



*At the Court at Buckingham Palace*

THE 12th DAY OF MARCH 2025

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
IN COUNCIL

His Majesty has allowed revised amendments to the Charter of The University of Surrey as set out in the Schedule to this Order.

*Richard Johnson*

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*SCHEDULE*

REVISED AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

1. **Delete** Articles 1 to 19 and **substitute**:

- “1. By this Charter there shall be constituted and founded a University by the name of "The University of Surrey" ("the University") as a single body corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal.
2. The objects of the University shall be to advance education, teaching and research.
3. The University shall have all the powers of a natural person. Accordingly, the University shall have the power, in accordance with charity law, to do any lawful act in furtherance of its objects, including the power to:
  - a) award degrees and other academic awards and to withdraw such awards;
  - b) acquire, own, maintain, manage and dispose of land and other property;

- c) solicit, receive and administer fees, grants, subscriptions, donations, endowments, legacies, gifts and loans of any property whatsoever whether land or personal property;
  - d) act as trustee for and in relation to endowments, legacies and gifts;
  - e) invest any monies in the hands of the University and available for investment;
  - f) give guarantees;
  - g) borrow and raise money and give security for loans; and for those purposes the University shall have the authority to enter into any financial instrument which is ancillary or incidental to the exercise of such powers;
  - h) take such steps as may from time to time be deemed expedient for the purposes of procuring and receiving contributions to the funds of the University and to raise money in such other manner as the University may determine;
  - i) co-operate and collaborate with other institutions and individuals, award joint degrees or other awards, and affiliate or incorporate into the University any other institution and take over its property, rights, liabilities and staff;
  - j) enter into engagements and to accept obligations and liabilities in all respects without any restrictions whatsoever and in the same manner as an individual may manage his or her own affairs; and
  - k) do anything else necessary or convenient, whether incidental to these powers or not, in order to further the objects of the University.
4. The Council shall appoint a Chancellor of the University who shall be entitled to confer Degrees, Joint Degrees and other academic awards of the University.
5. The Council shall appoint a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the principal Academic and Administrative Officer of the University and Chair of the Senate and who shall in the absence of the Chancellor confer Degrees and other academic awards.
6. There shall be such other Officers of the University, as the Council may from time to time determine, who shall perform such functions and duties as may be decided by the Council.
7. There shall be a Council of the University which shall be the governing body of the University with responsibility for the conduct and activities of the University and authority to exercise all of the University's powers, both in the United Kingdom and internationally. Subject to Article 8 of this Charter, the Council shall be entitled to delegate all or any of its functions, powers and duties to any person or body.

- 8 The Council shall not delegate responsibility for:
  - a) appointing the Vice-Chancellor;
  - b) the variation, amendment or revocation of the Charter or the Ordinances;
  - c) the approval of an annual budget;
  - d) the approval of the University's annual audited accounts;
  - e) appointing the auditors of the University (who shall be members of a recognised supervisory body and eligible for appointment under the rules of that body).
9. Council shall comprise up to 25 members, as prescribed in the Ordinances, a majority of which shall be External Members.
10. Council shall elect amongst its members such officers including Chair as prescribed by Ordinance.
11. The terms of office of the members of Council shall be prescribed by Ordinance.
12. The quorum of Council shall be not less than half of current members, a majority of which shall be External Members.
13. A meeting of the Council may be held either in person or by suitable electronic or virtual means in which all participants may simultaneously communicate with all other participants.
14. A resolution approved in writing by a majority of the members of Council (or, subject to Article 8, by the Chair of Council under such authority as may be prescribed in the Ordinances) shall be as valid as a resolution passed at a meeting.
15. There shall be a Senate of the University, to which Council shall delegate responsibility for the oversight and good governance of the academic mission as prescribed by Ordinances.
16. There shall be Students' Union of the University in the United Kingdom, and there may be associations of students established at international campuses of the University.
17. The Council of the University may make Ordinances and may amend or repeal any Ordinances so made.
18. The Council shall bring before the Senate any matters which in its opinion should be dealt with by that body.
19. The University is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and to the fair treatment of all persons and shall uphold everyone's right not to be discriminated against on unlawful grounds.

20. The University shall uphold the right for Staff and Students to express lawful views and opinions freely, in speech or in writing, without interference.
21. The University shall protect the intellectual independence of Staff whose principal function is the provision of teaching and/or the undertaking of research or the leadership of teaching and/or research, to question and test received views and wisdom, and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves in danger of losing their jobs or privileges or reducing the likelihood of them securing promotion or different roles at the University.
22. The property and funds of the University shall be used only for promoting the University's objects. If the University is dissolved, the assets (if any) remaining after providing for all its liabilities must be applied in one or more of the following ways:
  - a) by transfer to one or more other bodies established for exclusively charitable purposes within, the same as or similar to the University's objects;
  - b) directly for the University's objects or for charitable purposes which are within or similar to those objects;
  - c) in such other manner consistent with charitable status as the Privy Council approves in writing in advance.
23. The Council may at any time amend, add to or repeal provisions of this Charter and such amendment, variation, addition or repeal shall when allowed by Us Our Heirs or Successors in Council have effect so that this Charter shall continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made as so altered, amended, added to or repealed.
24. In this Charter  
"External Members" means members of the Council who are neither Staff nor Students.  
"Staff" means all persons employed by the University.  
"Student" means any current student of the University or Sabbatical Officer of the Students' Union.  
"Students' Union" means the Students' Union of the University in the United Kingdom."
2. **Renumber** Article 20 as 25.