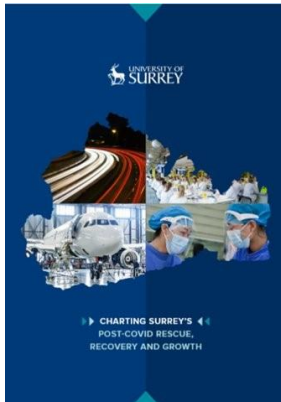


In-person Launch Event for Charting Surrey’s Rescue, Recovery and Growth in the Age of Covid-19 and Brexit.

**30 September 2021
Lakeside Restaurant, University of Surrey**



The Centre for Britain & Europe’s ‘Charting Surrey’s Rescue, Recovery and Growth in the Age of Covid-19 and Brexit’ report was the first of its kind, co-funded between the ESRC IAA and Surrey County Council, it provided detailed analysis to chart Surrey’s Post-Covid-19 response and ongoing Brexit preparations. The reports focussed on Surrey’s unique clusters vital to its high-value, regional economy, identifying mixed resilience and an uneven spread of economic growth; this report has formed the centrepiece of future action taken by Surrey County Council. The four key policy recommendations from this report are: improve key digital infrastructure in the county, enhance governance in key areas, consolidate existing Surrey specialisms, and keep Surrey healthy and inclusive by retaining the highly skilled youth.

Speakers at the CBE’s launch event praised the hard work conducted by the team to produce high-class research and conclusions for Surrey County Council to grasp a coherent picture of what post-covid Surrey truly looks like. Lord Hammond commented ‘Surrey is a brilliant place to work and create business’, and that ‘we have to ensure it remains that way’. Lord Hammond continued ‘if we are to remain competitive, we have to act now’. Rhiannon Mort congratulated the CBE on its reports, findings and conclusions, and explained that these reports of post-Covid growth in Surrey can certainly be used by Surrey County Council to deliver the appropriate policy for the future. Kathy Slack stressed that our future is bright, but ‘we need to work completely differently to achieve significant results’.

Dr Julie Llewelyn pointed out that whilst Surrey has some of the wealthiest boroughs in the nation, it also has boroughs that sit in the poorest 20%, and that there is a wealth and business divide between West and East Surrey, and ‘post-covid, this divide needs to be addressed’; Dr Llewelyn also emphasised that as the ‘Charting Surrey’s Post Covid Recovery report’ indicates, Surrey is in possession of truly unique clusters of business and innovation, some that must truly be cherished and championed. Chair of the University Council Michael Queen, had conversed with Vice Chancellor of the University of Surrey, Max Lu, about the future of Surrey and they had both asked ‘how do we build it?’



*Rt Hon Lord Philip
Hammond of
Runnymede*



*Rhiannon Mort
Surrey County Council*



*Kathy Slack
CEO
Enterprise M3 Local*



*Dr Julie Llewelyn
High Sheriff of Surrey
2021-22*



*Michael Queen, Chair of
Council, University of
Surrey*

From this, a 5G centre was established which utilises the cooperation of local government and over thirty businesses to achieve excellence in technology; a wealth of knowledge in virology has been acquired with the vast talent of staff such as Oxford's Professor Gill Elliott, and Surrey now has a talented environmental and sustainability centre. Speeches from the guest speakers underlined that Surrey is in a position to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic strongly if the correct action is taken, a stance supported by the CBE's Charting Surrey's Post Covid Recovery report.

The CBE produces its innovative and enlightening research by championing student-led content; students are invited to participate in research, analysis, co-authoring articles, blog writing and vlog creating, and participating in public CBE events. These opportunities engage University of Surrey students and build a variety of skills, experience, and connections.



Members of the research team

On the back of this report the CBE has since produced a follow up report:

- [Charting Community-based Growth in Surrey: local responses and county drivers](#) (PDF) - June 2021

Plus a number of shorter briefing notes:

- [Reset or recalibration? Brexit's impact on UK and EU foreign policy](#) (PDF) - Autumn 2021
- [Regional roles in implementing UN sustainable development goals: a review of the Basque Country](#) (PDF) - Autumn 2021
- [The challenges and opportunities facing Surrey's health landscape post-covid](#) (PDF) - Autumn 2021
- [New Surrey 'localism'? Post-covid-19 practices in public services, anchor institutions and community wellbeing](#) (PDF) - Autumn 2021
- [Sustainable Surrey: the use of a hybrid growth model](#) (PDF) - Autumn 2021