Measuring Up

Impact and contribution 2015-16
Foreword from the Vice-Chancellor

The University of Surrey’s economic and social contribution to the wider society and the community around us is substantial. As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the University of Surrey’s establishment in Guildford, Measuring Up reflects on the recent achievements of the University community, and how Surrey has worked with local, national and global partners to give back to society.

Our 2016 impact report, Driving Positive Change, reflected on the significant evolution of the University and charted our unwavering commitment to first-rate academic activity and real-world impact. By continuing to recognise, understand, and improve our impact, we can contribute to positive change locally, nationally, and around the world.

At Surrey, our ambition is to be a leading global research university, a preferred and valued partner for government, business, and industry. We aim to be an engaged and connected university that works with these partners, our communities, and our supporters to make a difference to society. Fundamentally, it is our staff, students, and supporters who will help us to achieve these goals.

This report provides a snapshot of some of the fantastic achievements of the University over the past year, and gives a flavour of how we will continue to measure, adapt, and grow our overall contribution to society.

Professor G Q Max Lu
President and Vice-Chancellor
2015-16 was another year of solid growth at Surrey. Driven by higher student numbers, total income rose by 8 per cent to £259.5m. Total expenditure for 2015-16 was £258.6m, giving a surplus of £0.9m. The University is a not-for-profit organisation with charitable status. All surpluses are reinvested back into the University to improve the physical estate, to develop our academic activities and to enhance our services. Capital expenditure for 2015-16 totalled £35.4m. This included over £8m towards the £12.5m total cost of the Innovation for Health Learning Laboratory which opened in 2017 with the generous support of the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and the Garfield Weston Foundation.

The impact of philanthropy 2015-16
All donations to Surrey make a real difference to the lives of many students and to projects that enhance the teaching, learning and research at Surrey. In 2015-16 the University raised more than £2.8m from philanthropic donations. Philanthropic support is critically important to our future growth and we are hugely grateful for all the donations made. In 2015-16 our Alumni volunteers donated over 2,000 hours of their time to the University’s Volunteering Programme through mentoring, delivering talks and lectures and helping at events worldwide.

In 2015-16 we had 15,280 students, of which 87 per cent were full-time. Around 80 per cent of full-time students were based in Guildford. With students from over 120 countries, we are proud to be one of the most culturally diverse universities in the UK. During the 2015-16 academic year 38 per cent of students at Surrey came from outside the UK.

We are proudly partnered with 126 international universities and organisations overseas, and over 50 per cent of our research outputs feature an international co-author. We also have over 2,300 Professional Training partner organisations that offer placements to our students in the UK and overseas.

Pioneering research at the University of Surrey is having a positive societal benefit across multiple sectors including health, communications, business and the environment on a local, national and international scale. In 2015-16 we received £38.9m in research income and our research activities spanned the globe with over 852 international co-authorships from 96 countries.
Off campus

The University of Surrey Lettings agency (USL) is a not-for-profit lettings service established in 2016. The USL is a partnership between the Students’ Union and the University providing support for students renting off-campus. USL also manage the University’s head leasing scheme, the professional management of privately owned houses to ensure high quality tenancies and minimum impact on the local neighbourhood. USL are dedicated to providing students with a fair deal and landlords with a professional service.

USL is the first university managed agency to become a licenced member of the Association of Residential Lettings (ARLA). Together we are looking to raise standards and awareness through voluntary accreditation schemes and regulation.

USL is also accredited by the Guildford Landlord Accreditation Scheme (GLAS) and works alongside Guildford Borough Council to promote professional landlord accreditation. As well as our accreditations, we are also a voluntary member of the Property Redress Scheme (PRS).

How we travel

We actively monitor the way our staff and students travel to and from the University. Through University-wide campaigns and initiatives we seek to increase the number of people walking, cycling and using public transport on campus. We also measure and manage the number of car trips to and from campus during peak times, ensuring that the total increase of trips since 1999 is less than five per cent.

In 2015-16 we increased our on-campus cycle storage by 25% and worked with partners in the local community, including the re-launched Guildford Bike User Group (G-Bug) of which we are a founding member. By improving cycling infrastructure in the town and in Surrey we aim to get more people cycling safely in Guildford.

Our Transport Team have also focused on a number of walking promotions for staff and students. We partnered with Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to deliver a range of walking activities including staff led community walks and campus tours for local residents.

1.8%

INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE TRAVELLING TO AND FROM UNIVERSITY BY BUS FROM 2015

25%

INCREASE IN ON-CAMPUS CYCLE STORAGE IN 2015-16

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainable Impact on Campus

We are committed to improving sustainability on campus, embedding it across our day-to-day operations, teaching and research. Our Sustainability team have also been helping us to become more environmentally responsible as an institution.

Despite increasing student numbers and new campus developments we reduced our CO2 emissions by 1,046 tonnes and our water use by 4,481 cubic metres in 2015-16. We continue to invest in infrastructure that translates into measurable energy, water and waste savings.

Examples of sustainability investments in 2015-16 include:

- Continuing to replace lighting across campus with the latest energy efficient controls and LED fittings
- Improved leak detection and reduction from new management techniques

At Surrey, we collaborate with industry to develop solutions based on academic and industry evidence and generate enduring value for organisations and wider industry sectors.

The Centre for Environment and Sustainability (CES)

The CES is an internationally-acclaimed centre of excellence on sustainable development at Surrey. The centre takes an interdisciplinary approach to the development of action-oriented, policy-relevant research for long-term social and environmental change.

For the past 20 years, the CES has been home to a series of pioneering doctoral programmes in sustainability, working closely with external organisations on co-developed projects.

1,046

TONNES REDUCTION IN CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS 2015-16

4,481

CUBIC METRES WATER USE REDUCTION 2015-16
Innovation and the Economy

Economic Value
At Surrey, we measure our economic contribution through Gross Value Added (GVA) assessments. To evaluate our economic impact an annual assessment is made by independent consultants, BIGGAR Economics, of activities across the University. Their reports provide an important tool for understanding the economic contribution of the University as a whole.

In the academic year 2015-16 the University of Surrey and its Research Park generated almost £1.7bn Gross Value Added (GVA) for the UK. The 2015–16 study also found evidence that the University and Research Park generate £6.48 GVA impact across the UK for every £1 received in income and that for every direct job at the University 7 jobs are supported across the whole.

Companies on Surrey Research Park employed over 4,000 people, a significant proportion of which were in highly technical jobs. In total, the University and Surrey Research Park directly or indirectly supported 17,900 jobs, including 14,100 in the county of Surrey and 11,300 in the borough of Guildford in the year 2015-16.

Incubation and Innovation
The University of Surrey is a source of technological innovation. Innovations, technology transfer and spin-out companies from the University are also key sources for employment and economic development.

In 2015-16, active companies that have spun out of research undertaken at the University of Surrey or been started by staff supported 118 jobs. The total turnover of active University spin-outs and staff start-ups for 2015–16 was over £114m.

The University of Surrey also supports growth and economic activity in the region through its innovation ecosystem. The University has been incuacting technology businesses since 2007 as a founding partner of SETsquared, the global number one university business incubator, as awarded by UBI Global.

In 2015-16, the 53 companies supported by Surrey Incubation and SETsquared Surrey supported 214 jobs and the total turnover was £13.6m.

In November 2016, SETsquared Surrey announced a new £2.4m collaborative acceleration programme for digital start-ups and SMEs. The three-year programme is backed by the European Union European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and supported by the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership. It will be delivered by the University of Surrey through our SETsquared partners in the local and national, public and private partners.

The Surrey 100 Club is the University of Surrey’s own angel investment network. The Club has successfully helped businesses raise angel investment and given potential investors access to high quality ventures since 2007. In 2015-16 the Club leveraged over £10.5m of funding and supported 560 jobs.

In 2015-16 the Department worked with 9,930 students and ran 124 outreach activities.

This included working with 1,312 primary school students from 15 primary schools, 581 parents/carers, 144 secondary schools, 273 mature students, 40 Further Education colleges and 55 Local Education Authorities.

Arts and Culture
In the 2015-16 academic year our public arts programme included 206 events and engaged with 59 visiting artists: 72 events were free for the public, including 55 Lunchtime Recitals and Research Seminars and 17 concerts, exhibitions and learning events.

Over 14,400 people attended our ticketed arts events in 2015-16 and over 57 per cent of attendees were members of the public, an increase of 6 per cent from 2014-15.

Volunteering
The Students’ Union Community Zone ensure that volunteering opportunities are available to all students. 2,317 students volunteered for the Students’ Union in 2015-16, and Students’ Union clubs and societies at Surrey raised over £13,500 for charity last year.

In 2016 Surrey Students’ Union launched a volunteering programme for the community and for the University and have recorded over 4,300 hours of volunteering so far.

Surrey Sports Park
Surrey Sports Park (SSP) provides world class sports facilities, activities and events for University students, staff, elite teams, athletes and the local community. In the academic year 2015-16, SSP worked with 92 colleges and 55 Local Education Authorities.

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In 2015-16, the University of Surrey invested £5 million annually in WP&O activities including £425k on access activity, £330k on progression, and £1.1 million on undergraduate bursaries in 2015-16.

The University’s social contribution to wider society and the community around us is substantial. We achieve this by providing public programmes, facilities and resources, through our scholarship and community outreach and the contributions of staff and students in volunteering roles and charitable giving.

Widening Participation and Outreach
Our Widening Participation and Outreach Department (WP&O) delivers a programme of activities to state school students from a range of backgrounds that are currently under-represented in higher education. We invest £5 million annually in WP&O activities including £425k on access activity, £330k on progression, and £1.1 million on undergraduate bursaries in 2015-16.
REFLECTIONS

Measuring Up marks a continuation of our commitment at Surrey to measuring, monitoring and addressing the significant impact we have as a University. Following the publication of our impact report Driving Positive Change in 2016, this report provides an update on key social, cultural and economic contributions made by the University in 2015-16.

By generating economic value and driving innovation, providing publicly accessible facilities and programmes, encouraging volunteering activities amongst our staff and students, taking on some of the world’s greatest challenges through research, and placing our students in high-impact organisations during their placements, we aim to foster a sense of civic pride and responsibility throughout the University of Surrey and beyond.

We will continue to develop our strategy and methods over time through annual observation and measurement. In this way we will be able to report, reflect and act on changes brought about by developments at our University.

SPOTLIGHT ON: FUTURE PROFESSIONALS

Our pioneering Professional Training placement programme gives students unique access to the world of work and a global network of 2,300 placement partners in the UK and overseas.

Surrey’s undergraduate students have the opportunity to go on a Professional Training work and/or study placement for a year as part of their degree programme. 1,075 of our students were on placement in the 2015-16 academic year and 1,200 in 2016-17. These placements offer a huge boost to our students and help develop the professionals of the future, providing a fresh, talented workforce for local, national and international enterprises across a wide range of sectors.

Our placement students work across a wide range of industry sectors and types of organisations including and beyond blue chip companies. The experiences of our PTY students and the impact they have made are remarkable. Their impact has ranged from designing skyscrapers, working in the legal justice system, carrying out research on airline pilots, organising trade shows, and working in the arts, creative and charity sectors.

LOCATION BREAKDOWN 16-17
- 64% LONDON
- 8% SOUTH EAST
- 16% REST OF UK
- 11% EUROPE
- 9% INTERNATIONAL

We host annual Professional Training (PT) Student of the Year Awards to recognise and celebrate the outstanding contributions of our students during their placement year in industry.

SPOTLIGHT ON: FUTURE PROFESSIONALS

Sam Pemberton, BSc Maths, spent his placement working as a Data Scientist at Thames Water and was Highly Commended at Surrey’s PT Student of the Year 2017 Awards.

“At the end of my first year of studying Mathematics at the University of Surrey I travelled to Indonesia to do voluntary work in an orphanage. It was there that I appreciated the precious value of drinking water and how easily we can take this resource for granted in the UK.

During my placement year at Thames Water I came to recognise the significant water shortage problem the South East of England faces. I undertook work to explore and understand the water consumption patterns of their customers. The findings and the resulting extrapolations provided a foundation for gaining better insight into water usage, planning for future water resource requirements, and for ideas that could lead to improved water efficiency programmes.”

Emma Ledger, BSc Business Management, spent her placement at Hewlett Packard Enterprise as part of the Server Sales Team. Emma was Highly Commended at Surrey’s PT Student of the Year 2017 Awards.

“I had countless experiences – both inside and outside of my core role. I feel my voluntary roles were those which allowed me the greatest personal and professional development. Elected as UK intern charity lead, I led a team of 13 interns and sat on HPE’s CSR committee, coordinating fundraising of over £93,000. The placement confirmed my career aspirations and has enabled me to secure my dream graduate role at Microsoft.”