

1) Tim Oliver, Chair – Welcome and Introductions	
<p>Introducing the activities of working group 5, innovation and clusters, the chair highlighted that a risk of decline in the Surrey economy had been identified if close attention was not paid moving forward. Key points were noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Government tend to overlook Surrey when it comes to funding and support due to levelling up pushing funds North. • Surrey economy is dependent on the health of the population, so keeping people healthy is a key theme, due to the number of people not currently in employment. • Key regional assets were highlighted including the regional airports which all provide a strong opportunity. • Infrastructure, and specifically congestion have a significant impact on the economy of Surrey. 	
2) Dawn Redpath – Overview of Surrey innovation landscape	
<p>Working group activity is building on prior reports including University of Surrey report (2020), Arup assessments and Surrey economic refresh 2021, as well as prior OSGB discussion in May 2022.</p> <p>Surrey economy was summarised, highlighting high skill base, knowledge economy, connections to London, international airports etc. The group were reminded that Surrey is recognized as 4th most innovative region in the UK based on R&D criteria. The May discussion had flagged that no innovation plan was in place, which the working group team are addressing. The plan must target the 'so what': What else can we do? What is the plan? The risk of complacency was flagged. We must understand our strengths whilst we continue to push to develop / expand.</p>	
3) Rachel Smith – UK Innovation Policy and its delivery in Surrey	
<p>Set out the Government Vision, positioning the UK as a science superpower, highlighting an appetite to go further. It was recognized that the UK cannot be a science superpower without being an innovation nation. There is a need to improve depth and breadth of UK R&D through clusters supporting business, people, places, and technologies. Key initiatives were highlighted, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming launch of online innovation hub, a collaboration with the British business bank. • World tour – focused on how you can invest in UK Science tech and innovation? <p>The need to prioritise mapping the UK clusters in a data-based manner was flagged, as were the role of Innovation accelerators, freeports, Investment zones and launchpads. Focusing on Surrey, the need for Inward investment was discussed, focusing on what we are good at and avoiding spreading too thin. Focusing on how local collaboration can support, as well as understanding regional opportunities with potential to expand through adoption and diffusion. Quality account management approach to the cluster management and leadership was highlighted as key.</p>	<p>Discussion Points and Actions:</p> <p>The role of government generating customers for innovation. Government can create the demand for innovation. Procurement as a priority area for the new dept.</p> <p>Aim to build knowledge intensive research clusters, areas of strength to help them grow. Forthcoming announcements in budget on innovation zones.</p> <p>Surrey is not a levelling up area – negative message. Could the new Dept. ensure all areas are reviewed on merit and need.</p> <p>ACTION – Rachel Smith to share feedback with OSGB concerning actions taken to address issue of Surrey not being a 'levelling up' area.</p>
4) Surrey Innovation Delivery Programme	
Michael Queen: Innovation Working Group	
<p>Innovation working group approach and key members were summarised, today's presentations introduced from our key fact-finding commissions (Connected Places Catapult and MetroDynamics). Michael highlighted the role of universities at the centre of the innovation ecosystem but acknowledged more could always be done. Noted that all 3 of our universities are active members of the working group and working to identify where more can be done to promote economic activity.</p>	

Catherine Hadfield: Connected Places Catapult	
<p>Introduced the CPC programme and summarised the objective to develop a unified innovation plan and succinctly define ambitions and objectives by the commission's conclusion in April. CPC assessment approach is based on Hubs of innovation for place leaders, supported by defined ecosystem enablers. These foundational pieces are required for an innovation economy (see slides). Outputs from Workshop 1 were presented, which included a self-reflection around the ecosystem themes. From this first workshop, some emerging opportunities have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globally focused, successful universities. Opportunity for increased knowledge sharing, aligning narratives. How to turn to shared objectives for Surrey across the anchors? • Opportunity for innovation within clusters • National and international connectivity and links. How can we make more of these? • Attracting investment in Surrey business • The requirement for a strong narrative. <p>Challenges also acknowledged. A challenge around land housing etc. is well known. However, what are the strategic land use policy opportunities to mitigate that challenge?</p>	<p>Discussion Points and Actions:</p> <p>Surrey branding and Surrey Story is being developed, seeking a clear, coherent narrative. Surrey as not just a lovely place to live / work – connectivity is high on requirements.</p> <p>Need to ensure reskilling/upskilling is possible for school leavers in new economy through collaboration between FE institutions and best use of available resource. Link between FE and HE needed. (LSIP). 3 year gestation period between skill requirement and ability of education to deliver the skills.</p> <p>Hospitals innovation fund is lacking in the region (good example on South Coast). Potentially as University of Surrey lacks medical school (although this is changing).</p> <p>Land availability challenge: data is out of date and doesn't match requirements. Recognised that civic bodies are short on cash, and a longer-term view required as land prices increasing. Boroughs and districts pausing local plans.</p> <p>Mentoring, incubation, and VC funding was discussed, noting that retaining the business in the region is the challenge.</p> <p>ACTION – Working group to consider mechanisms for promoting mentoring and VC/Angels within the Surrey border.</p>
Fiona Tuck (MetroDynamics): Mapping Innovation Clusters in Surrey	
<p>Introduced the mapping work of key innovation sectors and assets across Surrey, the approach to the work, and the use of Data City data for the analysis of geographical distribution of businesses. Explanation of the RTICs codes data using traffic light key to highlight where there is a specialised cluster in Surrey (green) and where an area is not as recognised in the county (red). Linked into Arup commercial sites work. Challenge, as with other data sets, around how to reverse engineer what we know about Surrey into the data. Maps demonstrated the geography of the emerging economy data, with a cluster analysis showing business-density based clusters (businesses and their proximity to one another). Noted that the map does not reflect inter-connected clusters outside of the Surrey boundary – specific maps reveal intra-connected and inter-connected clusters (within and outside of the county).</p>	<p>Discussion Points and Actions:</p> <p>Specific sectors missing – health and life sciences. Noted that these probably sit within data subsets.</p> <p>Fiona to share a full list of the categories, link with Claire to assess how to look at health service employment.</p> <p>Fixed and relational geographies. How does mapping correlate to the One Surrey Story and the "no one left behind agenda"?</p> <p>Business / industry interconnections – they are strong so we can't just focus on singular industries. E.g.</p>

<p>Next steps discussed around continuing to review the geography to assess location of sectors and any differing patterns to the standard innovation economy, and how to optimise the innovation clusters. Questions also around how can we do more in an industry 4.0 context to drive innovation fusion across Surrey – can Surrey be the place to make it work?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits of satellite technology for agritech, pharma, AI, and data analytics • Green areas as a strength – engaged with genuine innovative sectors <p>Cluster success stories were shared, e.g. Guildford Games, with intention to extend more broadly. Noted that decisions around which sectors to support were needed.</p> <p>Challenges around recruiting to AI and data analysis, as well as reliance on private vehicles.</p>
5) University and Industry Innovation Activities	
Dr Will Lovegrove: University of Surrey – Innovation Activity	
<p>Discussed the university's engagement in innovation activities, underpinned by four key areas: access to world-leading research, leadership and people, funding and programmes, and infrastructure and ecosystem. The university's world-leading research was indicated by the Research Excellence Framework 2021 results and the impact of research on the wider world including economic and environmental benefits. Links were highlighted in relation to leadership and people with government and the implementation of the strategic innovation policy, partnering with external companies and local growth through innovation projects, and company creation. Physical and digital infrastructure supports the university's innovation, with Surrey Research Park as an enterprise ecosystem which includes an incubation hub, R&D funding initiatives, and knowledge exchange with leading advisors and academics. Actively pursuing funding routes (e.g. impact acceleration accounts) with natural integration into clusters and to promote Surrey investors to the international stage. Summarised that there is growth and opportunity in the four key areas with innovation now becoming a core activity within universities.</p>	<p>Discussion Points and Actions:</p> <p>What else could have been done if there was more investment, and how to keep the funding in Surrey? The role of universities is changing, with a push from government for innovation to become a core activity. The work requires expertise, motivation, etc.</p> <p>Businesses cannot be forced to be based in a certain place, and will operate where is most convenient for them.</p> <p>No medical school in Surrey and limit to government resources being given to Surrey – this may have limited growth.</p> <p>How the money is used and potential profit – cyclical nature of selling, and income being reinvested in other areas such as sports park or vet school.</p>
Sue Starbuck: Royal Holloway University	
<p>Overview of innovation activities and assets including RH innovation which includes embryonic incubation facilities and business and university interaction, an Omnidrome being built with drone hanger for research and local development, work done with local businesses to scope the activity, to use the base for research and teaching. The quantum has world-leading facilities and low temperature lab, bringing quantum into the area and businesses outside the area utilising resources. StoryFutures is the creative/immersive technology side to enhance creative industries in Surrey, working with SMEs and creating a training and skills development programme. The university's three goals were highlighted: to use research and knowledge exchange to address challenges, supporting local growth and regeneration, and growing employability skills. Collaboration is central, with people and expertise being key to driving the goals. They also have a strong volunteering section (including a community research hub, which works pro-bono for local organisations). The work is beneficial to students, and the university is engaged with the community and supports local organisations.</p>	
Prof. Victoria Kelley: University for the Creative Arts	
<p>UCA is a small subject specialist university with a focus on the creative sector – disciplines include games and creative technology, fine arts, film, media, communications, and architecture. The university's geography expands beyond the county border, with sites in Kent and collaboration in China. Currently enter the Research</p>	

Excellence Framework for a single unit of assessment, but have ambitions to grow that moving forwards. An overview was provided of the subject areas and how they interact with one another, identifying business of creativity as being at the centre of their mission. Attention has now turned to innovation, with an established Innovation Hub which funded by an Arts Humanities Research Council Impact Acceleration Account. Examples were given regarding recent research conducted such as consultancy services, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, and commercialisation to support growth of new business through incubation services and investment networks.

Jon Elliott: Haleon

Introduction to Haleon as a consumer healthcare company and the largest UK headquartered FTSE business in Surrey. Have a portfolio driven by science and innovation and the opportunity to reform healthcare, with access to skills and finance in Surrey. Overview of the brand portfolio and contributions to the UK economy - £250,000 invested in R&D. There is a new HQ and R&D centre being built in Weybridge, which will be one of the greenest R&D facilities in the country.

Reflection on where the Growth Board could have maximum impact:

- Focus on the narrative for Surrey
- What is the benefit of R&D intensive/innovative businesses in the area?
- Think globally, act locally
- What specific levers can be pulled to attract investments?
- Delivery 1-2 key infrastructure projects that focus on delivery
 - Traffic, 5G coverage etc. – how can we improve connectivity as a council?
- Focus on the SMEs – if you target support for smaller businesses, larger businesses will be attracted to the area

Discussion Points and Actions:

ACTION: Follow-up conversation for engagement between Haleon and Surrey Heartlands.

Keith Robson: Cluster case study – Space South Central

The growth of the global space sector was highlighted, having tripled in size over the last 5 years, with Surrey CC, Hants CC and the Isle of Wight accounting for 20% of the UK space related income. Space South Central are positioned for pursuing cluster funding moving forwards and are being supported by an Advisory Board which brings together key regional partners to promote developments, considering the UK government's drive to position itself as a world-leading agent in the space sector. The work is focused on the key areas around economic growth, address major skills shortfall, coordinate support for start-ups, and inspire and engage more SMEs. There is opportunity for growth in the region, with connections between Surrey and areas outside the border.

Ends

Appendix A: Attendees

Name	Organisation	Function
Cllr Tim Oliver	Surrey County Council	Member
Claire Fuller	Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System	Member
Cllr Matt Furniss	Surrey County Council	Member
Cllr Joss Bigmore	Guildford Borough Council	Member
Emma Smith	BEIS	Member
Julie Fisher	Woking Borough Council	Member
Julie Kapsalis	Coast to Capital LEP	Member
Prof Klaus Dodds	Royal Holloway, University of London	Member
Louise Punter	Surrey Chamber of Commerce	Member
Michael Queen	EM3 LEP / University of Surrey	Member, Speaker
Mike Brennan	Surrey Skills Forum	Member
Richard Grainger	McKay Securities Pls and Liberation Group	Member
Cllr Rob Humby	Hampshire County Council	Member
Shona Johnstone	Homes England	Member
Steve Sharratt	DBE Energy	Member
Andrew Chalklin	University of Surrey	Member
Christos Tsinopoulos	Royal Holloway, University of London	Member
Michael Coughlin	Surrey County Council	Observer
Dawn Redpath	Surrey County Council	Observer, Speaker
Daniel Murray	Surrey County Council	Observer, Speaker
Nicholas Royal	Surrey County Council	Observer, Speaker
Tracey Tatam	Surrey County Council	Observer
Patricia Huertas	Surrey County Council	Observer
Bethany Reeder	Surrey County Council	Observer
David Stedman	Surrey County Council	Observer
Prof Victoria Kelley	University of the Creative Arts	Speaker
Catherine Hadfield	Connected Places Catapult	Speaker
Dr William Lovegrove	University of Surrey	Speaker
Rachel Smith	Dept for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	Speaker
Fiona Tuck	MetroDynamics	Speaker
Sue Starbuck	Royal Holloway, University of London	Speaker
Jon Elliott	Haleon	Speaker
Keith Robson	Space South Central	Speaker

Apologies

Chris Hurren: RSM UK (Vice-Chair Business Leaders' Forum)

Joanna Killian: Surrey County Council

Julie Llewellyn: Community Foundation for Surrey

Prof Max Lu: University of Surrey

Julie Sanders: Royal Holloway, University of London

Paul Harwood: Network Rail

One Surrey Growth Board, Monday 6 March – Meeting Note

Phillip Hammond: Former Chancellor and Surrey MP

Chris Grayling: Former Secretary of State for Transport and MP for Epsom & Ewell

Frances Rutter: Lord Lieutenant's Business Group