

Would you like to  
live and work in  
**England?**

The NHS is looking for GPs to work in the areas of  
**SURREY HEARTLANDS**

# INTRODUCTION

The National Health Service in England is running an international recruitment campaign for family doctors. In England these are called General Practitioners or GPs. We plan to recruit around 2,000 GPs from overseas by 2020. They will work alongside GPs we train in England to develop an exciting range of health services away from hospitals and in local community settings.

This brochure explains the importance of GPs in providing healthcare to our population. It tells you about the application process and what to expect when you apply. We are recruiting GPs for many areas across England. This brochure gives you an idea of the benefits and opportunities available to you if you choose to work in **Surrey Heartlands**.

## WHY WORK AS A GP IN ENGLAND?

GPs in England are the foundation of the NHS. They are usually the first person a patient turns to for help and they deal with a whole range of health problems. They are general experts in the whole field of medicine for adults and children. They manage the healthcare of all their patients, including acute illness, long term conditions and mental health problems.

GPs usually work in practices, often leading teams which include nurses, healthcare assistants, practice managers, receptionists and other staff. Practices also work closely with other healthcare professionals, such as health visitors, midwives, pharmacists, physiotherapists, mental health services and social care services.

GPs provide continuing medical care for patients in the community or they will refer patients to hospital clinics for further assessment or treatment by specialists. Nine out of 10 NHS patients are seen in English general practice, and nearly nine out of 10 patients rate their experience of their GP practice as good. Because GPs often lead the continuing development of the NHS in England, we are investing an additional £2.4bn a year into general practice by 2021. The money is being used to recruit more doctors and other healthcare professionals, improve buildings and extend the use of information technology so general practice can offer more and better services to meet people's needs.

Any GP recruited under the international recruitment programme and working in the UK before 29 March 2019 will be able to stay and enjoy the same rights and benefits as now and qualifications of EU doctors will continue to be recognised if they were obtained before 29 March 2019. Recruitment will go beyond March 2019 and while we do not know details of a future immigration system yet, we will make clear how it applies to this programme as soon as possible.

Many GPs choose to work in England because of the attractive salaries and benefits. But the work offers much more: the chance to extend your clinical experience as part of a team of 1.2 million NHS employees, all of whom are proud to work for a 'national treasure' and many of whom have come to England from across the globe.

# GENERAL PRACTICE AND YOU

- If you choose to apply to work as a GP in **Surrey Heartlands** you will be supported with dedicated training programmes, help with meeting language requirements and in meeting the standards of the national Induction and Refresher (I&R) Scheme.
- You will have an opportunity to meet with staff from the recruiting practices and to learn more about them and the local areas. This will help you and the practices decide if this is the best place for you to live and work.
- Practices involved in this recruitment scheme will be offering attractive and competitive salaries.
- You and your family will be offered help to relocate to the area and continued support while you settle into your new community.

## THE CANDIDATE PROCESS

If you apply to be a GP in England this is the application process you will follow:

### STEP 1

An initial conversation in your own country with the recruitment agency for the area you are interested in working in and some background checks (including police checks).

### STEP 2

You will be asked to take an English test organised by the recruitment agency. The agency will use the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or the Occupational English Test (medicine version) proficiency test for people wishing to study or work in English speaking countries.

### STEP 3

You will have a web based interview in your own country. If successful you will register with the General Practice National Recruitment Office (GPNRO) to gain access to online support material to help prepare you for the next steps. The GP National Recruitment Office (GPNRO) is the body responsible for coordinating the process for recruitment to GP Specialty Training (ST1) Programmes in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. You will also start your registration with the General Medical Council (GMC). The GMC is the organisation which sets standards for doctors in the United Kingdom. You need to be registered with the GMC to work as a doctor in England.

### STEP 4

You visit your chosen area to find out more about where you will be working and to meet other international GPs. You will have a second interview and an assessment of your learning needs.

### STEP 5

Once you pass your second interview you will be able to join the programme. You will be allocated to a GP practice within the region.

### STEP 6

You will be provided with a minimum of three months of training and observation in your employing practice to prepare you for the I&R assessments and improve your English language skills. You will then spend a minimum of six months treating patients with supervision and support from a senior GP at your practice.

# THE NHS OFFERS A

# COMPETITIVE PAY PACKAGE FOR GPs

Once you have gained entry to the National Medical Performers List without conditions you can expect to earn a salary of between £68,000 and £72,000 per year. This salary is the same across all parts of the NHS in England excluding London where you will receive additional funds to help with the increased living costs there, known as London weighting.

Alongside your salary there are many other financial benefits including paid maternity and paternity leave, parental and carers leave.

## THE NHS IN ENGLAND

The National Health Service was founded in 1948, based on the principle that good healthcare should be available to all, regardless of wealth.

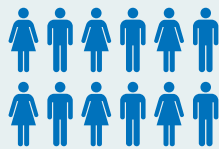
With the exception of some charges, such as prescriptions, optical services and dental services, the NHS in England remains free at the point of use for all UK residents.

In 2014, the Commonwealth Fund declared that in comparison with the healthcare systems of 10 other countries (Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the US) the NHS was the most impressive overall. The NHS was rated as the best system for its efficiency, safety, effectiveness, co-ordination and patient-centred care.

The NHS covers

**54.3M PEOPLE**

in England



It deals with more than

**1M PATIENTS**

every 36 hours



The NHS employs

**1.2M PEOPLE**



And has more than

**40,500 GPs**







LIVING IN...

# SURREY HEARTLANDS

Picturesque villages  
with a rich heritage  
surrounded by  
peaceful  
countryside



# HEALTH SERVICES IN SURREY HEARTLANDS

Surrey Heartlands covers a population of 850,000 people in the central and western parts of Surrey. All of the NHS organisations have come together with Surrey County Council to form Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership.

Surrey Heartlands is known as an 'Integrated Care System' – a more evolved partnership where health and local Government are taking a collective responsibility for health and social care.

This means that local NHS organisations have greater control over budgets and accountability of decisions made for local communities, giving everyone a real opportunity to maximise benefits for local people.

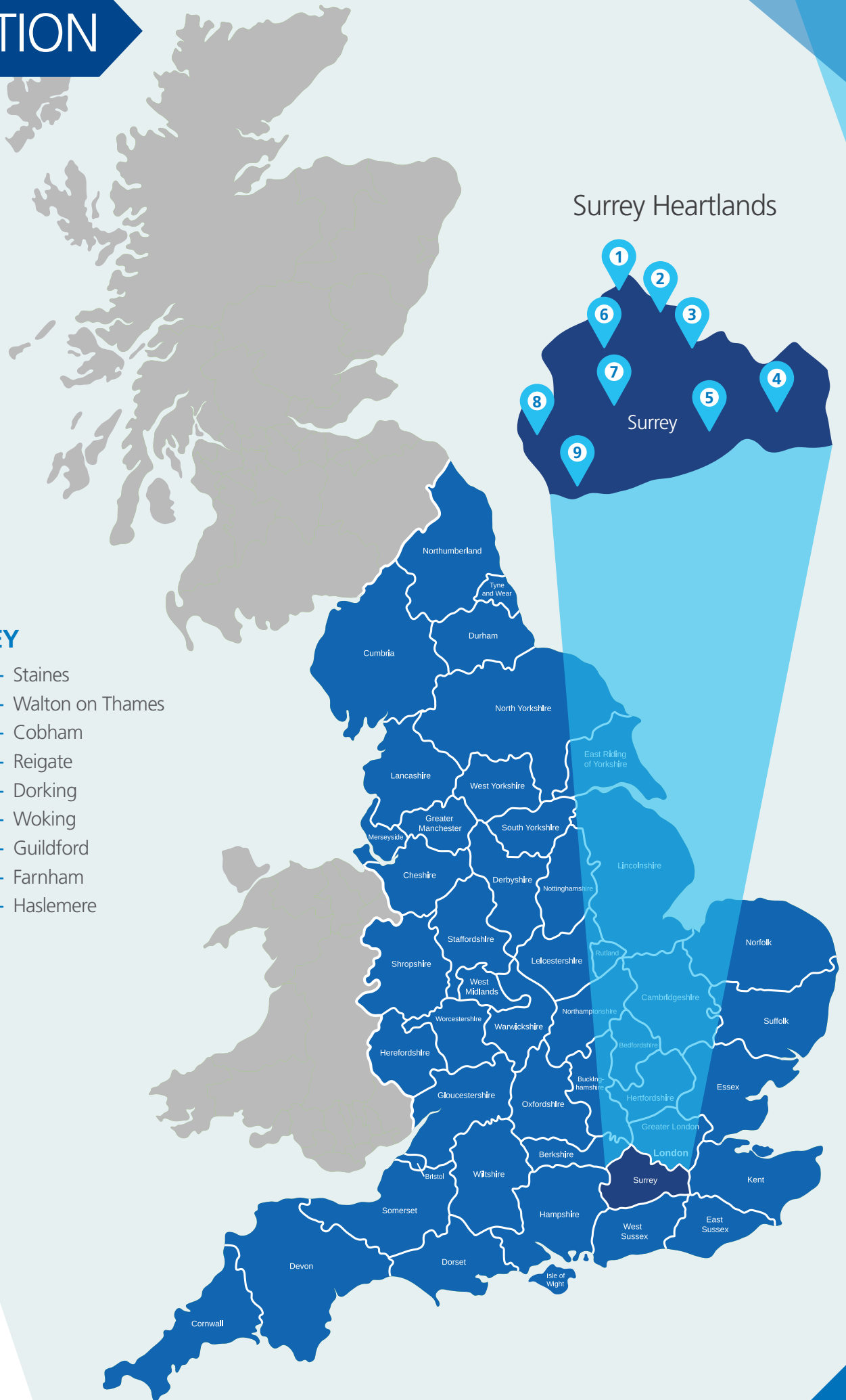
As a result, this improves health outcomes and means more local accountability for the spending of health and social care budgets.



# LOCATION

## KEY

- 1 – Staines
- 2 – Walton on Thames
- 3 – Cobham
- 4 – Reigate
- 5 – Dorking
- 6 – Woking
- 7 – Guildford
- 8 – Farnham
- 9 – Haslemere





# AREA OVERVIEW

As one of England's 'home counties', Surrey is located in the south east of the country within easy travelling distance of London.

## TOWNS

Surrey Heartlands has a number of pretty market towns and quintessential English villages, which offer a variety of independent shops, cosy cafes and traditional pubs. Steeped in history, they are a delight to explore.

Lively Guildford is the largest town in Surrey. It offers everything you would expect from a vibrant urban town including an array of restaurants and bars and an eclectic mix of shops. There are also various entertainment venues and theatres to visit as well as the town's landmark Guildhall and 17th century clock tower.

Situated alongside the River Wey is the town of Godalming. Here you will find unique and individual shops as well as many ancient historic buildings. Interestingly in 1881 the town became the first in the world to use electricity for street lighting!

Situated on the banks of the River Thames and only 24 kilometres from central London is Staines upon Thames, a busy market town. Its riverside location provides the perfect surroundings for drinking and eating out.

Woking is a large town located in the heart of Surrey, and with only a 24 minute train journey to Waterloo Station, you're not far from the bright lights of London. Woking is a modern town offering an abundance of leisure and cultural activities for people to enjoy.

Surrounded by the beautiful Surrey Hills is the town of Dorking. Stroll through the streets and explore boutiques and art galleries and discover unique vintage shops and antique centres in West Street.

## COUNTRYSIDE AND NATIONAL PARKS

Surrey Heartlands is well known for its stunning accessible countryside where walking and cycling through ancient heathland, woodlands and alongside waterways are popular pastimes. The region has much to offer including the Surrey Hills which is one of 37 nationally protected landscapes in England and one of the first landscapes to be designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).





## NOT TO BE MISSED

### POLESDEN LACEY

Situated near Dorking, this Edwardian mansion offers magnificent views across the Surrey Hills. Set in beautiful parklands, its stunning décor will be sure to impress.

### BROOKLANDS MUSEUM

The birthplace of motorsport and aviation, this museum is located in Weybridge on the site of the world's first purpose-built motor race circuit. It houses collections of cars, motorbikes, bicycles and aircrafts.

### HOLMBURY HILL

Climb up Holmbury Hill to discover the remains of an Iron Age fort. Holmbury Hill is the highest point in Surrey with breathtaking views across the Weald.

### GUILDFORD CASTLE AND GROUNDS

Experience spectacular 360 panoramic views from the top of this medieval castle and enjoy learning about its history to the present day.

## CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT

The history and beauty of Surrey has inspired many acclaimed writers, artists, performers and musicians over the years.

Watts Gallery is a unique arts and crafts gallery hidden in the Surrey Hills. Home to over 100 stunning paintings and sculptures from Victorian times, the gallery is not to be missed.

Home to an impressive Ingram collection, the award winning Lightbox provides an ever changing programme of cultural and contemporary exhibitions and things to do in Woking. It houses an interactive museum which is great fun for all members of the family.

There are many theatres across Surrey all offering diverse programmes of entertainment and activities for everyone to enjoy. The main theatres in Surrey include the Yvonne Arnaud in Guildford and the New Victoria Theatre in Woking, one of the most popular house theatres outside of London.

## EDUCATION

Surrey has state run schools with free education for 3 - 18 years. Education is of a high standard with the majority of state schools in the county rated higher than the national average.

Alternatively there is a huge choice of prestigious independent (fee-paying) schools offering mixed or single sex education with a number specialising in sports and music.

There are also specialist colleges for those who are aged over 16, offering everything from academic qualifications to arts, cookery and construction courses.

## FOOD AND DRINK

You won't be disappointed with the range of great places to eat and drink in Surrey. From fine dining Michelin starred restaurants, to trendy bars and cafes and country pubs, the region caters for everyone's taste and budget.

Get a flavour of Surrey by visiting one of the many local farmers' markets. From locally grown fruit and vegetables to freshly baked bread and homemade jams, you can really get a taste of what the region has to offer.

If you're a lover of fine dining then book a table at Drakes in Ripley or the Latymer at Pennyhill Park. Both Michelin starred restaurants serve up elegant tasting menus and gourmet signature dishes.

Get inspired by visiting one of the many local producers of wines and beers in Surrey. Take a tour and learn how beer and wine is made as well as sampling specially selected tipples from the region, such as at Denbies wine estate in Dorking.

## HOUSING

With its proximity to London, excellent travel links and great schools, it is no surprise that Surrey is one of the more expensive places in England to buy and rent property, with average house prices in the region of £425,000. However there are more affordable options and many choices available to suit a range of budgets.

## SHOPPING

Experience shopping at its very best in Guildford where an eclectic range of shops await you for all your shopping needs.

From unique independent shops to big high street brands, the town offers high end gifts and fashion as well as value for money.

Good shopping is guaranteed in Woking, with the town's two shopping centres offering convenient parking on site as well as plenty of bars, cafes and restaurants. Big high street names can be found under one roof in the Peacock Centre.





## SPORT

There are lots of great sporting activities in Surrey that the whole family can enjoy.

Famed as the premier county for golf, Surrey has some of the best golf courses for you to choose from including championship venues such as Wentworth, Walton Heath and Sunningdale.

You can take a boat trip on the many beautiful rivers or lakes, or try your hand at sailing in one of Surrey's vast lakes or reservoirs.

Cycling is the perfect way to see and experience the Surrey Hills and enjoy the incredible countryside that this area has to offer. Popular among families, thrill seekers and more serious cyclists, they offer a range of routes to suit all ages and abilities.

There are many sports centres throughout the region which offer a variety of activities that the whole family can enjoy including tennis, badminton, basketball, ice-skating and more.

## TRANSPORT

Surrey is just half an hour from London with excellent transport links.

### TRAIN

Surrey has excellent rail links to London (most journeys are around 30 minutes to the capital) from all its main towns and to the rest of the country. It is also a scenic way to travel around the county, linking its villages and towns.

### AIR

Well placed for both London Heathrow and London Gatwick airports, it is easy to get flights to most European and worldwide destinations.

### ROAD

There are excellent motorway links and 'A' roads connecting Surrey to the rest of the country.

## WEATHER

Like the rest of England, Surrey has a mild climate, but the weather can be unpredictable. Summer can be pleasant with temperatures averaging 20°C. However, in recent years Surrey has experienced heatwaves with temperatures well above 30°C. Typical temperatures for winter are between 2 and 10°C.

## MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about our international recruitment programme or about living and working in **Surrey Heartlands** the following websites will be useful:

Surrey Heartlands Partnership – [www.surreyheartlands.uk](http://www.surreyheartlands.uk)

Visit Surrey – [www.visitsurrey.com](http://www.visitsurrey.com)

Lonely Planet guide to Surrey – [www.lonelyplanet.com/england/southeast-england/surrey](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/england/southeast-england/surrey)

Visit England – [www.visitengland.com/things-to-do/surrey](http://www.visitengland.com/things-to-do/surrey)

**NHS ENGLAND'S PARTNERS:**



**General  
Medical  
Council**



**NHS**  
**Health Education England**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:**

[www.england.nhs.uk/igpr](http://www.england.nhs.uk/igpr)

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