole Valley                             | 583.90          | 21      |
| Reigate and Banstead                    | 736.50          | 7       |
| Tandridge                               | 699.20          | 8       |
| Oher neighbouring authoritie            | )<br>S          |         |
| Bracknell Forest UA                     | 677.10          | 12      |
| Slough UA                               | 629.70          | 17      |
| Windsor and Maidenhead<br>UA            | 781.90          | 2       |

Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings – Resident Analysis (2020)



