



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

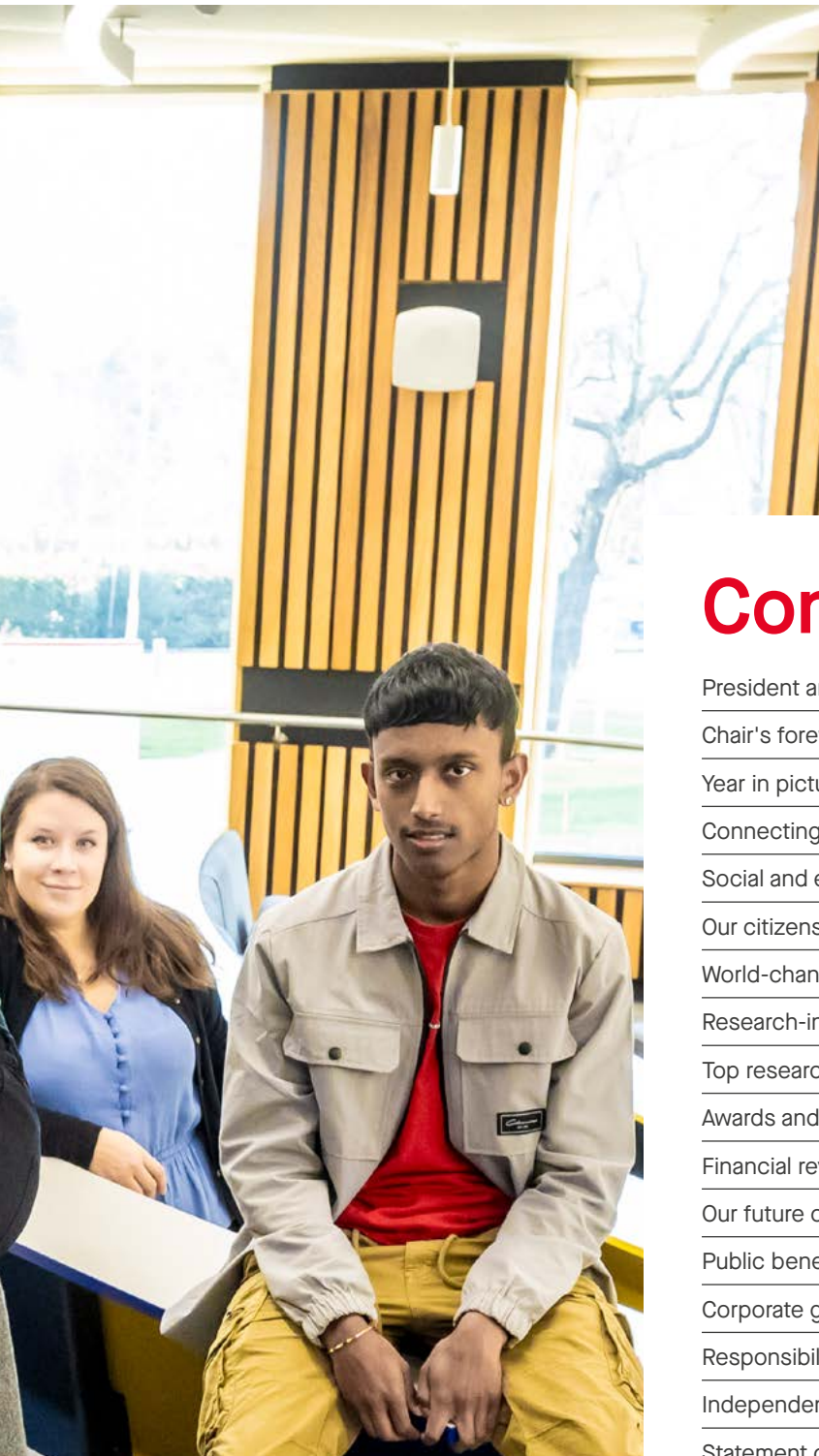


Annual Report and Financial Statements

2023-2024

We are Citizens of Change





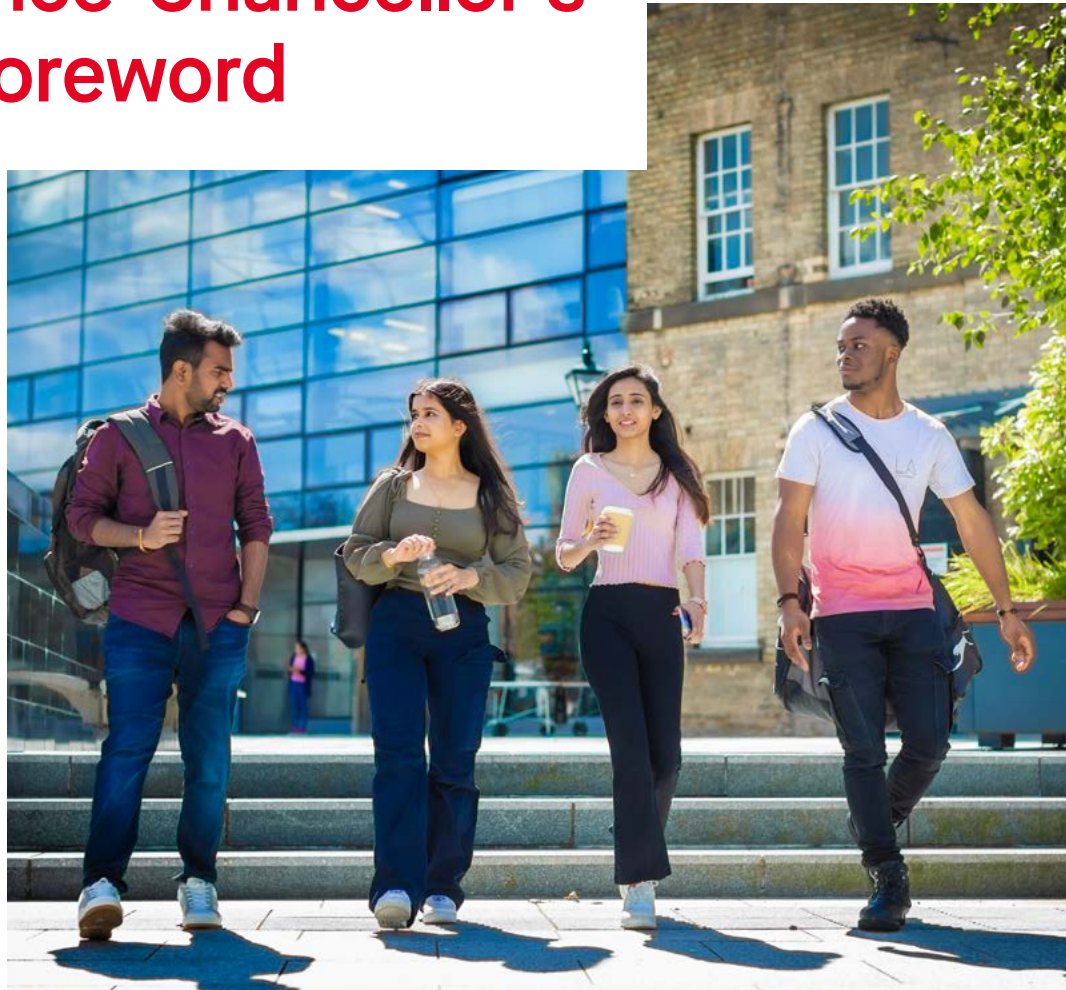
Contents

President and Vice-Chancellor's foreword	4
Chair's foreword	8
Year in pictures	10
Connecting across the globe	12
Social and environmental sustainability	14
Our citizens	16
World-changing research	20
Research-inspired education	24
Top research stories	26
Awards and recognition	28
Financial review	32
Our future outlook and going concern	34
Public benefit statement	36
Corporate governance	38
Responsibilities of the Council	42
Independent auditor's report	45
Statement of principal accounting policies	49
Financial statements	58
Notes to the accounts	62



“Achieving TEF Gold is a stellar achievement which fills us all with pride.”

President and Vice-Chancellor's foreword





At the start of the year, I spoke in my all-staff address of one word that captures our spirit – ambition. I said ambition is not just for us as a University, but for us as a community. Ambition for ourselves and for others, and ambition with purpose and conviction. For us, ambition does not simply mean achieving great things – it means living up to our founding legacy of hope. Of working towards a better future. Of becoming true Citizens of Change.

I am heartened that over the past year, we have taken many great strides to realise our ambitions. Achieving TEF Gold is a stellar achievement which fills us all with pride. It is much more than a badge of honour – it means the experience students have, and the outcomes it leads to, are typically outstanding. In short, we deliver excellent education and outstanding student outcomes. It is pleasing that others recognise this too, as we go to print with this report I am delighted to share the wonderful news that we have been named University of the Year in the Daily Mail University Guide, shortlisted for the University of the Year award in the Sunday Times Good University Guide 2025 and shortlisted for the coveted Times Higher University of the Year Award! These achievements are reflective of our desire to ensure Leicester continues to prove itself as a place to be proud of.

Following our success in the last financial year when the University exceeded £100 million in research funding awards for the first time – our research continues to

have real-world impact and supports the economic regeneration of our region.

More than £14 million was awarded to the University to expand its research into the prevention and management of chronic disease through physical activity. The University's transformative work will directly benefit people living in Leicestershire and was the highest amount awarded to any institute from Research England's Expanding Excellence in England Fund. We also continue to make a leading contribution to tackling health inequities in the region through our £26 million Biomedical Research Centre. Our heritage research is world leading and informs equitable practice in the cultural sector, including through partnership working with the National Trust. While our space researchers have developed the Soft X-ray Imager (SXI) Instrument for the upcoming SMILE (the Solar wind Magnetosphere Ionosphere Link Explorer) European Space Agency and Chinese Academy of Sciences space mission, which is due for launch in 2025.

The year also saw the University advancing its international collaborations. We have forged partnerships in China and USA, as well as India where we have partnered with Apollo Hospitals Group, the largest private hospital network in India. Together, we will explore how education and research programmes can transform global healthcare, in collaboration with our local NHS partners, and tackle skills shortages in both the UK and India. A series of collaborations with Apollo Hospitals Group are proposed in healthcare management, healthcare, and data science, which were set out in a Memorandum of Understanding that was signed last year.

Our ambition has been demonstrated in many other ways during a year of achievements. I am particularly proud of progress at our state-of-the-art £100 million space industry science park. Space Park Leicester, which



SPACE PARK LEICESTER SX1 MODULE CLEAN ROOM



PROFESSOR SIR IAN DIAMOND, CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

houses the University and firms like Rolls Royce, CGI, and the UK Space Agency, allows partners to work together, share expertise and co-design solutions. Crucially it provides the environment through which R&D innovation can be accelerated. I believe strongly in the role of universities to deliver societal change and it was pleasing to hear Labour's then Shadow Minister for Science, Research and Innovation Chi Onwurah MP cite the University's work to enhance diversity and inclusion in science in Parliament as a national policy exemplar.

Another outstanding milestone of the past year has been our commitment to the region and how we have brought the benefits of our research and teaching to bear in our locality. This has manifested in several ways including the Attenborough Arts Centre's extensive programme, events at the Botanic Garden and esteemed speakers at our Chancellor's Distinguished Lectures, including Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, Professor Sir Ian Diamond and Dr Venki Ramakrishnan.

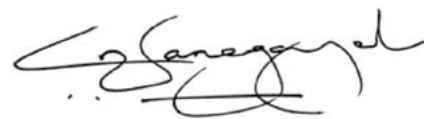
Our commitment to bring the benefits of a University to the region was exemplified by the launch of our first IntoUniversity centre in Beaumont Leys, which will boost educational attainment in a disadvantaged part of the city and widen participation in higher education. Leicester's IntoUniversity centre is a collaborative partnership between IntoUniversity, the University of Leicester and De Montfort University. The initiative has been funded thanks to generous donations, including from the Randal Charitable Foundation, founded by Dr Nik and Moni Kotecha, and the Ian and Clare Mattioli Charitable Trust.

Indeed, it has been a significant year for philanthropy at the University, raising over £7.8 million – our most successful amount in nearly a decade. It also includes a record amount raised in a single year from legacy gifts – the extraordinary gesture of those choosing to leave money to the institution in their wills. This is all extremely encouraging, and stands us in good stead as we prepare for the public launch of Leicester's first major fundraising campaign next year. The ambitious campaign will look to transform a range of priority projects across the University through the generosity of our supporters and the global impact of philanthropy. I look forward to sharing more details on this exciting project in the coming months and wish to say a huge thank you to all those who have contributed to this incredible support for Leicester this year.

In an exciting development for the institution, the University of Leicester School of Business (ULSB) has been established as a separate College. This makes ULSB our fourth College alongside the College of Life Sciences, College of Science and Engineering, and College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities. Becoming a College in its own right will enable ULSB to realise its vision to be a leading business school within the UK, and the new structure will provide greater opportunity to excel in our key strategic priorities.

There are many more examples that speak to our ambition and signify our success. I am grateful for the support and direction provided by Gary Dixon who steps down as Chair of Council at the end of July 2025. Gary has done an outstanding job in leading Council. He has made a significant contribution to the University, presided over a period of growth and success, and helped the University to navigate a challenging external environment, including during the Covid-19 pandemic. I would like to formally place on record my thanks for his contribution and support since my arrival at the University in 2019.

I also pay tribute to all of the University community – our dedicated staff, our student representatives, alumni and supporters – for the progress we have made over the year. This report captures many of the milestones and they are all a testament to how we have pulled together to make this a year when we began to realise our ambition. I thank you all for your continued support and dedication.



**PROFESSOR NISHAN CANAGARAJAH,
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR**



“Leicester is open to engagement, committed to excellence and rooted in its locality, while having a global outlook.”

Chair's foreword



This is my final foreword as Chair of Council – it has been an honour to serve this eminent institution as it entered a new century and faces the future with confidence.

In this statement, I am focussing on three themes, that I think reflect this University's continuing success and represent its positive future trajectory.

The first is academic excellence. Being rated Gold overall in the 2023 Teaching Excellence Framework was a major milestone – this is the highest possible award and we are one of few universities to have achieved a Gold rating in the TEF as well as a Top 30 position in the Times Higher Education Research Excellence Framework (REF) rankings. This is a tremendous success and I take enormous pleasure from this achievement, which is down to dedicated staff who go above and beyond in their service. It is also fantastic to see the University recognised for its excellence in prestigious national awards. Leicester has been shortlisted for the Times Higher Education University of the Year 2024 award, was one of five universities shortlisted for the Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2025 award, and crowned Daily Mail University of the Year 2025. To be recognised not once, but three times as one of the best universities of the year is an outstanding achievement. I wish to congratulate everyone involved with these successes – you are indeed the pride of Leicester.

Another example of the University making great progress in the past year is our international strategy. The Vice-Chancellor cited the success of a major strategic partnership with one of India's largest health companies, Apollo Hospitals Group. Through it, we will initially develop a computer science programme in partnership with The Apollo University (TAU), part of the Apollo Hospitals Group. I was also delighted that Leicester and Chongqing Medical University strengthened their links by launching the first Joint Education Institute (JEI) in central and western China to offer both British and Chinese degrees with a strong clinical focus.

The third theme of activity at the University that is representative of its ongoing success is its engagement with community, business, civic and political stakeholders.

The University held an inaugural public event at the Botanic Garden, which attracted more than 1,800 members of the local community, staff and students. Visitors enjoyed live music and entertainment, fresh food and drink, workshops, and children's activities. In parallel to this event, I am delighted that the Garden was recognised by being chosen as the location for the planting of HRH King Charles III's Coronation Tree. The Garden is a community asset and we are working with Oadby and Wigston Borough Council and Harborough MP Neil O'Brien, along with others, to explore sources of funding to further enhance the offer at the Garden.

It was pleasing to see how popular our annual Literary Leicester programme continues to be. Bringing big names to Leicester, including our Chancellor Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock and comedian Russell Kane, the festival welcomed 2,500 visitors to the University. Our Heritage Hub, which shares the University's world-leading heritage education and research with the community, also celebrated its one-year anniversary with a large-scale community outreach event held on campus.

These three themes, and more, express how Leicester as a University is open to engagement, committed to excellence and rooted in its locality, while having a global outlook. These are hallmarks which will stand it in good stead in its second century.

I cannot end without paying tribute to Dr Ken Edwards, the University's fourth Vice-Chancellor who sadly passed away at the age of 90 years old. Dr Edwards served as Vice-Chancellor from 1987 to 1999 and was instrumental in strengthening the leadership of the University. During his 12-year tenure the University grew from 5,000 students to almost 15,000 students and he established the National Space Centre and Attenborough Arts Centre.

My thanks go to everyone who has supported me during my 15 years on the University Council. It has been a privilege to serve this great institution.



**GARY DIXON,
CHAIR OF COUNCIL**

Year in pictures



A MURAL COMMISSIONED BY LEICESTER LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS TO COMMEMORATE THE WINDRUSH GENERATION WAS UNVEILED



MORE THAN £14 MILLION HAS BEEN AWARDED TO THE LEICESTER LIFESTYLE AND HEALTH RESEARCH GROUP TO EXPAND ITS RESEARCH INTO THE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC DISEASE THROUGH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



CHANCELLOR DAME MAGGIE ADERIN-POCOCK JOINED US DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH TO TALK ABOUT HER EXPERIENCES AS A BLACK WOMAN IN THE UK



A SPECIAL SAPLING WAS PLANTED AS A LASTING LEGACY OF KING CHARLES III'S CORONATION AT THE BOTANIC GARDEN, SELECTED BY HIS MAJESTY'S LORD-LIEUTENANT OF LEICESTERSHIRE, MIKE KAPUR ESQ OBE



THE SHADOW MINISTER FOR SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION, CHI ONWURAH, SPENT A DAY AT SPACE PARK LEICESTER SPEAKING TO EXPERTS ABOUT WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSIVITY IN STEM SUBJECTS



GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF FINALIST DR OPENED THE SCIENCE KITCHEN ON CAMPUS AS PART OF HIS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Year in numbers

£14 million

for research into the prevention of chronic disease



6%

reduction in carbon emissions over the last year





LEICESTER'S NEW INTOUNIVERSITY CENTRE OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DEPRIVED AREAS REALISE THEIR AMBITIONS



A NEW PROGRAMME PARTNERSHIP DELIVERED BY LEICESTER AND THE APOLLO UNIVERSITY LAUNCHED, MARKING THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS TRANSFORMING GLOBAL HEALTHCARE



JOSH SMALLEY
MPUS TO SUPPORT
CH ACTIVITIES



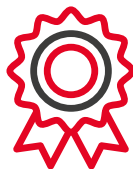
THE CENTRE FOR HATE STUDIES REVISITED ITS AWARD-WINNING SHORT FILM THE HARMS OF HATE, A DECADE ON



A NEW £18 MILLION CENTRE FOR DOCTORAL TRAINING (CDT) IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF METALS INDUSTRY (DIGITALMETAL) WAS LAUNCHED

1st

for Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions in Times Higher Education Impact Ranking



£7.8 million

raised in philanthropic donation pledges



£5.5 million

for 50 more funded doctoral opportunities



13th

in the Student Voice category of the National Student Survey





Connecting across the globe

We have students and staff from more than 100 countries in the world, including a presence in eight regions spanning South Asia and India, Canada, China, East and South East Asia, Middle East and North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa and Pakistan.

“We continue to develop partnerships with leading institutions through our joint educational programmes and institutes.”

Apollo partnership

The University has strengthened its ties with India through launching a computer science programme in partnership with The Apollo University (TAU), part of the Apollo Hospitals Group. As well as building upon our new internationalisation strategy, this is a key step in our wider partnership with Apollo Hospitals Group to explore how education and research programmes can transform global healthcare, in collaboration with our local NHS partners, and tackle skills shortages in both the UK and India.

The programme will see students begin their studies with two years at TAU in Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh, India, with the opportunity to progress to their final year and graduation at the University of Leicester. After successful completion of their studies at Chittoor, students can choose from computer science degrees in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science or Software Engineering at Leicester, with a further option to pursue a one-year master's degree. The announcement is the first in a series of proposed partnerships in healthcare management, healthcare, and data science with Apollo Hospitals Group, which was set out in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was signed last year.

Sanctuary Awards

A report by the UNHCR states that at the start of 2023, 110 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide. Displacement creates significant barriers to accessing higher education. To address this, the University's Sanctuary Seekers Unit is set to roll out one hundred fee-waiver awards for displaced people across the world. The 'Distance Learning Sanctuary Award' is being offered as part of a pioneering distance learning programme which allows students to obtain a University of Leicester degree from anywhere in the world.

Dalian Winter School

We continue to develop partnerships with leading institutions through our joint educational programmes and institutes. In January 2024, the University welcomed its first group of Dalian Leicester Institute (DLI) winter school students. Developed following the success of the DLI summer school, 48 third and fourth year DLI students attended English for Employability with a view to preparing for their careers after graduation. In addition to English classes delivered by the Centre for International Training and Education, input was provided by the Careers and Employability team and the students' Leicester host departments of Mathematics, Chemistry and Engineering.

Study abroad success

Having successfully bid for Turing funding for the third year in a row, the Study Abroad Unit has supported over 500 students to participate in international experiences in 2023/24. With its largest ever single grant for overseas mobility, totalling over £1 million, the team has been able to offer an extensive range of short and long-term experiences, from four weeks volunteering in Fiji, to five months researching in Italy, to a year studying in South Korea. Opportunities such as these enable students to broaden their academic and social horizons, whilst enhancing their future career prospects. Research has demonstrated that students who spend time abroad during their degree programme are more likely to get a first or a 2:1, and after graduation have a higher employment rate and higher earnings. Furthermore, they help the University to develop and strengthen international connections with overseas institutions and organisations.



DALIAN LEICESTER INSTITUTE (DLI) WINTER SCHOOL STUDENTS



FOOD RESCUE VOLUNTEERS

Social and environmental sustainability

As Citizens of Change, we are committed to ensuring social and environmental sustainability is woven through every part of our academic and operational activities.

We have a partnership approach that enables us to use the expertise and enthusiasm of our staff and students to shape not only our own strategies and policies, but those of our local, national and international partners.

Our new Environmental Sustainability Masterplan outlines five key themes – biodiversity, energy, health and wellbeing, responsible consumption, and travel – and sets out a framework, with actions in these areas for the next five years. In addition, we are developing an Environmental Management System to provide a framework for managing our environmental responsibilities effectively and have already achieved bronze EcoCampus certification this year.

Reducing our carbon emissions

Boosted by a further £119.8K in external grants along with our annual commitment of £760K for energy saving and decarbonisation projects, we continue to work in support of our ambitious commitment to reach net zero by 2040 (remove more greenhouse gases from the environment than we emit). For direct emissions, our approach centres on reducing the energy required to heat, cool, ventilate

and operate our buildings while also reducing the carbon content of the energy sources.

The table below shows the energy consumption and carbon emissions associated with running our buildings and vehicles for the financial year 2023/24*.

	2023/24	2022/23
Cost of energy used (£)	15,077,237	9,170,795
Energy consumption (kWh)	80,457,412	83,335,065
Greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes CO₂e)	14,769	15,754
Electricity	6,781	6,832
Gas	4,192	4,656
Steam and hot water	3,581	4,040
Biomass	6	9
Other fuels (non-transport)	20	12
Fleet vehicles	57	54
Grey fleet and hire vehicles	132	151
Total greenhouse gas emissions per £'000 income (kg CO₂e)	39	43

* The table excludes Freeman's Common accommodation and College Court Conference Centre as they are controlled separately. Some figures for 2022/23 have been amended to more accurately reflect the energy consumption associated with operating a combined heat and power plant.

We have reduced our direct carbon emissions by 6% compared to last year and have continued to reduce our overall energy consumption. Compared to our 2018/19 baseline, carbon emissions and energy consumption have fallen by 21% and 12% respectively.

We remain on the right trajectory and are proud to have more than halved our direct carbon emissions since 2005, despite major expansion of the University.

Aligned to the Estates Masterplan, projects underway over the last year to improve the energy efficiency of our campus and decarbonise the energy we use, include:

- Upgrading the lighting in the Attenborough Arts Centre and Hodgkin Building.
- Replacing gas-fired boilers with low carbon air source heat pumps in Attenborough Arts Centre and Roger Bettles Sports Hall.
- Installing additional 220 photovoltaic panels on the roof of Roger Bettles Sports Centre.
- Working with staff and students to minimise unnecessary energy use, including providing accredited Carbon Literacy training.

Food Rescue Volunteers

From winning three awards at the annual Students' Union Awards presentation in May 2024 to redistributing over 2,600 items of food, the Food Rescue Volunteers Society has had a hugely successful first year.

The student society are on a mission to combat food waste and address food insecurity on campus by collecting surplus food from campus catering outlets and redistributing it to students in need. With over 40 regular volunteers dedicating time to completing collections, 'rescued' food is available from the University's Community Kitchen – a space that helps boost food accessibility by providing kitchen facilities on campus. Data recorded by volunteers is then reviewed by our catering partner UoL Food and Drink Limited (formerly the Leicester Services Partnership Limited) to adjust food selections in response to wastage trends.

Top ranking

Leicester has been ranked first in the UK for Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions in the 2024 Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings. The Goal promotes peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

The Impact Rankings grade more than 2,100 HE institutions from around the world by their contributions to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Leicester's submission highlighted the strides the institution is making to work with central government policy makers and its role in the formation of the Universities Partnership, which sees the county's three universities and local authorities work together to drive economic growth and tackle social challenges across the region.

Delivering real world impact

Following a pilot initiative last year, the ground-breaking Sustainability Enterprise Partnership Project (SEPP) module enables local businesses to benefit from comprehensive sustainability audits. Student 'Sustainability Advisors' from various disciplines across the University collaborate with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to tackle pressing sustainability challenges head-on.

The credit-bearing module is earning excellent reviews from students and businesses alike for its hands-on, real-world impact. With plans to expand access to students from all possible subject areas in the coming years, SEPP is turning sustainability passion into actionable solutions and preparing students for future careers in sustainability.

County-wide net zero project

Along with De Montfort University we have been successful in winning more than £500,000 to help scale up action by communities, citizens and organisations to become more sustainable.

The work is part of a bigger £2.5m project led by Leicestershire County Council called Leicestershire CAN (Collaboration to Accelerate Net Zero). It will explore how local organisations can collaborate and accelerate climate action, develop a decarbonisation pathway plan for the county, identify the best ways for communities to get to net zero and launch a new online platform to share information and tools.



Our citizens

We value, nurture and celebrate our people and relationships, ensuring they are inclusive, impactful, sustainable, and influencing positive change in our world.

Chancellor and Academics honoured for their outstanding achievements



Our Chancellor, **Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE**, has been honoured for her immense contributions to science, education and diversity with a Damehood for services to Science Education and to Diversity.

Maggie, best known for her work on *The Sky at Night*, has worked for; the UK Ministry of Defence helping to develop aircraft missile warning systems and hand-held instruments to detect landmines; University College London developing a high-resolution spectrograph for the Gemini Observatory, in Chile; with the team behind

the *Aeolus* satellite, which measures wind speeds in the Earth's atmosphere; and instrumentation for the James Webb Space Telescope.

Professor Emma Bunce was recognised in the King's New Year Honours with an OBE for services to Astronomy and Science Education. Currently Director of the Institute for Space at Leicester and formerly Head of the School of Physics and Astronomy, Emma is playing a key role in ESA's JUICE mission to Jupiter, and has been involved in multiple international space projects. Emma, whose research focus is planetary magnetospheric physics, has made a phenomenal contribution to advancing space research as well as raising aspirations, equity and inclusion.



PROFESSOR EMMA BUNCE



Dr Claire Robinson, Senior Lecturer in Radiography received an MBE for services to forensic investigation. Claire is a Consultant Radiographer in Forensic Imaging at University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust, and senior

lecturer at the University, researching forensic imaging methods and teaching on the new BSc in Radiography programme.



Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Draper was recognised in the King’s Birthday Honours this year with an MBE for services to healthcare.

Elizabeth who is a Professor of Perinatal and Paediatric Epidemiology has devoted her life to research into the health and wellbeing of babies and children.

President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Nishan Canagarajah said: “Recognition with a Royal honour is the pinnacle of national achievement. It recognises, quite literally, the exceptional achievements of these inspirational leaders. Not only does this acknowledge the high esteem in which they are held by their colleagues and peers, but also reflects the positive impact that our Citizens of Change have upon the world.

Pro-Chancellor for Community Engagement appointed

The former Head of the BBC Asian Network, Dr Vijay Sharma, has been appointed Pro-Chancellor for Community Engagement at the University of Leicester.

In her new role Vijay will work to foster greater connections between the University, the City of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and she will act as an ambassador and advocate for the University.

Vijay has been a member of the University community for over 10 years and has had voluntary roles on the Philanthropy Board, Audit Committee and as a lay member and Vice-Chair of the University Council. She was also the inaugural Chair of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Board and has helped support numerous fundraising efforts, particularly in the area of health. She was given an honorary degree for her contribution and service in 2014.

Impacting policy

We have welcomed a number of leading figures to campus over the past 12 months to ensure our citizens are leading the conversations and applying their expertise to address the challenges facing the world.

GUESTS INCLUDED:

- Professor Dame Jocelyn Bell
- Professor Sir Ian Diamond
- Dr Venki Ramakrishnan
- NASA’s Head of Science, Dr Nicole Fox
- Deputy High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, Manorie Mallikaratchy
- Leading Barrister, Tom de la Mare KC
- The editorial team from Wonkhe

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT:

- Chi Onwurah (Labour)
- Neil O’Brien (Conservative)
- Liz Kendall (Labour)
- Pat McFadden (Labour)

Partnership links academia and industry

Senior leaders at the University and the National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) have established a strategic collaboration, bringing pioneering work in nuclear power to the University’s education and research mission.

They met at Space Park Leicester to sign an agreement to continue to collaborate on areas of mutual interest, including cutting-edge nuclear power systems for the space industry.

NNL is the UK’s national laboratory for nuclear fission and is working with academics and industry partners to develop spacecraft systems for the European Space Agency that provide reliable, long-lived power for harsh environments.



DR VIJAY SHARMA



PROFESSOR KAMLESH KHUNTI CBE

Top ethnic minority health leader

Professor Kamlesh Khunti CBE, has been named as one of England's most prominent individuals from an ethnic minority background making a profound difference in the NHS.

Kamlesh, who is a Professor of Primary Care Diabetes and Vascular Medicine and Co-Director of the Leicester Diabetes Centre (LDC), was listed in the Health Service Journal's (HSJ) top 50 most influential Black, Asian and minority ethnic people in health list after recently being ranked as the world's top researcher in type 2 diabetes.

The list highlights some of the country's leading professionals from minority groups who are set to exercise the most influence in health policy over the next 12 months.

Cancer specialist recognised for lifetime devotion to research

Professor Dean Fennell who has devoted his life to researching an aggressive fatal lung disease has been recognised for his work by the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Dean, who is Chair of Thoracic Medical Oncology, was a junior doctor in London in the early 2000s when he

and a colleague hit upon a novel way to fight malignant mesothelioma.

Their study proposed a method of starving mesothelioma cancer tumours, by cutting off their food supply. The research led to a breakthrough clinical trial being set up this year, which has seen patients in Leicester given a new combination chemotherapy treatment, inspired by the study. Dean's work caught the attention of the Academy of Medical Sciences, who awarded him a Fellowship.

Leicester Sustainability Day

Colleagues from across the University came together for the first Leicester Sustainability Day in February. The day, which was aimed at raising awareness of sustainability and facilitating engagement, attracted staff from across the University who were eager to engage with initiatives focused on reducing the University's negative impact on the environment.

Highlights of the day included sessions on:

- Sustainability research.
- Exploring sustainability in professional services roles.
- Fuels, plastics and vodka martinis: how chemists turn captured carbon into useful products.



FROM LEFT: DAME MAGGIE ADERIN-POCOCK, RUSSELL KANE AND ADAM KAY (PHOTO: CHARLIE CLIFT)

Stellar line-up at Literary Leicester

Literary Leicester, the University's annual free literature festival, returned this year with an exciting line-up for the thousands of guests attending the celebrated event on campus.

Established in 2008, Literary Leicester attracts up to 5,000 attendees each year to hear Booker-Prize winners, celebrated cultural commentators, novelists, poets, historians, biographers and much more.

This year's festival included multi-million bestselling *This Is Going To Hurt* author and BAFTA-winner Adam Kay, comedian and writer Russell Kane, and our very own Chancellor, Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock.

Scientists represent University in Parliament

Five of our scientists had the opportunity to present their research to politicians and policymakers, showcasing the cutting-edge work that will impact our lives in coming years. They attended Parliament to present their research to a range of politicians and a panel of expert judges, as part of STEM for BRITAIN.

- Dr Cristina Ruiz Villena from Space Park Leicester and the National Centre for Earth Observation was awarded Gold in the 2024 STEM for BRITAIN poster competition for Physics.
- PhD student Abi Waring, presented her research on using machine learning techniques to build a new, merged land surface temperature dataset.
- Dr Elpida Vounzoulaki from Leicester Diabetes Centre presented her work on health inequalities for women following a diagnosis of gestational diabetes in pregnancy.
- Dr Patricia Rodriguez-Macia (pictured with Jon Ashworth MP), from the School of Chemistry, joined her PhD student Manon Lachmann to showcase how chemistry is making an impact on sustainable energy.



DR PATRICIA RODRIGUEZ-MACIA (PICTURED WITH JON ASHWORTH MP)



World-changing research



As Citizens of Change, our researchers are dedicated to researching some of today's most critical issues, from viruses and disease to air quality, preserving our natural world, and ensuring social justice for all. Just as we are diverse in our makeup, we are equally diverse in our research.

Future 50 researchers

The next generation of world-changing researchers were given a warm welcome by the University in December 2023.

Building on the success of the £9m investment in 100 new researchers in 2021, the University committed a further £5.5m for 50 more funded doctoral opportunities.

The researchers are working across all three of the University's Colleges, and five interdisciplinary research institutes: Digital Culture; Environmental Futures; Precision Health; Space; and Structural and Chemical Biology.

COVID-19 study recognised

A Leicester team behind a major UK study into the long-term health impacts of COVID-19 on hospitalised patients has been recognised for its outstanding impact in medical research by the Medical Research Council (MRC).

Led by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Leicester Biomedical Research Centre (a partnership between the University of Leicester and the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust), the PHOSP-COVID study has drawn on expertise from a consortium of leading researchers and clinicians from across the UK to assess the impact of COVID-19 on patients' physical and mental health, and their recovery.

The team's tireless work to understand the long-term health implications of COVID-19 has seen it shortlisted as a finalist for the Outstanding Team Impact Award at the MRC's Impact Prize which recognises individuals or teams who have made outstanding contributions in medical research.

Heritage Hub

The University's Heritage Hub, which officially launched in June 2023, is an initiative to encourage and inspire people and organisations to come together to explore, investigate and celebrate the rich heritage of our city and region, and to inspire creative collaborations with and for local communities.

Over the last year there has been a series of exciting developments and projects including working closely with Leicester City Council on a series of exhibitions, volunteering programmes, community engagement and activities for young people and developing funding bids of over £3 million.

R&D investment

Leicester is part of a ground-breaking coalition of Midlands universities that has launched a £3m international campaign to attract inward investment into R&D, innovation and science – leveraging our global connections to drive economic growth across the region.

This ambitious initiative will put Leicester and partner universities in an ideal position to drive investment into the Midlands. It is led by Midlands Innovation, a partnership of the eight top research-intensive universities in the Midlands.

Outstanding KTPs

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) continue to be excellent vehicles for innovative collaboration between industry and academia, and some of the University's recent projects serve as shining examples.

A recently completed KTP between academics in Psychology and Vision Sciences and a specialist neurological care and rehabilitation centre, PJ Care, was hailed as Outstanding by Innovate UK. In Computing and Mathematical Sciences, two more of our partnerships with Fishbone Solutions and Synoptix Ltd have also received an Outstanding rating.

We recently commenced an innovative AI project with The Audience Agency, and have more KTPs in the pipeline including a collaboration with Structural Adhesives – a company seeking to develop a new product line of debondable adhesives.



PROFESSOR ANDRÉ NG, PROFESSOR OF CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY AND CONSULTANT CARDIOLOGIST AND HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES

Funding boost for cardiovascular research

The Department of Cardiovascular Sciences has won a £3 million highly competitive award from the British Heart Foundation (BHF) as a BHF Centre for Research Excellence; one of only eight in the United Kingdom. This prestigious award will support their heart disease research over the next five years, and has been matched by additional funding from both the University and the University Hospitals of Leicester, taking the total value to £7 million.

The funding will support the University to expand its ground-breaking studies into the causes of common and rare cardiovascular diseases, as well as refining appropriate treatments and interventions. Professor André Ng, who led the bid, was officially appointed as President of the British Cardiovascular Society (BCS) at its 2024 AGM in Manchester.

Accelerator programme for entrepreneurs

VentureVersity, led by the University of Leicester in partnership with Loughborough University, De Montfort University and Community Interest Company Leicester Start Ups, is a platform to turn new ideas into reality. It

provides resources, including seed capital, to catalyse the development process, encompassing activities such as market research, business planning, technology and market development.

The project is supported by £330K of funding from Research England's Connecting Capabilities Fund as part of a broader objective to commercialise university research to create new products, services and business from university ideas. The ground-breaking initiative which launched in November 2023, kicked off with three mixer sessions, one held at each university, to enable academics/researchers to come together with businesses and students to pitch their IP/ideas. More than 200 people came along to the events, and a total of 38 proposals were pitched by researchers and academics.

Special recognition for Museums and Galleries

The Leicester Research Centre for Museums and Galleries (RCMG) was recognised at the Museums + Heritage Awards 2024 with the Judges' Special Recognition Award for its outstanding contributions to the sector.

The award has only been issued twice before. Once to the National Museum of History of Ukraine and the National Trust. RCMG received the award for its deep commitment to supporting ethical, inclusive, equitable and importantly, research-led work across the whole sector.

The Centre, which celebrates its 25th year in 2024, has led multiple projects that have had a transformative impact, supporting organisations across the culture sector to advance trans inclusion, challenge embedded whiteness, tackle ableism, advance human rights and play an active role in engaging audiences around pressing contemporary issues.

£14 million to expand research into lifestyle changes

More than £14 million has been awarded to the University to expand its research into the prevention and management of chronic disease through physical activity.

The money will go to the University's Leicester Lifestyle and Health Research Group (LLHRG) over the next five years. Based within the Leicester Diabetes Centre at the Leicester General Hospital, the LLHRG works with NHS staff to better understand how chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, obesity and heart disease can be prevented and managed by becoming more physically

active and through lifestyle changes such as diet and sleep. The funding recognises the University's unique position within the sector as conducting world leading research in the disciplines of both Sports Science and Clinical Medicine.

Making our research more inclusive

The University has bolstered its commitment to inclusivity within research after securing £1 million from the Wellcome Trust. The money will fund two years of pilot projects looking at inclusivity and culture within the research domain at the institution, with the aim of breaking down barriers facing minority ethnic individuals who wish to progress their research careers.

Wellcome's Institutional Fund for Research Culture (IFRC) provides institutions with funding to take on ambitious projects that advance research cultures and research environments that are equitable, diverse and supportive. It awarded Leicester £1 million for the project, which is called I-REACCH: Inclusive Research Environment Achieved through Culture Change.

Powering future space missions

Two research groups from Leicester have been boosted by support from the UK Space Agency to develop new technologies to power future space missions and to monitor carbon dioxide levels by satellite.

More than £2 million funding has been awarded to the groups based at Space Park Leicester, the University's pioneering £100 million science and innovation park, from the UK Space Agency's International Bilateral Fund, which is focused on supporting the UK space sector to work directly with international partners on exciting and innovative projects.

The funding will enable both groups to establish and develop partnerships with organisations internationally to further their cutting-edge work into radioactive power systems and earth observation technology.

Record grant for student harassment research

The Centre for Hate Studies has been awarded £1 million by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) to carry out the research that will examine harassment against university students in England.

Launching in January 2025, 'A Catalyst for Change: Transforming Responses to Harassment in Higher Education' is the largest study of its kind. The 30-month project will be undertaken across a range of higher education institutions across the country and will be supported by the Office for Students and Universities UK.

The project aims to uncover the scale and nature of students' experiences of harassment through a series of university-wide surveys, interviews, focus groups and workshops.



CENTRE FOR HATE STUDIES TEAM



Research-inspired education

We strive to create a welcoming, inclusive and enriching environment where our student body of over 20,000 students can develop a sense of belonging and achieve success.

The University has celebrated many achievements in the area of education over the last year, reflecting Leicester's outstanding educational offer.

TEF 2023 – We are Gold!

In December 2023, the University received an overall Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2023, which means the experience our students have and the outcomes it leads to are typically outstanding. The overall Gold rating is the highest possible category and is important recognition that at the University of Leicester we deliver excellent education and outstanding student outcomes. TEF ratings are based on key Office for Students (OfS) performance indicators, a provider submission and an independent student submission, all assessed by a national panel of experts in learning and teaching (both academics and students). Throughout the assessment, the panel took account of our context and judged how well we deliver teaching, learning and

outcomes to our mix of students and courses. The panel recognised in particular our: evidence-led continual programme of enhancement; partnership working and co-creation with students; commitment to academic professional development; and the alignment of our institutional strategy with our educational mission and policies. We are especially proud to be providing the highest quality education and outcomes to our diverse student body and of our strong and positive partnership with students and their representatives. This result makes the University of Leicester one of a small number of HEIs nationally to achieve TEF Gold alongside a top 30 REF performance, indicating outstanding performance in both teaching and research.

Top 30 in the National Student Survey

We aspire to provide the best possible educational experience for all of our students. Progress in this area is evidenced by the National Student Survey 2024 results published in July 2024; in which the University overall is ranked in the top 30 UK HEIs, (in 27th place, up from 39th in NSS 2023), according to analysis by the Times Higher Education. The University's positivity scores improved across all seven NSS themes, with particularly noteworthy results for course organisation and management (ranked in top decile/8th out of 115

HEIs) and student voice (ranked in second decile/13th out of 115 HEIs). In disciplinary terms, most subjects either reinforced an already strong performance or improved their position. No fewer than eight subjects placed in the top five nationally for overall positivity, with Medicine and Modern Languages performing exceptionally well once again, with both ranking top nationally. These excellent NSS results are testament to the hard work of academic and professional services colleagues across the University. Our result for student voice, improving again on last year's result, demonstrates just how important our partnership with students is. Student feedback is at the heart of everything we do. From positive student-staff committees to enhancement projects in which students are empowered to improve the curriculum, we have much to be proud of in this area.

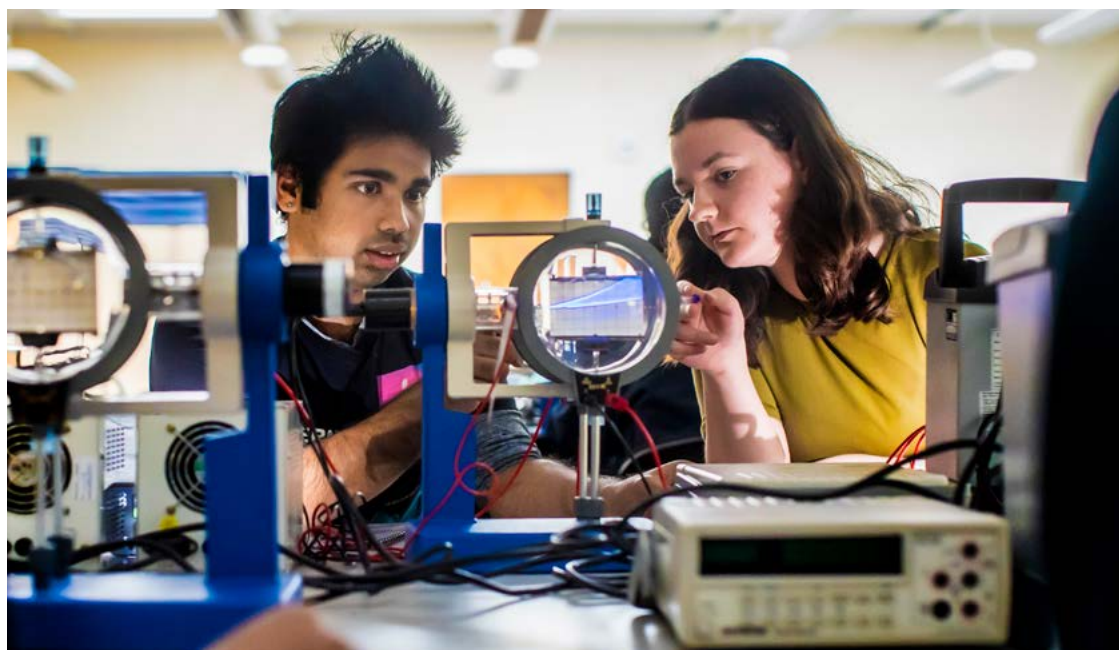
Director appointed to lead new Education Academy

Professor Sarah Gretton (National Teaching Fellow and Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence recipient) has been appointed from April 2024 as founding Director of the University of Leicester Education Academy. Sarah will spearhead the creation of the Academy, shaping its programme and fostering dynamic communities of practice. The Academy's mission is to build an inclusive, impactful, and inspiring network that empowers all those involved in teaching and student support to drive research-informed innovations in learning and teaching excellence. This will be accomplished by recognising existing excellent practices, establishing collaborations to disseminate these practices throughout the institution, and supporting new

educational initiatives and developments. To celebrate its launch, the Education Academy hosted its inaugural annual Learning and Teaching Conference in June 2024. With the theme "Exploring Future Horizons: Navigating Transformations in HE," the event drew over 200 staff members dedicated to teaching and student support.

Award-winning Curriculum Consultants

In July 2024, our 2023/24 Curriculum Consultants were awarded the Staff and Educational Development Association (SEDA)/JISC Student Partnership Impact Award 2024 for their contributions towards improving students' experiences. The award is national recognition of students who have had an impact on educational development at their university. Participating students receive a certificate and a digital badge. The annual programme of Curriculum Consultants involves students being assigned to staff-proposed inclusivity-focused projects and working collaboratively with academic Schools and professional services teams to find opportunities to make our students feel more welcome and supported during their studies. The outcomes of these projects support the Research-inspired Education strategic theme's aim of ensuring that every student has fair and equal access to learning, developmental and support opportunities that will remove differences in student progression and success rates. Curriculum Consultants exemplify our robust framework for embedding the student voice into everything we do, guided by principles of inclusion, challenge and partnership.





COMMUNITY DIG AT THE CHESTER HOUSE ESTATE, NEAR IRCHESTER, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Top research stories

The University has been in the spotlight with a number of exciting research stories over the past year. Here are a few highlights.

Red squirrel and human leprosy link found

New evidence from medieval archaeological sites shows that English red squirrels once served as an important host for *Mycobacterium leprae* (*M. leprae*) strains which is also responsible for leprosy in humans. Researchers studied 25 human and 12 squirrel samples from Winchester, Hampshire to find the genetic evidence.

First witness to the Great Fire of London uncovered

New research undertaken by Professor Kate Loveman identified Thomas Dagger, a journeyman baker in Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane, as the first witness of the Great Fire of London after using information from letters, pamphlets and legal and guild records.

Culture sector backs trans inclusion guidance

Experts from the Research Centre for Museums and Galleries are behind ground-breaking new guidance which will support museums, galleries, archives and heritage organisations to be more ambitious and confident in advancing trans inclusion.

Six Roman pots unearthed at Roman town site

A third-year archaeology student has found six complete Roman pots during a community dig at the Chester House Estate in Northamptonshire. The pots were found at the bottom of a deep pit during excavations and the placement of the items suggests that they were carefully placed there.

New study of digital 'smart inhalers' starts

A new study exploring the use of Smart Inhalers to prevent asthma flare-ups in children and young people has started in Leicester. It is the first time that a UK study will identify high-risk children and young people who could benefit from a Smart Inhaler from a systematic search of GP records.

Cat-ching criminals with DNA from pet hairs

Cat hair could be the purr-fect way to catch criminals according to experts from the Department of Genetics and Genome Biology, who have shown that a single cat hair contains DNA which could link a suspect and a crime-scene, or a victim.

AI tool for breast cancer patients following surgery to be trialled

An international team of researchers, led by the University of Leicester, has developed an artificial intelligence (AI) tool that can predict which breast cancer patients may be at risk of side effects after surgery and radiotherapy.

Discovery of a new gene enables diagnosis for rare lung disease

As part of a large international research collaboration, scientists at Leicester have helped identify a new candidate gene involved in the development of primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD), a rare inherited condition. It has been found that mutations in a tubulin (TUBB4B) affect cilia and cause PCD.

Leicester can breathe easy with new pollen monitor

Researchers have switched on a state-of-the-art air sampler which will allow them to monitor pollen circulating in the city's air in real-time. The Swisens Poleno sampler is up-and-running 20 metres high on the roof of the University of Leicester's George Davies centre.

Ig Nobel Prize-winning geologist on why rocks speak in tongues

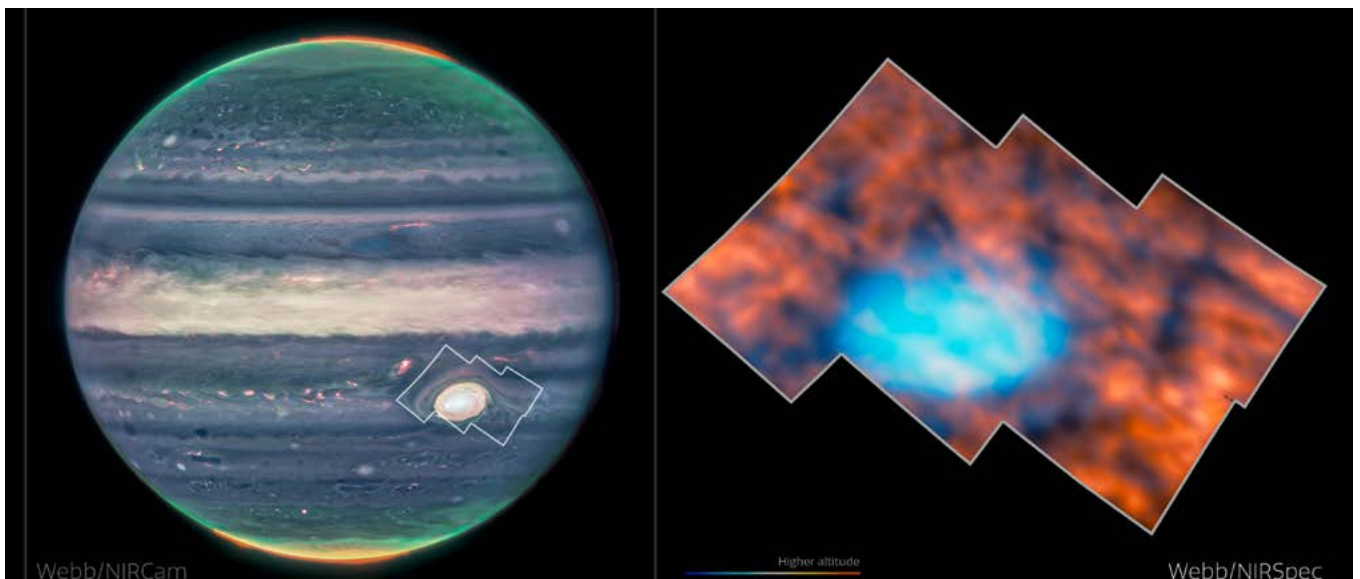
Professor Jan Zalasiewicz, from the School of Geography, Geology and the Environment, has won the satiric and infamous Ig Nobel Prize for his essay on why many scientists like to lick rocks in the Palaeontological Association newsletter.

Colourful plastics may lead to more microplastics

Researchers have demonstrated that plastics with bright colours such as red, blue and green degrade and form microplastics quicker than those with plainer colours. The study reveals that the colourant used in the formulation of a plastic product can significantly affect the rate at which it degrades, potentially introducing harmful plastics into the environment more quickly.

Surprising shapes in Jupiter's upper atmosphere

Mysterious patterns of infrared light have been detected by Leicester scientists observing the atmosphere of Jupiter. Using the NASA/ESA/CSA James Webb Space Telescope, scientists observed the region above Jupiter's iconic Great Red Spot to discover a variety of previously unseen features.



CREDIT: ESA/WEBB, NASA AND CSA, JUPITER ERS TEAM, J. SCHMIDT, H. MELIN, M. ZAMANI (ESA/WEBB)



THE CENTRE FOR HATE STUDIES WON A LEARNING ON SCREEN AWARD 2024 FOR ITS SHORT FILM, REVISITING THE HARMS OF HATE.

Awards and recognition

Here we celebrate a selection of the achievements of our inspiring students and staff from 2023-24.

Student achievements

Dr Laura Albertini (PhD, School of Arts) has been awarded the 2023 Society for Italian Studies Postgraduate Runner-up Prize for her thesis on 'Itineraries of Landscape Responsibility in Paolo Rumiz's Travel Writing on Italy'.

Deden Habibi Ali Alfathimy (PhD, School of History, Politics and International Relations) has won a prestigious international prize for his essay on Indonesian space policy. Deden is a recipient of the Future 100 scholarship scheme and won the Young Scholar Essay Contest awarded by the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum.

Muhammad Asad Tahir (PhD, School of Business) has established the Sustainable Leadership Forum to promote sustainability and help deliver UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Khalida Azhigulova (PhD, Law) was awarded the Social Action Award at the Study UK Alumni Awards 2024.

Olatunde Barber (PhD, Museum Studies) has won a prestigious Global Talent Visa with the British Academy. Olatunde's thesis concerned Negritude, Pan-Africanism and modern art in the museum.

Abdul Bashir (PhD, School of Arts) has won a competitive PhD scholarship (value £183,509) from the Midlands Mental Health and Neurosciences PhD Programme. Abdul's project 'Old Age Mental Health Awareness and Culturally Appropriate Support for Ethnic Minorities in the UK' is funded by the Wellcome Trust for 36 months and commenced on 1 October 2023.

Ludovica Castelli (PhD, History, School of Politics and International Relations) has secured funding from the Turing Foundation to undertake research at Roma Tre University in Italy.

Tim van Hasselt (PhD, Department of Population Health Sciences) has just started his third year of a highly-successful, NIHR-funded PhD fellowship. He has published two papers from his PhD and has another one under review. He has presented his work at multiple conferences throughout the last year, winning awards as follows: Paediatric Critical Care Society (best oral presentation); British Association of Perinatal Medicine (best oral presentation); and the European Society of Paediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Society (young investigator first prize).

Harkeran Jandu (PhD, School of Medicine) has won the prestigious European Breast Cancer Council Young Investigator Innovation Award for her work on patients' quality of life following breast cancer surgery and radiation treatment.

Syahira Malik (Graduate, School of Business) has been awarded the 'Outstanding Graduate Award' from the Brunei Ministry of Education.

Sophie Owen (Graduate, School of Business) has been nominated as a candidate for 'Forbes 30 under 30 Europe' list.

Selena Palmer (School of Healthcare) has scooped a Student Midwife trailblazer award from the Maternity and Midwifery Forum at the Student Midwife Experience Festival 2023.

Samiksha Raviraja (Undergraduate, School of Engineering) won two prestigious awards at the Engineering Talent Awards 2023: Overall Excellence in Engineering and Engineering Student of the Year.



Lee Wright, a current English PhD student and **Sam Dawson**, an English MA graduate, were winners in the short story competition, 'Nature, Environment, Sustainability'.

First year Law students **Aysu Aghaei Ghazani**, **Jayda Onilude**, and **Diljot Gill**, have established a Women in Law Society and were commended by former President of the Supreme Court, Baroness Hale of Richmond for their work.

Masters students from the **School of Museum Studies** negotiated the loan of major artworks by 23 significant British artists of the postwar era. Their exhibition, entitled 'What should be in a national art collection?', problematised and challenged the elitism and exclusion so often present in great art collections.

Nursing with Leadership MSci students **Amber Fletcher**, **Farha Hajat** and **Jamie Percy-Roberts**, have been nominated across several categories in the prestigious Student Nursing Times Awards.



Students **Charlie Medcalf**, **Jasmine Hutton**, and **Dharnell Nugent** have re-established the University's student radio station, Galaxy Radio, which was first set up in 1996.

The **Computer Science Society** has been named Student Group of the Year by the Students' Union, due to a fantastic year of events, new industry partnerships, and increased student involvement.

University of Leicester students raised £15,000 for homeless charities by holding a Big Sleep Out event on campus on 19 March 2024.

Staff achievements

Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock (Chancellor) has been recognised in the King's New Year Honours 2024 list with a Damehood for services to Science Education and Diversity.

Professor Clare Anderson (School of History, Politics and International Relations) has been elected as a Fellow of the British Academy and has been appointed to the judging panel of this year's PEN Hessel-Tiltman Prize.

Professor Clare Anderson has also won the Social History Society Book Prize 2024 and the Australian Historical Association's biennial Kay Daniels Award 2024, for her book *Convicts: A Global History*.

Professor Natalie Armstrong (Department of Population Health Sciences) has been appointed as Senior Editor for the journal *BMJ Quality and Safety*.

Professor Heiko Balzter (School of Geography, Geology and the Environment) has been nominated as one of the UK's top 50 innovators for Net Zero in the UK 2024. The Net Zero 50 List 2024 in partnership with CGI is a Digital Leaders initiative. The list highlights the efforts of 50 inspiring individuals in various sectors across the UK who are leading the charge towards decarbonisation.

Laura Bee (School of Law) is a finalist in the Next Hundred Years Inspirational Women Awards, celebrating women who champion equality in law.

Professor Tilly Blyth (School of Museum Studies) has been invited to join the English Heritage Blue Plaque panel. The digital exhibit from Professor Blyth's Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) research project Time, Culture and Identity was displayed at the Science Museum as part of the new Zimingzhong exhibition.

Professor Elaine Boyle (Department of Population Health Sciences) and **Professor Samantha Johnson** (Population Health Sciences) gave oral evidence to the House of Lords Preterm Birth Committee inquiry into the incidence and impact of preterm birth.

Professor Emma Bunce (School of Physics and Astronomy) has been recognised in the King's New Year Honours 2024 list with an OBE for services to Astronomy and Science Education.

Dr Paul Campbell (School of Sociology) has been awarded Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Professor James Chapman's (School of Arts) book *The Money Behind the Screen* was nominated for a Theatre Association Book Award (New York).

Professor Kit De Waal (Jean Humphreys Writer in Residence) has had her memoir selected as a New Statesman book of the year for 2023 and will feature as a guest at the Bath Literary Festival and the Listowel Writer's Festival.

Professor Elizabeth Draper (Department of Population Health Sciences) has been recognised in the King's Birthday Honours list with an MBE for services to healthcare.

Professor Dean Fennell (Leicester Cancer Research Centre) has been elected to the Academy of Medical Sciences with a prestigious Fellowship.

Professor Corinne Fowler (School of Museum Studies) has published a new book – *Our Island Stories: Country Walks Through Colonial Britain* (Penguin Allen Lane, May 2024), which brings rural life and colonial rule together with transformative results.

Professor Laura Gray (Department of Population Health Sciences) and **Professor James Burton** (Department of Cardiovascular Sciences) have been awarded prestigious National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Senior Investigator awards to advance their healthcare work. **Professor Martin Tobin**, has also had his award renewed for a second term.

Professor Sarah Gretton has commenced her role as the inaugural Director of the Education Academy. The Education Academy is a cross-institution body that will foster communities of practice for all involved in education to drive up teaching quality.

A paper co-authored by **Professor Anna Hansell** (Department of Population Health Sciences) on traffic noise and hypertension was named as one of the top 10 most read papers of 2023 by the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

Dr Anders Hansen (School of Arts) published the Second Edition of *The Routledge Handbook of Environment and Communication*. This revised and fully updated second edition of the Routledge Handbook of Environment and Communication provides a state-of-the-art overview of environmental communication theory, practice and research.

John Hughton (Department of Cardiovascular Sciences) has won the Sol Cohen prize for best clinical paper at this year's Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland conference.

Dr Marianne Hem Eriksen (School of Archaeology and Ancient History) edited a book that was published last month: *Vikings in the Mediterranean*.

Professor Kamlesh Khunti CBE (Leicester Diabetes Centre) has been listed in the Health Service Journal's top 50 most influential Black, Asian and minority ethnic people in health list for making a profound difference in the NHS.

Professor Kamlesh Khunti CBE has also received a Mohans Gold Medal Oration Award at the 11th edition of Dr Mohan's International Diabetes Update in recognition of his in-depth research in diabetes.

Professor Sarah Knight (School of Arts) was invited to join the International Advisory Board of the Turkish Society for Theatre Research.

Kerry Law (Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professional Services) was named Outstanding Senior Female Executive at the Women's Awards 2023.

Professor Valerio Lucarini (School of Mathematics and Computer Science) has been awarded the Keilis-Borok Medal by the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG).

Dr Rupert Major (Department of Population Health Studies) has been awarded an NHS National Clinical Impact Award for his work on the Kidney Function Risk Equation and integrated care.

Professor Jayne Marshall (School of Healthcare) has been recognised by Advance HE as one of 55 new National Teaching Fellows (NTF), for her outstanding contribution to teaching and inspiring colleagues in Higher Education.

Professor Jayne Marshall has also been appointed to the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) Regional Professional Committee (RPC) for Europe in the capacity of a leading midwife educator and in August 2023 was elected as the RPC's first Chair.

Professor David Mattingly (School of Archaeology and Ancient History) has had a book published: *Between Sahara and Sea: Africa in the Roman Empire*.

Professor Andy Merrills (School of Archaeology and Ancient History) has had his book published by Cambridge University Press: *War, Rebellion and Epic in Byzantine North Africa*.

Professor Andre Ng (Department of Cardiovascular Sciences) has taken over as President of the British Cardiovascular Society.



Dr Fabrizio Ortu (School of Chemistry) is among 35 Future Leaders of the Foundation for Science and Technology, which seeks to support the leaders of tomorrow in building the links and knowledge that they will need.

Dr Daniel Pan (Department of Respiratory Sciences) has been awarded the Turner-Warwick Lecture Prize by the Royal College of Physicians for his pioneering research into how COVID-19 spreads from person to person.

Dr Emma Parker (School of Arts) contributed to the exhibition 'Punk: Rage and Revolution', hosted at Leicester Museum and Art Gallery. The exhibition won the National Lottery Heritage Award for England.

Dr Cristina Ruiz Villena (School of Physics and Astronomy) was awarded Gold in the 2024 STEM for BRITAIN poster competition for Physics.

Dr Sion Scott (School of Healthcare) has been named winner of the 'Outstanding Pharmacy Early-Career Researchers Award' (OPERA) 2024 by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and The Pharmaceutical Journal.

Professor Philip Shaw (School of Arts) had a book published by Cambridge University Press: *Wordsworth After War: Recovering Peace in the Later Poetry*.

Dr Jayne Spiller (School of Psychology and Vision Sciences) was given a 2023 British Psychological Society Neil O'Connor Award for her research on sleep and its association with behavioural and emotional symptoms in children born extremely preterm.

Mr Aiden Smith (Department of Population Health Studies) has been awarded an NIHR Doctoral Fellowship.

Dr Marina Spunta (School of Modern Languages) was awarded the prize for the best article published in 2023 by journal *Italian Studies*, for 'Pia Pera's Poetics of the Planetary Garden', *Italian Studies*.

Lorenzo Trapani (School of Business) has been elected as a senior fellow of the Timini Centre for Economics Analysis.

Dr Matt Tonkin (School of Criminology) has been appointed as Academic Lead for the Home Office's National Crime and Justice Laboratory (NCJL). This is a 0.5FTE post for 1 year in the first instance, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

A paper co-authored by **Dr David Unwin** (School of Museum Studies) on a new pterosaur from the Isle of Skye was featured on the Today programme.

The Centre for Hate Studies won a Learning on Screen Award 2024 for its short film, *Revisiting the Harms of Hate*.

The **Atrial Fibrillation Virtual Ward** team at University Hospitals Leicester NHS Trust took home the 'Acute Sector Innovation of the Year' Award from the Health Service Journal.



Financial review:

Our results for the year

Financial challenges in the Higher Education sector continued to build during the year and the University is not immune from this.

We generated £22.4 million (2022-23: £22.7 million) of operating cash flows in the year which is a decrease of just £0.3 million from the prior year. More operating cash has been generated through an increase in tuition fee and research income but has been offset by an increase in expenditure along with working capital movements. Throughout the year we have made use of our revolving credit facility (RCF), which has provided us with additional liquidity alongside internally generated funds for short term operational purposes. This facility was not in use at year end however, with our year end cash balance amounting to £16.2 million. The current cash balance, along with the RCF, is sufficient to meet the current operational cash needs of the University and we have not and do not forecast triggering the Office for Students (OfS) reportable event threshold of falling below the equivalent of 30 days liquidity in the next 12 months.

We achieved a consolidated deficit of £8.3 million (2022-23: £2.6 million surplus) before movement on USS pension provision; the fall largely relating to expenditure increasing at a higher rate than income, demonstrating the continuing financial challenges facing the sector and economy. Income increased by 4.6% year on year, after a 8.5% increase in the prior year, largely driven by continued growth in student numbers albeit at a slower rate than the original forecast for international students. Accommodation income has continued to grow and we have seen strong performance in securing research grant funding achieving another record level of research income at £74 million.

The increase in activity, responses to increased student numbers, inflationary pressures and interest costs have inevitably led to increased non-pay operating expenditure, increasing 8.0% before the movement on USS pension provision.

	2023/24	2022/23
	£m	£m
Operating cash flows	22.4	22.7
Investing cash flows	(20.8)	(23.1)
Financing cash flows	(7.9)	(12.1)
Net cash flows	(6.3)	(12.5)
Cash and cash equivalents	16.2	22.4
Income	385.8	369.0
Expenditure before USS pension movement	(396.1)	(367.1)
(Deficit)/surplus before other gains and USS pension movement	(10.3)	1.9
Other gains/(losses) and tax	2.0	0.7
(Deficit)/surplus for the year before USS pension movement	(8.3)	2.6
USS pension movement	96.9	9.1
(Deficit)/surplus for the year after tax	88.6	11.7
Non-current assets	502.4	509.3
Current assets	69.4	72.4
Current liabilities	(155.3)	(143.8)
Non-current liabilities	(223.2)	(231.6)
Provisions	(20.0)	(119.0)
Total net assets	173.3	87.3

Capital investment

We have invested £29 million (2022-23: £31 million) in our estate and infrastructure and have focused this year on maintenance, reconfiguration and decarbonisation of the campus. Large investments into our digital infrastructure and equipment were also made during the year.

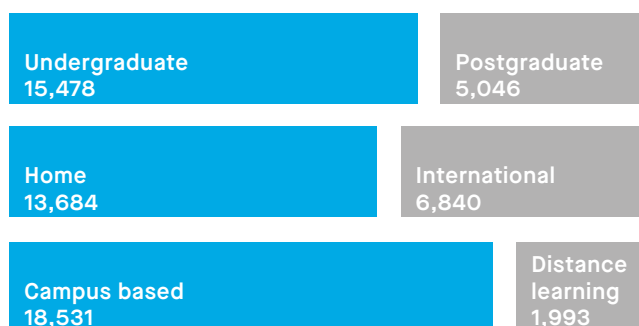
Pension schemes

The Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) valuation during 2023-24 meant there is no longer a deficit in the scheme, as a result there is no longer a provision for repayment of the deficit recognised at 31 July 2024. This meant the removal of the £97 million accounting provision held in the prior year which then led to the large surplus for the year. As this is the removal of an accounting estimate of future funding requirements, removing it does not lead to any financial performance improvement or additional funding or cash availability. However, in addition to the provision no longer being needed, the cost of contributions to USS has fallen to a lower rate which has reduced the cost to both the University and each individual member. Further information is included in note 31.

A pension provision remains in our Statement of Financial Position in relation to the University of Leicester Pension and Assurance Scheme (PAS). At 31 July 2024 the PAS provision was £20 million, a reduction of £1 million from the prior year, this being the net effect of gains from changes to the demographic assumptions and asset returns offset by losses on a decrease in the discount rate. More information can be found in note 19.

Student numbers

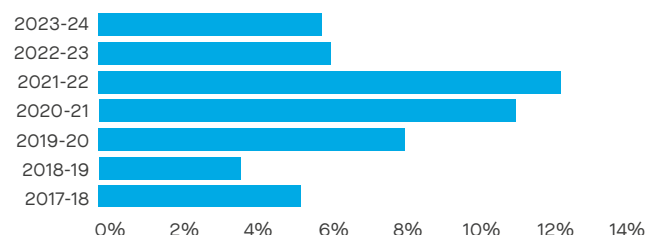
In 2023-24 we had 20,524 students studying with us, a decrease of 175 students (1%) from the prior year driven by a reduction in post graduate intake. The distribution of students* in 2023-24 was:



*Student census data as at 1st December. Postgraduate registrations in January 2023 resulted in an additional 297 students of which 280 were international students.

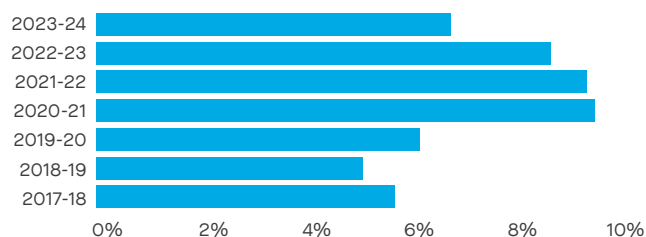
Our key performance indicators

Operating cash flow as a percentage of income



There was a net cash inflow of £22.9 million from operating activities during the year compared to £22.7 million in the previous year, a small increase of £0.2 million. This was largely due to inflationary pressures impacting both pay and non-pay expenditure resulting in the increases in costs being higher than the rise in income. As a result, operating cash flow as a percentage of income was 5.9% and falls short of our target of 10%.

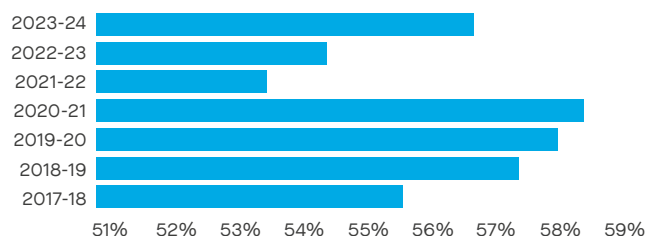
EBITDA* as a percentage of income



*EBITDA is a measure of surplus: earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation. This has also been adjusted for the release of deferred capital grants and the change in USS pension provision.

EBITDA fell to £25.8 million compared with the prior year at £31.1 million causing EBITDA as a percentage of income to fall from 8.4% in the prior year to 6.7%, again demonstrating the impact of increases in pay and non-pay expenditure above that of the increase in income.

Staff cost as a percentage of income



Staff costs increased by £17.5 million (8.7%) from the prior year to £218 million with £9 million as a result of pay bargaining alongside a 5% increase in FTEs. Staff costs as a percentage of income increased from the prior year 54.5% to 56.6%, a step up and now above the sector average of 55%.



Future financial outlook and going concern

The institution continues to face a difficult operating environment. Continued inflationary pressures on pay and non-pay, plus a challenging international student recruitment market will impact working capital and liquidity levels. Recent experience has demonstrated the University is able to respond to financial risks by adapting to the operational circumstances and prioritising financial resilience to maintain this moving forward. This has been supported by placing staff and students at the heart of decision making.

The University's strategy has three strategic aims: Research-Inspired Education, World-Changing Research and Our Citizens. To compete with the best in research, we need to continue to invest in people (staff, early career researchers, Post Graduate Researchers) and infrastructure (equipment, pump-priming funds, matched funding for bids). We also need to invest in our education and student life to enhance the experience we offer to our students. To improve educational outcomes, we need to invest in our teaching staff, manage staff

workload and invest in our educational infrastructure (learning platforms, student wellbeing support, employability outcomes).

We enter the 2024-25 financial year with another large student intake versus previous historical levels. This growth is forecast in the number of both UK and international undergraduate students with domestic and international postgraduate students at similar levels to 2023-24. The demand to study our programmes has remained very strong. Research activity and income is also forecast to grow in the forthcoming year, as the University builds upon research funding awards.

We are forecasting operating cash as a percentage of income at approximately 8% in 2024-25, followed by 10% in 2025-26 (an improvement versus 2023-24 at 5.9%) whilst also delivering a focused capital expenditure programme building on the recent investment in improving our campus. Cash balances are also forecast to grow to 7.9% of income for 2024-25 rising to 9.7% for 2025-26 from 4.2% in 2023-24.

The focus on planning and mitigations has enabled the Council to thoroughly assess our outlook as a going concern. In the 2024-25 financial year income is forecast to be £397 million with operating cash as a percentage of income of 8.1%. This balances resource for expected growth in student numbers against generating the cash we need to support our operations. The most obvious threats to remaining a going concern are breach of lending covenants and/or running out of cash. We are forecasting to be compliant with all lending covenants in 2024-25 and maintain a resilient monthly cash balance to aid the University withstanding unforeseen downsides on performance.

Council has carefully reviewed these forecasts, particularly the next two years, with thorough downside risk assessments and stress testing, in order to confirm that it has reasonable expectations that the University has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. This is in part underlined by access to an increased RCF of £60 million until 2029. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis for preparing the accounts.

Council obtains assurance in this area through its regular reviews of the University's performance using a number of key performance indicators in areas that are relevant to the University's sustainability.

Other risks and opportunities

There are a number of factors impacting on the University's strategic position as noted in our risk register. Our key financial risks and opportunities, aside from those already addressed are:

RISKS

- Delays to delivery of physical and digital infrastructure masterplans due to funding pressures which increase maintenance and compliance risks.
- Domestic tuition fee inflationary rise from 2025-26 being a one off which does not address the ongoing structural imbalance caused by historical fee inflation not keeping pace with expenditure inflation.
- Inflation and tax increases on key cost lines such as staffing, information resources and utilities.
- International student recruitment in respect of immigration policy, reliance on key markets and student engagement and attainment levels.
- Underfunding of research infrastructure and overhead costs.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Growth in existing and new markets through School of Business expansion.
- International growth, particularly through partnerships developed in China and India, and distance learning education.
- Commercial performance improvement, divestments and increased return from intellectual property.
- Further community engagement and fundraising in parallel with the Institution's ambitious philanthropic campaign.





UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER
Celebrating the Windrush Generation



WINDRUSH MURAL BY ARTIST NADIR

Public benefit statement

At Leicester, our civic duty is at the heart of everything we do. We are a university founded by the community for the community.

Oadby oasis brings community together

More than 1,800 people visited the Botanic Garden in September 2023 for a special festival that saw the gardens come alive with live music, food stalls, workshops, arts and crafts, children's activities and entertainment.

Throughout the summer of 2024 a series of events took place for local residents and communities to enjoy all that



the gardens have to offer. Highlights of the programme included evening talks in the Botanic Garden at Beaumont House, an open-air performance of Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, the ever-popular annual Plant Sale and Family Day, and a music theatre adaptation of the popular children's storybook *Errol's Garden*. BBC Gardeners' World Nick Bailey has also been appointed director of the Botanic Garden, which will see him develop a five-year plan to futureproof the Glebe Road site, enhance its role within the community, secure funding and design and host engagement events.

New centre for city's young people

A new education centre was officially opened in the city in March to help young people in Leicester to realise their ambitions. Our Chancellor, Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock, who herself overcame barriers during her school days to forge a successful career as a space scientist and broadcaster, opened the IntoUniversity Centre in Beaumont Leys. The centre, which is a collaborative partnership between IntoUniversity, the University of Leicester and De Montfort University, caters for school pupils aged seven to 18 who live in deprived areas of Leicester.

Windrush mural unveiled

Students from the Leicester Law School have commissioned a mural to commemorate the Windrush Generation. The students have been providing free legal

advice to Leicester residents from the Commonwealth who are eligible to apply for the UK Government's Windrush Compensation Scheme. The mural, designed by 19-year-old artist Nadir from the Leicester-based company Graffwerk, was recently unveiled at a special event to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Windrush Day.

Charitable giving

A shipment of goods was sent to students in war-torn Ukraine to help them continue their studies and support day-to-day life. Along with dozens of warm winter coats, over 40 PCs and tables and chairs were sent to our partner university Kremenchuk Mykhailo Ostohradskyi National University in Central Ukraine. Students and staff have also raised more than £20,000 for the Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), a charity providing medical and humanitarian aid for Palestinians in Gaza.

More than 40 volunteers and fundraisers gave up their bed for the night to take part in the Big Sleep, raising close to £15,000 for The Bridge, Homelessness to Hope Charity. The University also launched Leicester Collecting Together in partnership with The Trussell Trust, supporting students, staff and the wider community in need with donations to the Community Kitchen as well as local food banks.

Bake Off star rustles up a recipe for chemistry success

Great British Bake Off finalist Dr Josh Smalley, who is a postdoctoral researcher at the University, has developed a new Science Kitchen as part of his role as Science Communication and Engagement Champion. The post sees Josh undertake public engagement and outreach activities to raise awareness of the opportunities chemistry can offer students. The Kitchen, which is located in the Rattray Building on campus, is a space for food-related scientific demonstrations, talks, research and events.

University recognised as a Disability Confident Leader

The University has been awarded Disability Confident Leader status as an employer, the highest level of award. This makes Leicester one of only five universities to hold Disability Confident Leader, Athena Swan Institutional Silver and Race Equality Charter Bronze, or above. The validation process identified a number of areas of exemplary best practice, in particular, the University's commitment to driving change and informing disability inclusive policy and practice.

Universities Partnership

It has been two years since the launch of the Universities Partnership, a civic agreement between the region's three universities and local authorities. As part of the flagship project, we welcomed international partners from across the world to Leicester in October 2023, to celebrate all the things that make the region a great place for international students to live, study and work. More than 40 partners from across the globe joined business and academic leaders along with Civic Dignitaries at the National Space Centre to hear first-hand from regional leaders about why the county is one of the most attractive destinations for international students in the country.

UK Space Agency establishes Midlands base at Space Park

Space Park Leicester has been selected to host one of three new regional offices for the UK Space Agency, as part of its national expansion to support the space sector across the UK. The expansion will see the UK's executive agency for space activity base staff at the University's pioneering £100 million science and innovation park. Aligned with the government's Levelling Up strategy, the expansion will enable the Agency to collaborate more closely with the UK's thriving space sector, while promoting regional skills and job opportunities to deliver increasingly ambitious missions and capabilities.

New institute aims to put research into policymaking practice

The University has launched a new policy institute to strengthen the ties between our world-renowned research community and decision makers around the globe. The Institute for Policy will bring together academics and policymakers, such as politicians, civil servants, think-tanks and governmental organisations, to ensure our research has a real-world impact and can help solve policy challenges.

Policy expert in Parliament for second year

Professor of Politics, Rick Whittaker, has worked for a second year as a Thematic Research Lead (TRL) for Parliament, Public Administration and the Constitution – a role funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). Spending three days a week embedded in Parliament, he has helped to facilitate and enhance the use of research evidence and expertise in Parliament through effective knowledge exchange and collaboration.

Corporate governance

For the year ended 31 July 2024

The University conducts its affairs in accordance with the Higher Education Code of Governance and the Higher Education Senior Staff Remuneration Code, both published by the Committee of University Chairs (CUC), and with the seven Principles of Public Life enunciated by the Nolan Committee in 1995.

Summary of the University's Structure of Corporate Governance

THE COUNCIL

The Council is the supreme governing body of our University. It has 20 members, comprised of a mixture of ex-officio, appointed and elected persons – the majority of whom are independent lay members appointed by Council itself – and student representation. The lay members must be in a majority at all formal meetings of Council. The role of the Chair of Council is separated from that of our Chief Executive and Accountable Officer, the President and Vice-Chancellor. Council's powers are set out in our Statutes and Ordinances and in Council's Statement of Primary Responsibilities, and are consistent with our accountability obligations to the Office for Students (OfS).

Council is responsible for agreeing the ongoing strategic objectives of our University, and for monitoring our progress against these. It receives regular reports from its committees on the operation and performance of our University and its subsidiary companies, and reviews its own effectiveness every four years. Unreserved minutes from Council meetings are available on our website:

le.ac.uk/about/who-we-are/governance/council

In the financial year 2023-24, the standing Committees of Council were as shown in the structure diagram on page 40 and included its four key compliance committees covering Audit and Assurance, Finance and Infrastructure, Nominations and Remuneration matters.

All committees are formally constituted with published terms of reference. All include some members drawn from the lay membership of Council, with the facility for additional external lay members to be appointed if required. In addition to the standing committees, the Council also receives reports as required from the Executive Board, which is the University's senior management team. Council and its committees undertake regular reviews of their terms of reference

and membership, to ensure that they remain relevant and appropriate and that their responsibilities are discharged effectively.

AUDIT AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

On behalf of Council, the Audit and Assurance Committee provides oversight of the University's risk management, control and governance arrangements, and the arrangements to provide economy, efficiency and effectiveness. It also advises Council on the University's internal and external audit arrangements and audit aspects of the financial statements. This includes assessing the effectiveness of internal and external audits and ensuring objectivity and independence are safeguarded. It conducts its affairs in accordance with the Higher Education Audit Committees Code of Practice published by the CUC.

The Audit and Assurance Committee is made up solely of lay members of Council and other external lay members, who are co-opted for their expertise. University officers attend meetings of the Audit and Assurance Committee, where required, but they are not allowed to be members of the Committee. No member of the Audit and Assurance Committee may also be a member of the Finance and Infrastructure Committee. At each of its scheduled meetings, the Audit and Assurance Committee holds a private session with the internal and external auditors, for independent discussions, as necessary.

FINANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

The Finance and Infrastructure Committee is responsible for recommending to Council the University's annual financial statements, financial forecasts and annual budgets and subsequent budget monitoring in-year. The Committee also provides oversight of and advice on matters relating to the financial position of the University including overall financial strategy, and of matters relating to the University's estates and digital infrastructure. The Committee delegates authority to the Investments Committee to approve and monitor the University's strategy for, and performance of, endowed funds and investments.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

On behalf of Council and Court, the Nominations Committee provides oversight and advice on matters relating to the lay membership of Council, the Standing Committees of Council and Senate, and Court, as specified in the University's Statutes and Ordinances. The Committee is also responsible for considering and making recommendations on any general matters of

governance and procedure referred to it by the Council, including the effectiveness of governance arrangements.

The Nominations Committee reflects regularly on the balance of relevant knowledge, experience and skills amongst the membership of Council and committees, including their diversity. In 2023/24 the Committee considered the appointment of new lay members of Council.

REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

The Remuneration Committee is responsible for considering and reporting annually to the Council on the remuneration governance of the President and Vice-Chancellor, Executive Board members and staff earning a full-time equivalent salary of more than £150k per annum. The committee is also responsible for remuneration of severance packages for staff earning a full-time equivalent salary of more than £100k per annum.

The membership of the Remuneration Committee is comprised solely of independent lay members, including the Chair of Council and the Treasurer. Senior officers are not and have never been permitted to be present at the Committee for any discussions affecting their own personal position. The Committee is chaired by the Chair of Council, except when it is considering the remuneration of the President and Vice-Chancellor, when the Treasurer takes the chair.

In compliance with the requirements of the CUC Higher Education Senior Staff Remuneration Code, an Annual Remuneration Committee Report is presented to Council and published on the University's website.

In addition to the Remuneration Committee there is a completely separate Senior Staff Pay Committee, chaired by the President and Vice-Chancellor.

PEOPLE, EDI (EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION) AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The People, EDI and Wellbeing Committee is the prime mechanism through which the Council seeks oversight and assurance that the University has appropriate and effective processes and people in place to deliver the people, equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) and wellbeing objectives and performance indicators, as set out in its Strategic Plan.

The Committee advises Council on strategic decisions relating to the workforce and, as appropriate, provides assurance to Council on equity, diversity and inclusion matters (including the Access and Participation Plan), provides assurance to Council on matters relating to staff and student wellbeing and monitors progress

against the delivery of the relevant elements of the University's Strategy. The Committee's role includes the consideration of key strategic initiatives, making recommendations to Council as appropriate.

INTERNAL CONTROL

Council is responsible for maintaining our University's ongoing system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. This is a risk-based system designed to identify and manage, rather than eliminate totally, the risk of failure to achieve financial, business, operational and compliance objectives, and provides reasonable but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

Council has approved a comprehensive risk management policy and reporting procedure for our University, which is reviewed regularly and updated as required in response to changes in the risk environment. It is underpinned by supporting policies and procedures, contained within our Financial Regulations and Whistleblowing Policy, on the prevention of bribery and corruption, responses to fraud, anti-money laundering, and the acceptance of gifts and hospitality.

The University's Executive Board receives regular reports setting out key performance and risk indicators and considers possible control issues brought to its attention by senior managers in the operational units. The Executive Board and the Audit and Assurance Committee also receive regular reports from the internal auditors (PricewaterhouseCoopers), which include any necessary recommendations for improvement.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Chairs of Council and the Standing Committees of Council are responsible for addressing the development needs of each committee, with a view to enhancing their effectiveness. An annual programme of activity, including resources and dedicated development sessions, has been developed to support and refresh the knowledge and skills development of committee members.

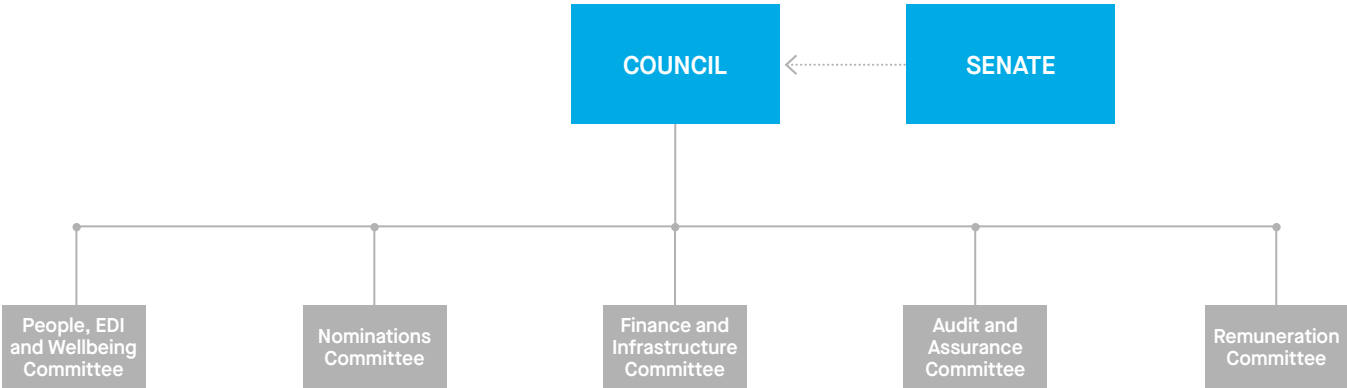
ATTENDANCE MONITORING

As part of Council's ongoing commitment to the efficiency and transparency of its activities, the attendance record of its members at meetings of Council and the Audit and Assurance, Finance and Infrastructure, Nominations and Remuneration committees is published within the University's financial statements. The attendance record for meetings held in 2022-24 is shown in the table on page 41.

Corporate governance

Continued

STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL



Attendance at key university compliance committees of which they were members during 2023-2024

	Council		Audit and Assurance Committee		Finance and Infrastructure Committee		Nominations Committee		Remuneration Committee		People, EDI and Wellbeing Committee	
	Eligible to Attend	Actually Attended	Eligible to Attend	Actually Attended	Eligible to Attend	Actually Attended	Eligible to Attend	Actually Attended	Eligible to Attend	Actually Attended	Eligible to Attend	Actually Attended
George Acquah (Lay)	5	3	5	3								
Lauren Bartlett (Lay) (from 1/9/2023)	5	4									3	3
Liz Blyth (Lay)	5	5					3	2				
Nishan Canagarajah (Staff)	5	5			5	4	4	4				
Jack Chambers (Lay) (from 1/9/2023)	5	4			5	3						
Martin Cullen (Lay)	5	5					1	0			3	2
Sophie Dale-Black (Lay)	5	4					4	4	2	2		
Gary Dixon (Lay)	5	4			5	2	4	4	2	2		
Mehmooda Duke (Lay)	5	3	5	3					2	1		
Cathy Ellis (Lay)	5	5			5	5	4	2	2	2		
Kerry Law (Staff)	5	4			5	5						
Rishi Madlani (Lay)	5	4									3	3
Catherine Morley (Staff)	5	5					3	2				
Kevin Nagle (Lay)	5	5			5	5						
Henrietta O'Connor (Staff)	5	5			5	5	4	2				
Gabrielle Provan (Staff)	5	5										
Mark Purnell (Staff)	5	0										
Archie Robinson (Students' Union)	4	3			5	3						
Jacqui Shaw (Staff)	5	5										
Richard Tapp (Lay)	5	5	5	5								

Council: 24 October 2023, 12 December 2023, 5 March 2024, 8 May 2024, 2 July 2024.

Audit and Assurance: 3 October 2023, 21 November 2023, 20 February 2024, 16 April 2024, 11 June 2024 .

Finance and Infrastructure: 28 September 2023, 23 November 2023, 15 February 2024, 23 April 2024, 18 June 2024.

Nominations: 8 September 2023, 25 September 2023, 1 February 2024, 10 June 2024.

Remuneration: 24 October 2023, 25 January 2024.

People, EDI and Wellbeing Committee: 10 October 2023, 22 February 2024, 20 June 2024.

Responsibilities of the Council of the University of Leicester

For the year ended 31 July 2024

The Council of the University of Leicester is responsible for the administration and management of the affairs of the Institution in accordance with its Statutes and Ordinances.

During 2023-24, the primary responsibilities of the Council were as follows:

- To set and agree the mission, strategic vision and values of the University, with the Executive.
- To agree long-term academic and business plans and key performance indicators, and to ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders, especially staff, students and alumni.
- To ensure that processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the institution against the strategy, plans and approved key performance indicators, which should be – where possible and appropriate – benchmarked against other comparable institutions.
- To delegate authority to the President and Vice-Chancellor, as Chief Executive and Accountable Officer, for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and human resource management of the University. To establish and keep under regular review the policies, procedures and limits within such management functions as shall be undertaken by and under the authority of the President and Vice-Chancellor.
- To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls, risk assessment, value for money arrangement and procedures for handling internal grievances and for managing conflicts of interest.
- To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of Council itself.
- To conduct its business in accordance with best practice in higher education corporate governance, and with the principles of public life drawn up by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.
- To safeguard the good name and values of the University.
- To appoint the President and Vice-Chancellor as Chief Executive and Accountable Officer, on the recommendation of a joint Committee of Council and Senate, and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring their performance.
- To appoint the Registrar and Secretary, on the recommendation of a joint Committee of Council and Senate, who will be Secretary to the Council. The Council will ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to maintain a separation of the Registrar and Secretary's managerial responsibilities in the University, with direct accountability to the President; and Vice-Chancellor, and as Secretary to the Council, with direct accountability to the Chair of Council and Council members.
- To be the employing authority for all staff in the University and to be responsible for ensuring that an appropriate human resources strategy is established.
- To be the principal financial and business authority of the University, to ensure that proper books of account are kept, to approve the annual budget and financial statements, and to have overall responsibility for the University's assets, property and estate.
- To be the University's legal authority and, as such, to ensure that systems are in place for meeting all the institution's legal obligations, including those arising from contracts and other legal commitments made in the institution's name. This includes accountability for health, safety and security and for equality, diversity and inclusion.
- To receive assurance that adequate provision has been made for the general welfare of students.
- To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the University.
- To ensure that the University's Charter, Statutes and Ordinances are followed at all times and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.
- To promote a culture which supports inclusivity and diversity across the University.

- To maintain and protect the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech legislation.
- To ensure that students and staff have opportunities to engage with the governance and management of the University.

The Council is required to present audited financial statements for each financial year and is responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Institution and enable it to ensure that the financial statements are prepared as set out in the Statement of principal accounting policies on page 49 and give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Institution.

The Council must ensure that:

- suitable accounting policies are selected and applied consistently;
- judgements and estimates are made that are reasonable and prudent;
- applicable UK law and accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Institution will continue in operation. The Council has reviewed the Institution's financial forecasts prepared under the direction of the OfS and based on assumptions made as to the continuance of government grants to be given by the OfS. On that basis, Council has a reasonable expectation that the Institution has adequate resources for the next 12 months to continue its operations for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the financial statements continue to be prepared on the going concern basis.

The Council has taken reasonable steps to:

- have a robust and comprehensive system of risk management, control and corporate governance. This includes arrangements for the prevention and detection of corruption, fraud, bribery and irregularities;
- plan and manage its activities to remain sustainable and financially viable;
- inform the OfS of any material change in its circumstances, including any significant developments that could impact on the mutual interests of the Institution and the OfS;
- use public funds for proper purposes and seeks to achieve value for money from public funds;

- secure the economical, efficient and effective management of the Institution's resources and expenditure; and
- comply with the mandatory requirements relating to audit and financial reporting, set out in the OfS Audit Code of Practice and in the OfS annual accounts direction (see page 49).

The key elements of the Institution's system of internal financial control, which is designed to discharge the responsibilities set out above, include the following:

- a medium and short-term planning process, supplemented by detailed annual income, expenditure, capital and cash flow budgets;
- regular reviews of financial results including variance analysis and forecast updates;
- clearly defined and formalised requirements for approval and control of expenditure, with investment decisions involving capital or revenue expenditure being subject to appraisal and review according to approved levels set by the Council;
- comprehensive Financial Regulations, detailing financial controls and procedures and the responsibilities of budget holders, approved by the Finance and Infrastructure Committee; and
- a professional internal audit team whose annual programme is approved by the Audit and Assurance Committee and is endorsed by the Council. The internal audit manager provides the Council with an annual report on internal audit activity within the Institution and an opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Institution's system of internal control, including internal financial control.



**SIGNED FOR ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL
DR SOPHIE DALE-BLACK, VICE-CHAIR OF COUNCIL
4 DECEMBER 2024**

Members of Council

The Members of Council who served in the 2023-24 financial year, and up to the date of the signing of this report, were as follows:

- George Acquah
- Lauren Bartlett
- Liz Blyth
- Nishan Canagarajah
- Jack Chambers
- Martin Cullen
- Sophie Dale-Black
- Gary Dixon
- Mehmooda Duke
- Cathy Ellis
- Kerry Law
- Rishi Madlani
- Catherine Morley
- Kevin Nagle
- Gabrielle Provan
- Mark Purnell (until 31 July 2024)
- Archie Robinson (until 30 June 2024)
- Jacqui Shaw (until 31 July 2024)
- Richard Tapp

New appointments from 1 August 2024:

- Henrietta O'Connor

New appointments from 1 September 2024:

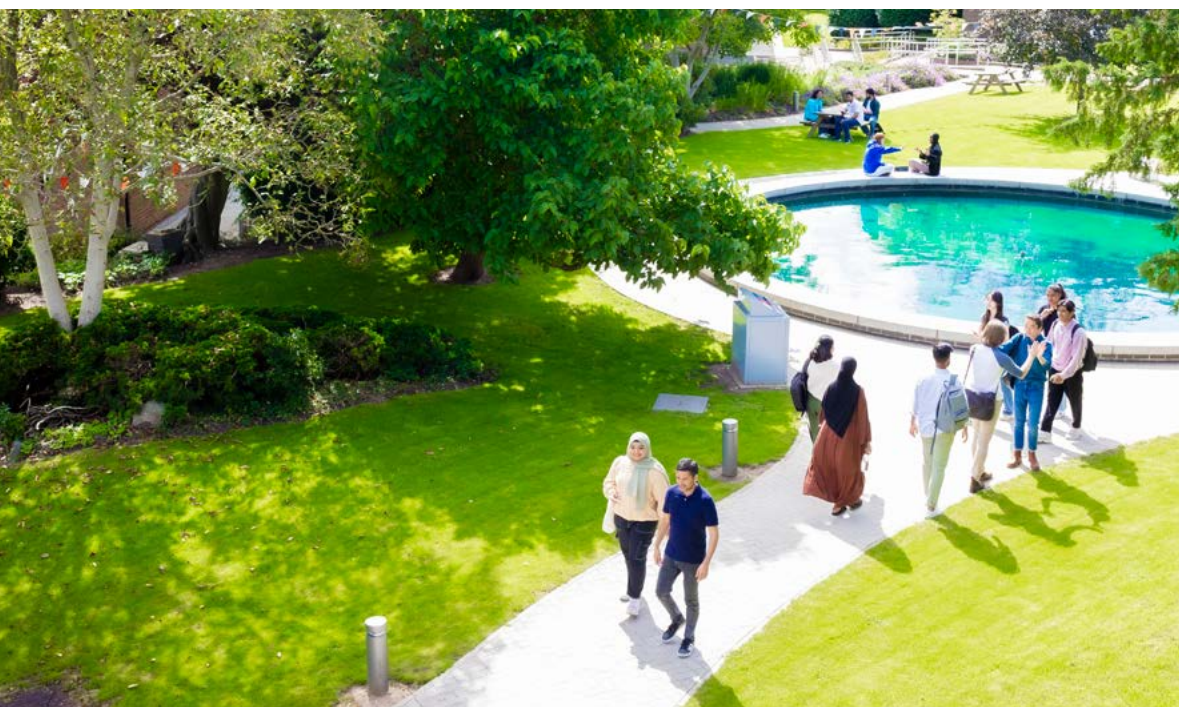
- Mary Curnock Cook
- Stewart Fishwick
- Glynis Wright
- Linda Ralphs

Registered Office

The Institution of The University of Leicester is registered with the Office for Students in England. The address of the registered office is:

The University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester
LE1 7RH

Entity number: RC000659



Independent Auditor's Report

To the members of the Council of the University of Leicester

OPINION ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the University's affairs as at 31 July 2024 and of the Group's and the University's income and expenditure, gains and losses, changes in reserves and the Group's and the University's cash flows for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

We have audited the financial statements of University of Leicester ("the University") and its subsidiaries ("the Group") for the year ended 31 July 2024 which comprise of Consolidated and institution statement of comprehensive income, the Consolidated and institution statement of changes in reserves, the Consolidated and institution statement of financial position, the Consolidated statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

INDEPENDENCE

We are independent of the Group and the University in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the board members' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Group and the University's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the board members with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY THE OFFICE FOR STUDENTS ("OFS") AND UK RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (INCLUDING RESEARCH ENGLAND)

In our opinion, in all material respects:

- Funds from whatever source administered by the University for specific purposes have been

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of the Council of the University of Leicester

Continued

properly applied to those purposes and managed in accordance with relevant legislation.

- Funds provided by the OfS, UK Research and Innovation (including Research England), the Education and Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education have been applied in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions
- The requirements of the OfS's Accounts Direction (OfS 2019.41) have been met.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the OfS requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The University's grant and fee income, as disclosed in note 3 to the accounts, has been materially misstated.
- The University's expenditure on access and participation activities for the financial year, as has been disclosed in note 10b to the accounts, has been materially misstated.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNCIL

As explained more fully in the Responsibilities of the Council statement, the Council members are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Council members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Council members are responsible for assessing the Group and the University's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council members either intends to liquidate the Group or the University or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance

with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

EXTENT TO WHICH THE AUDIT WAS CAPABLE OF DETECTING IRREGULARITIES, INCLUDING FRAUD

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

NON-COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Based on:

- Our understanding of the Group and the sector in which it operates;
- Discussion with management and those charged with governance, internal legal counsel and the Audit and Assurance Committee;
- Obtaining and understanding of the Group's policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- Direct representation from the Accountable Officer; and
- Review of correspondence with relevant regulatory bodies

we considered the significant laws and regulations to the OfS Account direction, Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102), the Statement for Recommended Practice (SORP), Financial Conduct Authority rules and UK tax legislation.

The Group is also subject to laws and regulations where the consequence of non-compliance could have a material effect on the amount or disclosures in the financial statements, for example through the imposition of fines or litigations. We identified such laws and regulations to those mentioned above in addition to General Data Protection Regulation, employment laws and Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) rules.

Our procedures in respect of the above included:

- Review of minutes of meeting of those charged with governance for any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Review of correspondence with regulatory and tax authorities for any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Review of financial statement disclosures and agreeing to supporting documentation;
- Review of legal expenditure accounts to understand the nature of expenditure incurred; and
- Discussions with management and Audit and Assurance Committee, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including direct representation from the Accountable Officer

FRAUD

We assessed the susceptibility of the financial statements to material misstatement, including fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiry with management and those charged with governance and the Audit and Assurance Committee regarding any known or suspected instances of fraud, including direct representation from the Accountable Officer;
- Obtaining an understanding of the Group's and University's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud; and
 - Internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud.
- Review of minutes of meeting of those charged with governance for any known or suspected instances of fraud;
- Reviewing items included in the fraud register as well as the results of any investigation into such matters;
- Discussion amongst the engagement team as to how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements;
- Where relevant, reviewing the output of the university's investigation into suspected or actual

frauds and considering the implication on our risk assessment; and

- Performing data analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Based on our risk assessment, we considered the areas most susceptible to fraud to be manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to manipulate financial results and management bias in accounting estimates.

Our procedures in respect of the above included:

- Testing a sample of journal entries throughout the year, which met a defined risk criteria, by agreeing to supporting documentation;
- Assessing significant estimates made by management for bias, including calculating the pension liabilities, the recoverability of debtors, useful economic lives of property, plant and equipment and fair value measurements; and
- In addressing the risk of fraud through improper income recognition, we tested the appropriateness of certain journals to material revenue streams, tested a sample of research grant contracts to the performance conditions noted in their agreements and re-performed the deferred income calculation for a sample of students for tuition fees revenue.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of the Council of the University of Leicester

Continued

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the Council members, as a body, in accordance with Section 75 of the Higher Education Research Act 2017 and the charters and statutes of the University. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the University's Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the University and the Council members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kyla Bellingsall

KYLA BELLINGALL (SENIOR STATUTORY AUDITOR)
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF BDO LLP, STATUTORY AUDITOR
BIRMINGHAM, UK

16 DECEMBER 2024

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

Statement of principal accounting policies

For the year ended 31 July 2024

1. ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The Consolidated and Institution financial statements are prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting for Further and Higher Education (2019 edition).

They are also prepared in accordance with the 'carried forward' powers and duties of previous legislation (Further and Higher Education Act 1992 and the Higher Education Act 2004) and the new powers of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017, the Royal Charter, the Accounts Direction issued by the Office for Students (OfS), the terms and conditions of funding for higher education institutions issued by the OfS and the terms and conditions of Research England Grant.

The Institution is a public benefit entity and therefore applies the relevant public benefit requirement of the applicable UK laws and accounting standards.

The Institution's principal accounting policies were considered by Finance and Infrastructure Committee during the year with approval that they remain appropriate to capture the balances, transactions and disclosure necessary to correctly state the Institution's financial position.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION INCLUDING GOING CONCERN ASSESSMENT

The Consolidated and Institution financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention (modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities at fair value at the date of the Statement of financial position as required under FRS 102).

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the group and rounded to the nearest thousand.

The Institution's activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position, are set out in an operational and financial review which forms part of the Strategic Report section in the Annual Financial Report. The Strategic Report also describes the financial position of the Institution, its cash flows, liquidity position and borrowing facilities.

The University Council has a reasonable ongoing expectation that the Institution has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, it continues to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for the preparation basis of the financial statements.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND 31 JULY 2024 YEAR END POSITION

The financial year to 31 July 2024, resulted in a consolidated deficit of £8.3 million (2023: surplus of £2.6 million) before exceptional pension items for the year; the fall largely relating to increased inflationary pressures on our cost base plus a material reduction in international postgraduate taught (PGT) student recruitment. As at 31 July 2024 we held consolidated net current liabilities of £85.9 million (2023: net current liabilities of £71.4 million), including gross cash of £16.2 million (2023: gross cash of £22.4 million) and access to a full £40 million revolving credit facility (RCF) which was undrawn.

FORECASTING THROUGH GOING CONCERN PERIOD, INCLUDING PLAUSIBLE WORST-CASE SCENARIO AND REVERSE STRESS TESTING

The Institution continually reassesses its forecast in light of changing conditions, such as student recruitment, inflation and fiscal impacts. The Institution also runs plausible downside scenarios to test assumptions. The key variables most subject to judgement are UK and international student tuition fee income, student accommodation income, commercial revenue streams and the Institution's cost base with pay and non-pay subject to potential inflationary and operational pressures.

It is a reportable event to the OfS if the Institution does not have access to a minimum liquidity level equivalent to 30 days operating expenditure, which includes an RCF. This equates to an approximate minimum liquidity requirement of £30 million for the Institution. Based on the Institution's forecast it is not at risk of breaching this requirement.

The severe but plausible downside scenario assumed further reductions in tuition fees, student accommodation income, commercial revenue, inflationary impacts and

Statement of principal accounting policies

Continued

property sales. This forecast before any mitigating actions shows an underlying liquidity headroom low point in August 2025 of £66.3 million (including RCF).

FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH GOING CONCERN ASSESSMENT PERIOD

The Institution had long-term external financing arrangements totalling a balance of £110.0 million at 31 July 2024 (2023: £113.3 million). This comprised debt with European Investment Bank (EIB), private placement noteholders (Lincoln National Life and Pacific Life) and Barclays.

The Institution has also been utilising an RCF with Barclays, providing additional access to liquidity of £40 million. This is an arrangement in place through to February 2025 with no drawdown being utilised as at July 2024. The size of the facility was increased to £60 million in October 2024 with a renewal agreed for another 5 years. Based on current forecasts, the RCF funding will need to be maintained for short term operational and liquidity headroom requirements to cope with the seasonality of income streams.

The Institution has forecast its position against all existing covenants through its going concern assessment period, in particular at the year-end measurement dates of 31 July 2025 and 31 July 2026 and a minimum monthly cash requirement. Based on its forecast scenarios outlined above the Institution calculates minimum headroom against its most stringent covenant of £16.3 million in 2024/25 and 26.9 million in 2025/26 on operating cash.

FURTHER MITIGATING ACTIONS

The Institution will continue to maintain tight control over its expenditure and monitoring of its activities in relation to teaching and research to identify potential slippage in forecast income.

In the event of downside risks materialising, there are additional mitigations within its control that the Institution can implement, including recruitment freezes and further reductions in discretionary expenditure through the going concern period in particular planned capital expenditure currently forecast at £23.6 million in 2024/25.

The Institution continues with access to the £60 million RCF until October 2029 as referenced above, allowing time to plan and action these mitigations and others that it identifies, in order that the delivery of the strategic objectives can be prioritised.

CONCLUSION

The Institution has carefully considered the financial forecasting outlined above, available financing and the assessment of the reverse stress tests and forecast covenant compliance. The Council has concluded that there is reasonable expectation that the Institution and Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the going concern period. Therefore, the Council continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

3. EXEMPTIONS UNDER FRS 102

The Institution applies an exemption under section 3.3 of the SORP (1.12(b) of FRS 102) to not produce a cash flow statement for the Institution in its separate financial statements.

4. BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The Institution is required to prepare consolidated financial statements that include the financial statements of the Institution and all its subsidiaries together with the share of the results of joint ventures and associates for the financial year being reported to 31 July 2024.

The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the period are included in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income from the date of acquisition or up to the date of disposal. Intra-group transactions are eliminated on consolidation.

Gains or losses on any intra-group transactions are eliminated in full. Amounts in relation to debts and claims between undertakings included in the consolidation are also eliminated. Balances between the Institution and its associates and joint ventures are not eliminated. Normal trading transactions that are not settled by the Statement of Financial Position date are included as current assets or liabilities. Any gains or losses are included in the carrying amount of assets of either entity, the part relating to the Institution's share is eliminated.

The consolidated financial statements do not include the Students' Union as the Institution does not exert control or dominant influence over decisions.

Associated companies and joint ventures are accounted for using the equity method where they are deemed to be material.

5. INCOME RECOGNITION

Income from the sale of goods or services is credited to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income when the goods or services are supplied to the external customers or the terms of the contract, including any staged payments due at contract milestones, have been satisfied.

Tuition fee income is stated gross of any expenditure which is not a discount and credited to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income over the period in which students are studying. Where the amount of the tuition fee is reduced by a discount, income receivable is shown net of the discount.

Bursaries and scholarships are accounted for gross, with amounts recognised as expenditure and not deducted from income. Education contracts are recognised when the Institution is entitled to the income, which is the period in which students are studying, or where relevant, when performance conditions have been met.

Investment income is credited to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income on a receivable basis.

Funds the Institution receives and pays out as paying agent on behalf of a funding body are excluded from the income and expenditure of the Institution where the Institution is exposed to minimal risk or enjoys minimal economic benefit related to the transaction.

GRANT FUNDING

Government revenue grants, including funding council block grant and research grants, are recognised in income over the periods in which the Institution recognises the related costs for which the grant is intended to compensate. Where part of a government grant is deferred it is recognised as deferred income within creditors and allocated between creditors due within one year and due after more than one year as appropriate.

Government capital grants are recognised in income over the expected useful life of the asset to which the grant relates.

Grants (including research grants) from non-government sources are recognised in income when the Institution is entitled to the income and performance related conditions have been met. Income received in advance of performance related conditions being met is recognised as deferred income within creditors in the Statement of financial position and released to income as the conditions are met.

Other capital grants are recognised in income when the Institution is entitled to the funds subject to any performance related conditions being met.

DONATIONS AND ENDOWMENTS

Non-exchange transactions without performance related conditions are donations and endowments.

Donations and endowments with donor-imposed restrictions are recognised in income when the Institution is entitled to the funds. Income is retained within the restricted reserve until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions at which point the income is released to general reserves through a reserve transfer.

Donations with no restrictions are recognised in income when the Institution is entitled to the funds.

Investment income and gains on restricted expendable endowments are recognised in the year in which they arise. Investment income and gains on permanent endowments are accounted for on a total return basis.

There are four main types of donations and endowments identified within reserves:

- Restricted donations – the donor has specified that the donation must be used for a particular objective.
- Unrestricted permanent endowments – the donor has specified that the fund is to be permanently invested to generate an income stream for the general benefit of the Institution.
- Restricted expendable endowments – the donor has specified a particular objective other than the purchase or construction of tangible assets, and the Institution has the power to use the capital.
- Restricted permanent endowments – the donor has specified that the fund is to be permanently invested to generate an income stream to be applied to a particular objective.

Donations of tangible assets are included within income. Paragraph PBE34.73(b) of FRS 102 requires income from donations of fixed assets to be measured at the fair value of the fixed asset. Donated tangible assets are valued and accounted for as tangible assets under the appropriate asset category when the Institution is entitled to receive the asset.

6. ACCOUNTING FOR RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The two principal pension schemes currently open to the Institution's staff, are the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) and the University of Leicester Stakeholder Scheme. A small number of staff are members of the NHS

Statement of principal accounting policies

Continued

Pension Scheme where they have qualifying service in the NHS.

The USS is a multi-employer hybrid pension scheme and has both defined benefit and defined contribution elements. As it is not possible to identify the assets and liabilities to Institution members due to the mutual nature of the scheme it is accounted for as a defined contribution retirement benefit scheme. A liability is recorded within provisions for any contractual commitment to fund past deficits within the USS scheme.

The University of Leicester Stakeholder Scheme is a defined contribution pension scheme. A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the Institution pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the income statement in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

The NHS Pension Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme that is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme as it is not possible to identify the Institution's share of the underlying assets and liabilities.

The Institution is also sponsor to the Pension and Assurance Scheme (PAS) which is a legacy defined benefits scheme. The PAS closed to new members in 2003 and closed to future accrual in 2016.

A defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan. Under a defined benefit plan the Institution's obligation is to provide the agreed benefits to current and former employees, any actuarial risk (that benefits will cost more or less than expected) and investment risk (that returns on assets set aside to fund the benefits will differ from expectations) are borne in substance by the Institution. The net liability is recognised in the Statement of financial position in respect of each scheme and is the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date less the fair value of the plan assets at the reporting date.

The Institution recognises a liability for its obligations under defined benefit plans net of plan assets. This net defined benefit liability is measured as the estimated amount of benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods, discounted to determine its present value, less the fair

value (at bid price) of plan assets. The calculation is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method. Where the calculation results in a net asset, recognition of the asset is limited to the extent to which the Institution is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan.

Annually the Institution engages independent actuaries to calculate the obligation for the PAS.

The present value is determined by discounting the estimated future payments at a discount rate based on market yields on high quality corporate bonds denominated in sterling with terms approximating to the estimated period of the future payments.

The fair value of a scheme's assets is measured in accordance with the FRS 102 fair value hierarchy and in accordance with the Institution's policy for similarly held assets. This includes the use of appropriate valuation techniques.

Actuarial gains and losses arising from experience adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are charged or credited to other comprehensive income. These amounts together with the return on plan assets, less amounts included in net interest, are disclosed as actuarial gains and losses.

The cost of the defined benefit plan, recognised in expenditure as staff costs except where it is included in the cost of an asset, comprises the increase in pension benefit liability arising from employee service during the period and the cost of plan introductions, benefit changes, curtailments, and settlements. The net interest cost is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net liability. This cost is recognised in expenditure as a finance cost.

Further detail is provided on the specific pension schemes in note 31 to the accounts.

7. EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Short-term employment benefits including salaries and compensated absences, such as holiday pay, are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employees render service to the Institution. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the Institution expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement using the salary rate applying at the date of the Statement of Financial Position.

8. FINANCE LEASES

Leases in which the Institution assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the leased asset are classified as finance leases. Leased assets acquired by way of finance lease, and the corresponding lease liabilities, are initially recognised at an amount equal to the lower of their fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments at inception of the lease.

Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding liability. The finance charge is allocated to each period during the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

9. SERVICE CONCESSION ARRANGEMENTS

Fixed assets held under service concession arrangements are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position at the present value of the minimum lease payments when the assets are bought into use with a corresponding financial liability. Payments under the service concession arrangement are allocated between service costs, finance charges and financial liability repayments to reduce the financial liability to nil over the life of the arrangement.

10. OPERATING LEASES

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Any lease premiums or incentives are spread over the lease term.

11. FOREIGN CURRENCY

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the respective functional currencies of group entities at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the reporting date are translated to the functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised as surplus or deficit.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities

denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are retranslated to the functional currency at foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was determined.

12. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

LAND AND BUILDINGS

Land and buildings are capitalised at cost on initial recognition.

After initial recognition land and buildings are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Certain items of land and buildings that had been revalued to fair value on or prior to the date of transition to the 2015 FE HE SORP are measured on the basis of deemed cost, being the revalued amount at the date of that revaluation.

Costs incurred in relation to land and buildings after initial purchase or construction are capitalised to the extent that they increase the expected future benefits to the Institution.

Freehold land is not depreciated as it is considered to have an indefinite useful life. Freehold buildings are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their expected useful lives as follows:

New build	50 years
Refurbishments	15 years
Fixtures and fittings	5-10 years

Where an item of land and buildings comprise two or more major components with substantially different useful economic lives (UELs), each component is accounted for separately and depreciated over its individual UEL. Expenditure relating to subsequent replacement of components is capitalised as incurred.

Leasehold land is depreciated over the life of the lease up to a maximum of 50 years.

No depreciation is charged on assets in the course of construction.

It is the Institution's policy to depreciate a full year in the year of acquisition or completion and nothing in the year of disposal.

Statement of principal accounting policies

Continued

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at the date of preparation of each Statement of financial position.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment is capitalised at cost on initial recognition and then subsequently at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Equipment costing less than £25,000 per individual item (or group of related items) is recognised as expenditure. All other equipment is capitalised.

Capitalised equipment is stated at cost and depreciated over its expected useful life as follows:

Computer equipment	4 years
Motor vehicles	4 years
Equipment acquired for specific research projects	3 years
Other equipment	4 years

It is the Institution's policy to depreciate a full year in the year of acquisition and nothing in the year of disposal.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at the date of preparation of each Statement of Financial Position.

IMPAIRMENT

A review for potential indicators of impairment of property, plant and equipment is carried out at each reporting date. If events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the property, plant and equipment may not be recoverable, an assessment is completed and any impairment charge arising is recognised against the asset and in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

BORROWING COSTS

Borrowing costs which are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset are capitalised.

13. HERITAGE ASSETS

Heritage assets are individual objects, collections, specimens or structures of historic, scientific or artistic

value that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture.

The Institution holds a number of collections, exhibits and artefacts, most of which have been donated to the Institution. These assets have not been capitalised, since reliable estimates of cost or value are not available at a cost that is commensurate with the benefits to the users of the financial statements.

14. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets purchased separately are initially recognised at cost.

Intangible assets, excluding development costs, created within the business are not capitalised and charged to expenditure in the year incurred. Website development costs are expensed as incurred.

Subsequent to initial recognition, intangible assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment.

Intangible assets are amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The useful economic lives of each intangible asset will be determined at the time it is brought into use. If there are indicators that the residual value or useful life of an intangible asset has changed since the most recent annual reporting period previous estimates shall be reviewed and, if current expectations differ the residual value, amortisation method or useful life shall be amended. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected changes in fair value recognised immediately in the surplus or deficit for the year.

15. INVESTMENTS

Investments in securities are held at fair value with movements recognised in surplus or deficit.

Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates are carried at cost less impairment in the Institution's separate financial statements.

Initial investments in spinout companies are written off.

Short-term cash deposits, with a maturity date of more than three months from the placement date, are recognised at amortised cost.

16. INVENTORY

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell.

17. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash includes cash in hand, deposits repayable on demand and overdrafts. Deposits are repayable on demand if they are in practice available within 24 hours without penalty. Cash includes GBP and foreign currency balances (see note 24).

Cash equivalents are short term (maturity being less than three months from the placement date), highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

18. PROVISIONS, COMMITMENTS, CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

Provisions are recognised in the financial statements when:

- the Institution has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
- a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects risks specific to the liability.

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the Institution a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Institution. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Institution a probable asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Institution.

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position but are disclosed in the notes.

Capital commitments at the Statement of Financial Position date are not capitalised but detail is included in note 26.

19. TAXATION

Current tax, including UK corporation tax and foreign tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or

recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

Deferred tax is provided in full on timing differences that exist at the reporting date and that result in an obligation to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax in the future. The deferred tax is measured at the rate expected to apply in periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on the tax rates and laws that are enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets shall be recognised only to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

The Institution is an exempt charity within the meaning of Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011. It is therefore a charity within the meaning of Para 1 of schedule 6 to the Finance Act 2010 and accordingly, the Institution is potentially exempt from UK Corporation Tax in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by section 478-488 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes.

The Institution receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax (VAT). Irrecoverable VAT on expenditure (revenue and capital) is included in the costs of such expenditure. Any irrecoverable VAT allocated to fixed assets is included in their cost.

The Institution's subsidiary companies are subject to Corporation Tax and VAT in the same way as any commercial organisation.

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Institution has elected to adopt Sections 11 and 12 of FRS 102 in respect of the recognition and measurement of financial instruments.

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised when the Institution becomes party to the contractual provision of the instrument and they are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

A financial asset and a financial liability are offset only when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the

Statement of principal accounting policies

Continued

recognised amounts and an intention either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

FINANCIAL ASSETS

Basic financial assets include trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, and investments in commercial paper, i.e., deposits and bonds. These assets are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Such assets are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the present value of the estimated future cash flows, discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate.

Other financial assets, including investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates, or joint ventures are initially measured at fair value, which is typically the transaction price. These assets are subsequently carried at fair value and changes in fair value at the reporting date are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income. Where the investment in an equity instrument is not publicly traded, and where the fair value cannot be reliably measured, the assets are measured at cost less impairment.

Financial assets are de-recognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled or substantially all of the risks and rewards of the ownership of the asset are transferred to another party.

Derivatives, including forward foreign exchange contracts, are not basic financial instruments.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date the derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured at their fair value at the reporting date. Changes in the fair value of derivatives are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income in finance costs or finance income as appropriate.

FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

Basic financial liabilities include trade and other payables, bank loans, and intra-group loans. These liabilities are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Fees paid on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan to the extent that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods and services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Trade payables are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

To the extent that the Institution enters into forward foreign exchange contracts which remain unsettled at the reporting date the fair value of the contracts is reviewed at that date. The initial fair value is measured as the transaction price on the date of inception of the contracts. Subsequent valuations are considered on the basis of the forward rates for those unsettled contracts at the reporting date. The Institution does not apply hedge accounting in respect of forward foreign exchange contracts held to manage cash flow exposures of forecast transactions denominated in foreign currencies.

Financial liabilities are de-recognised when the liability is discharged, cancelled, or expires.

21. RESERVES

Reserves are classified as restricted or unrestricted.

Restricted endowment reserves include balances which, through endowment to the Institution, are held as a permanently restricted fund which the Institution must hold in perpetuity.

Other restricted reserves include balances where the donor has designated a specific purpose and therefore the Institution is restricted in the use of these funds.

22. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The preparation of the Institution's financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates, and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income, and expenses. These judgements, estimates, and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

The following are deemed to be areas of critical accounting estimate:

Recoverability of debtors – the provision for doubtful debts is based on an estimate of the expected recoverability of those debts. Assumptions are made based on the level of debtors which have defaulted historically, coupled with current economic knowledge. The provision is based on the current situation of the customer, the age profile of the debt and the nature of the amount due. Carrying values are disclosed in note 15.

Retirement benefit obligations – the cost of defined benefit pension plans are determined using actuarial valuations. The actuarial valuation involves making assumptions about discount rates, future salary increases, mortality rates and future pension increases. Due to the complexity of the valuation, the underlying assumptions and the long-term nature of these plans, such estimates are subject to significant uncertainty. Further details are given in note 31.

Property, plant and equipment – as this represents a significant proportion of the Institution's total assets and the estimated useful lives can have a significant impact on the depreciation charged and the Institution's reported performance. Useful lives are determined at the time the asset is acquired and reviewed regularly for appropriateness. The lives are based on historical experience with similar assets as well as anticipation of future events. Details of the carrying values of property, plant and equipment are shown in note 13.

Fair value measurement – the Institution recognises the following items at fair value: derivative financial instruments (notes 15 and 18) and endowment

investments (notes 14 and 16). The fair value measurement of these assets and liabilities utilises market observable inputs and data as far as possible.

The following are deemed to be areas of critical accounting judgement:

Income recognition – judgement is applied in determining the value and timing of certain income items to be recognised in the financial statements. This includes determining when performance related conditions have been met, and determining the revenues associated with partially delivered courses and training where the activities have not been fully completed at the reporting date.

Income recognition for endowments and donations – new endowments and donations are recognised on an entitlement basis. Where income has been pledged in the year but cash will be received over a number of years, an analysis of the performance conditions attached to the income is undertaken. If there are no performance conditions attached to the pledged gift, and the University is in receipt of a signed gift agreement, then the total amount is recognised in the year of the pledge, along with a corresponding debtor. Details of the amounts recognised in respect of pledged endowments are included in note 22.

Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) – judgement is applied in determining the value and FRS 102 makes the distinction between a group plan and a multi-employer scheme. Management is satisfied that USS meets the definition of a multi-employer scheme and therefore recognises the discounted fair value of the contractual contributions under the funding plan in existence at the date of approving the financial statements. If the Institution is contractually bound to make deficit recovery payments to USS, these are recognised as a liability on the Statement of financial position. Any provision will be based on the latest USS deficit recovery which will be reassessed within each triennial valuation of the scheme. The provision will be based on management's estimate of expected future salary inflations, changes in staff numbers and the prevailing rate of discount. Further details are set out in note 19 and note 31.

Consolidated and institution statement of comprehensive income

Year ended 31 July 2024

Income	Notes	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
		Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Tuition fees and education contracts	1	192,493	192,493	185,913	185,913
Funding body grants	2	52,854	52,854	50,655	50,655
Research grants and contracts	4	74,482	74,482	70,345	70,345
Other income	5	61,254	59,441	60,518	59,036
Investment income	6	1,302	1,930	268	764
Donations and endowments	7	3,403	3,403	1,300	1,300
Total income		385,788	384,603	368,999	368,013
Expenditure					
Staff costs	8	218,451	215,549	200,943	198,166
Exceptional staff costs	8	(96,864)	(96,864)	(9,127)	(9,127)
Other operating expenses		132,833	133,623	127,523	128,692
Depreciation	13	34,764	34,755	33,412	33,404
Amortisation	12	786	786	621	621
Interest and other finance costs	9	9,223	9,223	4,612	4,625
Total expenditure	10a	299,193	297,072	357,984	356,381
Surplus before other gains		86,595	87,531	11,015	11,632
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		594	594	900	900
Gain on investments		2,238	2,238	659	659
Share of operating loss in associate	14	(539)	-	(432)	-
Surplus before tax		88,888	90,363	12,142	13,191
Taxation		(331)	(331)	(456)	(456)
Surplus for the year		88,557	90,032	11,686	12,735
Other comprehensive (expenditure)					
Actuarial (loss) in respect of pension schemes	31	(2,546)	(2,546)	(1,721)	(1,721)
Total comprehensive income for the year		86,011	87,486	9,965	11,014
Represented by:					
Endowment comprehensive expenditure for the year		2,621	2,621	(966)	(966)
Restricted comprehensive income for the year		(185)	(185)	285	285
Unrestricted comprehensive income/(expenditure) for the year		83,575	85,050	10,646	11,695
		86,011	87,486	9,965	11,014
Attributable to:					
Non-controlling interest		-	-	-	-
Institution		86,011	87,486	9,965	11,014
		86,011	87,486	9,965	11,014
Surplus for the year attributable to:					
Non-controlling interest		-	-	-	-
Institution		88,557	90,032	11,686	12,735
		88,557	90,032	11,686	12,735

All items of income and expenditure relate to continuing activities. The notes on pages 62-93 form part of these financial statements.

Consolidated and institution statement of changes in reserves

Year ended 31 July 2024

Consolidated

	Income and Expenditure Account				
	Endowment £'000	Restricted £'000	Unrestricted £'000	Non Controlling Interest £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 August 2022	24,262	2,344	50,766	-	77,372
Surplus for the year	739	878	10,069	-	11,686
Other comprehensive (expenditure)	-	-	(1,721)	-	(1,721)
Release of endowment and restricted funds spent in year	(1,705)	(593)	2,298	-	-
Transactions with non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(expenditure) for the year	(966)	285	10,646	-	9,965
Balance at 1 August 2023	23,296	2,629	61,412	-	87,337
Surplus for the year	4,043	627	83,887	-	88,557
Other comprehensive (expenditure)	-	-	(2,546)	-	(2,546)
Release of endowment and restricted funds spent in year	(1,422)	(812)	2,234	-	-
Transactions with non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(expenditure) for the year	2,621	(185)	83,575	-	86,011
Balance at 31 July 2024	25,917	2,444	144,987	-	173,348

Institution

	Income and Expenditure Account				
	Endowment £'000	Restricted £'000	Unrestricted £'000	Non Controlling Interest £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 August 2022	24,262	2,344	59,312	-	85,918
Surplus for the year	739	878	11,118	-	12,735
Other comprehensive (expenditure)	-	-	(1,721)	-	(1,721)
Release of endowment and restricted funds spent in year	(1,705)	(593)	2,298	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	(966)	285	11,695	-	11,014
Balance at 1 August 2023	23,296	2,629	71,007	-	96,932
Surplus for the year	4,043	627	85,362	-	90,032
Other comprehensive (expenditure)	-	-	(2,546)	-	(2,546)
Release of endowment and restricted funds spent in year	(1,422)	(812)	2,234	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(expenditure) for the year	2,621	(185)	85,050	-	87,486
Balance at 31 July 2024	25,917	2,444	156,057	-	184,418

The notes on pages 62-93 form part of these financial statements.

Consolidated and institution statement of financial position

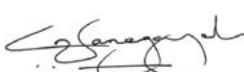
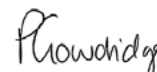
Year ended 31 July 2024

	Notes	As at 31 July 2024		As at 31 July 2023	
		Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Non-current assets					
Intangible assets	12	3,135	3,135	2,715	2,715
Tangible assets	13	493,420	493,405	499,382	499,358
Investments	14	5,885	5,911	7,186	6,623
		502,440	502,451	509,283	508,696
Current assets					
Stock		364	364	366	366
Trade and other receivables	15	36,769	47,202	36,436	45,880
Investments	16	16,121	16,121	13,223	13,223
Cash and cash equivalents	24	16,157	16,140	22,411	22,381
		69,411	79,827	72,436	81,850
Less: Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(155,283)	(154,656)	(143,830)	(143,094)
Net current liabilities		(85,872)	(74,829)	(71,394)	(61,244)
Total assets less current liabilities		416,568	427,622	437,889	447,452
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(223,167)	(223,151)	(231,572)	(231,540)
Provisions					
Pension provisions	19	(19,539)	(19,539)	(118,427)	(118,427)
Other provisions	19	(514)	(514)	(553)	(553)
Total net assets		173,348	184,418	87,337	96,932
Restricted reserves					
Income and expenditure reserve – endowment reserve	22	25,917	25,917	23,296	23,296
Income and expenditure reserve – restricted reserve	23	2,444	2,444	2,629	2,629
Unrestricted reserves					
Income and expenditure reserve – unrestricted		144,987	156,057	61,412	71,007
		173,348	184,418	87,337	96,932
Non-controlling interest		-	-	-	-
Total reserves		173,348	184,418	87,337	96,932

The notes on pages 62-93 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by Council on 4 December 2024 and were signed on its behalf on that date by:

Dr Sophie Dale-Black, Vice-Chair of Council | Professor Nishan Canagarajah, President and Vice-Chancellor | Paul Gowdridge, Chief Financial Officer

Consolidated statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 July 2024

Cash flow from operating activities	Notes	July 2024 £'000	July 2023 £'000
Surplus before tax for the year		88,888	12,142
Adjustment for non-cash items:			
Depreciation	13	34,764	33,412
Amortisation	12	786	621
Loss/(gain) on investments		(2,238)	(659)
(Increase)/decrease in stock		2	(63)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	15	(602)	2,053
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	17	8,452	1,013
Increase/(decrease) in pension provision	19	(101,434)	(20,305)
Increase/(decrease) in other provisions	19	(39)	78
Share of operating loss in associate	14	539	432
Dividends received from associate	14	-	171
Adjustment for investing or financing activities:			
Investment income	6	(1,302)	(268)
Interest payable	9	5,293	4,612
Other finance charges		806	-
Endowment income	22	(1,859)	(305)
Gain on the sale of fixed assets		(594)	(900)
Capital grant income		(8,684)	(9,376)
Cash from operations		22,778	-
Taxation paid		(331)	-
Net cash inflow from operating activities		22,447	22,658
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sales of fixed assets		714	2,505
Capital grant receipts		6,985	7,202
Investment income		1,302	268
Payments made to acquire fixed assets		(28,568)	(33,382)
Payments made to acquire intangible assets		(1,206)	(1,804)
Proceeds from sales of current asset investments		-	2,122
		(20,773)	(23,089)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid		(5,085)	(3,532)
New endowments		1,859	305
Endowment payments		(1,422)	(1,705)
Repayments of amounts borrowed		(3,280)	(7,182)
		(7,928)	(12,114)
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(6,254)	(12,545)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	24	22,411	34,956
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	24	16,157	22,411

The notes on pages 62-93 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the accounts

Year ended 31 July 2024

1	Tuition fees and education contracts	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
		Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
	Full-time home and EU students	109,535	109,535	98,537	98,537
	Full-time international students	67,261	67,261	73,315	73,315
	Part-time students	10,680	10,680	9,728	9,728
	Research training support grant	5,017	5,017	4,333	4,333
		192,493	192,493	185,913	185,913

2 Funding body grants

Recurrent grant

Office for Students	17,993	17,993	15,840	15,840
Research England	21,336	21,336	21,353	21,353

Specific grants

Higher Education Innovation Fund	8,041	8,041	6,182	6,182
Capital grant	4,347	4,347	4,493	4,493
Other	1,137	1,137	2,787	2,787
	52,854	52,854	50,655	50,655

Capital grant comprises amounts received from the above bodies for the purposes of capital development and expenditure. Funds are held within creditors and released to income over the useful life of the asset. Of the amounts disclosed **£2.53m (2023: £2.6m)** relates to buildings and **£1.82m (2023: £1.9m)** relates to equipment.

3 Sources of grant and fee income

Grant income from OfS	18,595	18,595	16,753	16,753
Grant income from other bodies	34,258	34,258	33,902	33,902
Fee income for taught awards	179,513	179,513	173,484	173,484
Fee income for research awards	5,787	5,787	6,233	6,233
Fee income from non-qualifying courses	7,194	7,194	6,196	6,196
Total grant and fee income (notes 1 and 2)	245,347	245,347	236,568	236,568

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

4	Research grants and contracts	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
		Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
	Research councils	19,940	19,940	19,146	19,146
	Research charities	8,787	8,787	9,762	9,762
	Government (UK and overseas)	29,138	29,138	24,425	24,425
	Industry and commerce	4,904	4,904	5,212	5,212
	Research capital grants	3,353	3,353	3,902	3,902
	Other	8,360	8,360	7,898	7,898
		74,482	74,482	70,345	70,345

Of the amounts disclosed as research capital grants **£2,804,673 (2023: £3,165,174)** is funded by research councils, **£5,000 (2023: £nil)** is funded by research charities, **£402,401 (2023: £560,601)** is funded by other government sources and **£141,239 (2023: £176,087)** is funded by other sources.

5 Other income

Residences, catering and conferences	28,370	26,151	25,706	23,892
NHS funded posts	15,318	15,318	15,618	15,618
Other services rendered	4,665	4,665	4,593	4,593
Retail	41	41	33	33
Other capital grants	983	983	981	981
Other income	11,877	12,283	13,587	13,919
	61,254	59,441	60,518	59,036

6 Investment income

Investment income on endowments	22	-	-	16	16
Other investment income		1,302	1,302	252	252
Interest receivable on intercompany loans		-	628	-	496
		1,302	1,930	268	764

7 Donations and endowments

New endowments	22	1,860	1,860	305	305
Donations with restrictions	23	159	159	746	746
Unrestricted donations		1,384	1,384	249	249
		3,403	3,403	1,300	1,300

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

8 Staff costs	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Salaries	174,368	171,768	156,620	154,109
Social security costs	18,415	18,239	16,579	16,418
Pension costs	25,223	25,097	27,591	27,486
Severance costs	445	445	153	153
	218,451	215,549	200,943	198,166
Exceptional item: Movement on USS provision	(96,864)	(96,864)	(9,127)	(9,127)
Total	121,587	118,685	191,816	189,039

A further breakdown of pension costs is included in note 31.

Total remuneration of the President and Vice-Chancellor	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Professor Nishan Canagarajah £'000		Professor Nishan Canagarajah £'000	
Basic salary	328		288	
Performance related pay and other bonuses	-		5	
Taxable benefits:				
Subsidised accommodation	-		-	
Pension contributions to USS	9		18	
	337		311	
Other non-taxable benefits				
	337		311	

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

8 Staff costs (continued)

Professor Nishan Canagarajah

The President and Vice-Chancellor's basic salary is **8.45 times (2023: 7.7)** the median pay of staff, where the median pay is calculated on a full-time equivalent basis for the salaries paid by the Institution to its staff.

The President and Vice-Chancellor's total remuneration is **7.9 times (2023: 7.1)** the median total remuneration of staff, where the median total remuneration is calculated on a full-time equivalent basis for the total remuneration paid by the Institution of its staff.

The median salary and remuneration figures used in the above calculations include all staff that are included in real-time reporting to HMRC.

The emoluments of the President and Vice-Chancellor are determined by Council on the recommendation of the Remuneration Committee. The President and Vice-Chancellor is not in attendance for, or plays any part in the discussions over their own emoluments.

Remuneration Committee consider two key factors in order to determine any increase to salary, bonus payments or benefits. The first is the comparative position compared to a benchmark group of other similar sized research-intensive UK universities. The second is the achievements and contributions made during the year which are assessed through the appraisal process. This process includes an assessment of the success and progress achieved against a set of agreed performance objectives. The Committee rewards strong performance and delivery of the Institution's strategic plan.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

8 Staff costs (continued)

OTHER HIGHER PAID STAFF

The number of staff with a basic salary of over **£100,000 per annum, including the President and Vice-Chancellor**, has been included below. Where a proportion of the salary is reimbursed by another body, such as the NHS, only the portion paid by the Institution is disclosed.

	2023-24	2022-23
Basic salary per annum	No.	No.
£100,000 - £104,999	15	11
£105,000 - £109,999	18	19
£110,000 - £114,999	7	6
£115,000 - £119,999	12	12
£120,000 - £124,999	7	4
£125,000 - £129,999	5	2
£130,000 - £134,999	6	5
£135,000 - £139,999	3	1
£140,000 - £144,999	2	2
£145,000 - £149,999	1	1
£150,000 - £154,999	1	-
£155,000 - £159,999	-	-
£160,000 - £164,999	-	3
£165,000 - £169,999	3	-
£170,000 - £174,999	-	1
£175,000 - £179,999	2	-
£180,000 - £184,999	-	-
£185,000 - £189,999	-	-
£190,000 - £194,999	-	-
£195,000 - £199,999	-	-
£200,000 - £204,999	-	-
£205,000 - £209,999	-	1
£210,000 - £214,999	1	1
£215,000 - £219,999	-	-

	2023-24	2022-23
Basic salary per annum	No.	No.
£220,000 - £224,999	1	-
£225,000 - £229,999	-	-
£230,000 - £234,999	-	-
£235,000 - £239,999	1	-
£240,000 - £244,999	-	-
£245,000 - £249,999	-	-
£250,000 - £254,999	-	-
£255,000 - £259,999	-	-
£260,000 - £264,999	-	-
£265,000 - £269,999	-	-
£270,000 - £274,999	-	-
£275,000 - £279,999	-	-
£280,000 - £284,999	-	-
£285,000 - £289,999	-	-
£290,000 - £294,999	-	1
£295,000 - £299,999	-	-
£300,000 - £304,999	-	-
£305,000 - £309,999	-	-
£310,000 - £314,999	-	-
£315,000 - £319,999	-	-
£320,000 - £324,999	-	-
£325,000 - £329,999	1	-
	86	70

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

8 Staff costs (continued)

Average staff numbers by major category

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Consolidated	Institution	Consolidated	Institution
Academic and clinical	1,074	1,074	1,010	1,010
Research	453	453	427	427
Administration, library, computer and other related	990	980	953	942
Technical	281	281	275	275
Clerical, manual and ancillary	1,111	1,032	1,064	995
	3,909	3,820	3,729	3,649

The total compensation for loss of office paid to **49 (2023: 48)** people during the year was **£445,430 (2023: £153,229)**.

All severance payments including compensation for loss of office in respect of higher paid staff are approved by the Institution's Remuneration Committee. Amounts for compensation for loss of office and redundancy for all other staff are approved by management in accordance with delegated authority.

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Institution. Staff costs includes compensation paid to key management personnel. The Institution considers its key management personnel to be those individuals who serve the Executive Board. Current membership of the Executive Board is detailed on our website: le.ac.uk/about/who-we-are/senior-management/executive-board

Compensation consists of salary and benefits including any employer's pension contribution.

	Year ended 31 July 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023
	£'000	£'000
Key management personnel compensation	2,091	1,965
FTEs for key management	11	11

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

9 Interest and other finance costs	Notes	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
		Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Loan interest		5,293	5,293	2,803	2,816
Exchange differences		152	152	19	19
Change in fair value of derivatives		654	654	(2,519)	(2,519)
Unwind of discount on USS pension provision	19	2,249	2,249	3,651	3,651
Net charge on PAS pension scheme	31	875	875	658	658
		9,223	9,223	4,612	4,625

10a Analysis of total expenditure by activity

Academic and related expenditure		172,999	172,999	168,814	168,814
Administration and central services		71,559	71,559	71,124	71,124
Premises		52,701	52,701	43,971	43,971
Residences, catering and conferences		33,559	31,438	31,124	29,503
Research grants and contracts		58,252	58,252	55,651	55,651
Other expenses including USS provision movement	8	(89,877)	(89,877)	(12,700)	(12,682)
		299,193	297,072	357,984	356,381

Other operating expenses include:

External auditors remuneration in respect of audit services (exc. VAT)		217	149	209	143
External auditors remuneration in respect of non-audit services (exc. VAT)		34	34	35	35
Operating lease rentals:					
Land and buildings		134	134	148	148
Other		675	675	333	333

10b Access and participation

Access investment (i)		2,642	2,642	2,493	2,493
Financial support		2,758	2,758	3,552	3,552
Disability support (ii)		672	672	592	592
Research and Evaluation (iii)		46	46	44	44
		6,118	6,118	6,681	6,681

(i) £2,249,551 (2023: £2,122,589), (ii) £770,468 (2023: £629,736) and (iii) £45,649 (2023: £44,418) of these costs (before netting off the income) are already included in the overall staff costs figures included in the financial statements, see note 8.

Our Access and Participation Plan is available on our website: le.ac.uk/about/making-a-difference/equality or the Office for Students website: officeforstudents.org.uk/the-register

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

11 Taxation	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Recognised in the statement of comprehensive income				
Current tax				
Foreign tax	331	331	456	456
Current tax expense	331	331	456	456
Deferred tax expense	-	-	-	-
Total tax expense	331	331	456	456
Factors affecting the tax charge				
Surplus before taxation	88,888	90,363	12,142	13,191
UK corporation tax at 25% (2023: 22%)	22,222	22,591	2,671	2,902
Effect of:				
(Surplus) falling within charitable exemption	(21,891)	(22,260)	(2,215)	(2,446)
Total tax expense	331	331	456	456

The rate of UK corporation tax increased from 22% to 25% on 1 April 2023.

12 Intangible assets

Consolidated and Institution	31 July 2024	31 July 2023
Software	£'000	£'000
Opening balance	2,715	1,532
Additions in the year	1,206	1,804
Amortisation charge for the year	(786)	(621)
Closing balance	3,135	2,715

Additions during the year relate to the purchase and development of software intangible assets. The amortisation period is between 3 and 10 years.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

13 Tangible assets		Freehold land and buildings	Leasehold land and buildings	Equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Assets in the course of construction	Right of use asset	Total
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Consolidated								
Cost	At 1 August 2023	586,225	27,919	54,382	13,915	30,152	7,970	720,563
	Additions	4,676	14	7,315	485	7,635	8,797	28,922
	Transfers	17,151	-	2,370	1,480	(21,001)	-	-
	Disposals	-	-	(211)	-	-	(7,970)	(8,181)
	At 31 July 2024	608,052	27,933	63,856	15,880	16,786	8,797	741,304
Depreciation	At 1 August 2023	156,740	10,503	44,179	9,759	-	-	221,181
	Charge for the year	15,858	716	8,860	1,360	-	7,970	34,764
	Disposals	-	-	(91)	-	-	(7,970)	(8,061)
	At 31 July 2024	172,598	11,219	52,948	11,119	-	-	247,884
Net book value								
	At 31 July 2024	435,454	16,714	10,908	4,761	16,786	8,797	493,420
	At 31 July 2023	429,485	17,416	10,203	4,156	30,152	7,970	499,382
Institution								
Cost	At 1 August 2023	586,225	27,919	54,382	11,152	30,152	7,970	717,800
	Additions	4,676	14	7,315	485	7,635	8,797	28,922
	Transfers	17,151	-	2,370	1,480	(21,001)	-	-
	Disposals	-	-	(211)	-	-	(7,970)	(8,181)
	At 31 July 2024	608,052	27,933	63,856	13,117	16,786	8,797	738,541
Depreciation	At 1 August 2023	156,740	10,503	44,180	7,019	-	-	218,442
	Charge for the year	15,858	716	8,859	1,352	-	7,970	34,755
	Disposals	-	-	(91)	-	-	(7,970)	(8,061)
	At 31 July 2024	172,598	11,219	52,948	8,371	-	-	245,136
Net book value								
	At 31 July 2024	435,454	16,714	10,908	4,746	16,786	8,797	493,405
	At 31 July 2023	429,485	17,416	10,202	4,133	30,152	7,970	499,358

At 31 July 2024, freehold land and buildings includes £75,663,918 (2023: £74,833,918) in respect of freehold land which is not depreciated. Leasehold land and buildings includes £830,000 (2023: £830,000) in respect of long leasehold land which is not depreciated where the long leasehold interest is deemed to be equivalent to a freehold interest.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

13 Tangible assets (continued)

Leasehold land and buildings includes:	Net book value £'000
Michael Atiyah building (125 year lease commencing 1996 from Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth I College)	3,788
Main campus sports centre (99 year lease commencing 2000 from Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth I College)	4,991
Various NHS sites	7,862
Other sites and leasehold improvements	71
At 31 July 2024	16,712
At 31 July 2023	17,416

14 Non-current investments	Investment in subsidiaries £'000	Investment in associates £'000	Other investments £'000	Total £'000
----------------------------	----------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------

Consolidated

At 1 August 2023	-	863	6,323	7,186
Share of loss retained by associate	-	(589)	-	(589)
Reclassifications	-	-	-	-
Change in fair value	-	-	(712)	(712)
At 31 July 2024	-	274	5,611	5,885

Institution

	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 August 2023	300	-	6,323	6,623
Reclassifications	-	-	-	-
Change in fair value	-	-	(712)	(712)
At 31 July 2024	300	-	5,611	5,911

The investment in subsidiary companies relates to the share capital of the subsidiary companies detailed in note 28.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

14 Non-current investments (continued)

Investment in associates

The Group has a 10% shareholding in Freeman's Common Village LLP. On 2 August 2019 the Group entered into a 50 year agreement with a consortium including Equitix (an investment company) and Engie (a constructor). The consortium designed, built, fund, manage and operate residences built on the Freeman's Common site.

Freeman's Common Village LLP funded the project via a mixture of debt and equity. The investment is accounted for on an equity basis.

Other investments

Other investments consist of:

At fair value:

Permanent endowments invested in market securities

Investment in listed shares

Consolidated and Institution	
31 July 2024	31 July 2023
£'000	£'000
5,611	6,323
-	-
5,611	6,323

Spinouts and associated investments

The Institution holds the following shares in spinout companies and associated investments:

Name	Shareholding at 31 July 2024	Principal Activity
Earthsense Systems Limited	2%	A joint venture company owned equally by the Institution, Bluesky International Limited and Professor Roland Leigh. Its principal activity is the development and commercialisation of products and services for monitoring of air quality.
OCB Media Limited	24%	Development and pursuit of electronically distributed high level e-learning material and multimedia products
Tozaro Limited (formerly MIP Discovery Limited)	1%	Commercialisation of Molecular imprinted Polymers (MIPs)
Museum Data Service	33%	Data processing, hosting on Museums activities
Midlands Mindforge Ltd	7%	A funding vehicle for university spinouts

These entities are not accounted for on an equity basis on the grounds of materiality. It is the Institution's policy to write off the initial investment in spinout companies.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

15 Trade and other receivables	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ending 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Amounts falling due within one year				
Research grants receivables	14,612	14,612	14,070	14,070
Other trade receivables	10,316	10,180	13,928	13,813
Other receivables	289	286	424	418
Prepayments and accrued income	11,552	11,471	7,745	7,675
Amounts due from subsidiary companies	-	9,984	-	8,743
Amounts falling due after more than one year				
Amounts due from subsidiary companies	-	669	-	892
Derivatives	-	-	269	269
	36,769	47,202	36,436	45,880

Other trade receivables includes a bad debt provision of **£4,140,442 (2023: £4,478,127)**.

Derivative financial instruments

Interest rate swaps and caps are valued at the present value of future cash flows estimated and discounted based on the applicable yield curves derived from quoted interest rates.

Interest rate swap contracts

The following table details the notional principal amounts and remaining terms of interest rate swap contracts outstanding as at the reporting date:

	Average contract fixed interest rate		Notional principal value		Fair value	
	2024 %	2023 %	2024 £'000	2023 £'000	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Five years or more	5.86	5.86	14,203	15,314	(385)	269

The interest rate swaps settle on a quarterly basis. The floating rate on the interest rate swaps is SONIA. The Institution will settle the difference between the fixed and floating interest rate on a net basis.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

16 Current investments	Other investments £'000	Total £'000
Consolidation and Institution		
At 1 August 2023	13,223	13,223
Additions	-	-
Change in fair value	2,898	2,898
Reclassifications	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 July 2024	16,121	16,121
Other investments consist of:	31 July 2024	31 July 2023
At fair value:	£'000	£'000
Expendable endowments invested in market securities	16,121	13,223
Investments in market securities	-	-
Amortised cost:		
Short term deposits	-	-
	16,121	13,223

17 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Unsecured loans	3,658	3,658	3,274	3,274
Trade payables	26,794	26,760	29,042	28,998
Social security and other taxation payable	21,779	21,743	9,397	9,315
Other payables	11,916	11,900	11,739	11,724
Accruals and deferred income	91,136	90,595	90,378	89,783
Amounts owed to subsidiary undertakings	-	-	-	-
	155,283	154,656	143,830	143,094

Other payables includes a **£8.8 million (2023: £8.0 million)** nominations liability in respect of the Freeman's Common development detailed in note 13.

Deferred income

Included with accruals and deferred income are the following items of income which have been deferred until specific performance related conditions have been met.

	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Research grants received on account	52,155	52,155	47,785	47,785
Grant income	348	348	1,310	1,310
Capital grant income	9,596	9,596	6,735	6,735
Other income	11,686	11,670	11,511	11,295
	73,785	73,769	67,341	67,125

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

18 Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Deferred income	116,446	116,430	121,572	121,540
Derivatives	385	385	-	-
Unsecured loans	106,336	106,336	110,000	110,000
	223,167	223,151	231,572	231,540

Analysis of unsecured loans:

Due within one year or on demand (note 17)	3,658	3,658	3,274	3,274
Due between one and two years	3,785	3,785	3,391	3,391
Due between two and five years	11,622	11,622	10,950	10,950
Due in five years or more	90,928	90,928	95,659	95,659
Due after more than one year	106,335	106,335	110,000	110,000
Total secured and unsecured loans	109,993	109,993	113,274	113,274

Included in loans are the following:

Lender	£'000	Term	Secured Unsecured	Interest Rate %	Borrower
Salix	800	n/a	Unsecured	n/a	Institution
Barclays	-	n/a	Unsecured	n/a	Institution
Barclays	5,021	2031	Unsecured	6.17	Institution
Barclays	9,183	2037	Unsecured	5.67	Institution
European Investment Bank	20,993	2038	Unsecured	3.47	Institution
European Investment Bank	19,181	2040	Unsecured	2.90	Institution
Private Placement – Lincoln National Life Insurance	19,815	2044	Unsecured	3.18	Institution
Private Placement – Lincoln National Life Insurance	10,000	2049	Unsecured	3.25	Institution
Private Placement – Pacific Life Insurance	25,000	2049	Unsecured	3.25	Institution
Total	109,993				

Deferred income

Deferred income due after more than one year represents balances on capital grants from government sources, from non-government sources where the grant stipulates performance conditions and contracted income received in advance.

Deferred income	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Capital grant income	90,507	90,507	95,067	95,067
Other income	25,939	25,923	26,505	26,473
	116,446	116,430	121,572	121,540

Derivative financial instruments

Interest rate swaps and caps are valued at the present value of future cash flows estimated and discounted based on the applicable yield curves derived from quoted interest rates.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

19 Provisions for liabilities

Pension provisions

	Obligation to fund deficit on USS pension	Defined benefit obligations (note 31)	Total pensions provisions	Total other provisions
Consolidated and Institution	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 August 2023	97,803	20,624	118,427	553
Utilised in year	(3,189)	(5,112)	(8,301)	(39)
Additions in the year	2,249	4,027	6,276	-
Released in the year	(96,863)	-	(96,863)	-
At 31 July 2024	-	19,539	19,539	514

Obligation to fund deficit on USS pension

A deficit recovery plan was put in place as part of the 2020 valuation, which required payment of 6.2% of salaries over the period 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2024, at which point the rate would increase to 6.3%. As set out in Note 31, no deficit recovery plan was required under the 2023 valuation because the scheme was in surplus on a technical provisions basis. The institution was no longer required to make deficit recovery contributions from 1 January 2024 and accordingly released the outstanding provision of £96.9m to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Defined benefit obligations

This provision relates to the University of Leicester Pension and Assurance Scheme (PAS) which arises from the contractual obligation with the pension scheme for a net defined benefit liability.

This is the present value of obligations under the defined benefit plans at the reporting date. Management have engaged Aon to determine the value of this obligation.

Further information is available in note 31.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

20 Contingent assets and liabilities

There are contingent liabilities relating to potential tax liabilities for overseas employees and overseas sales and VAT recovery for which the outcomes are uncertain and where the potential outflows are not expected to be material to the University and Consolidation.

21 Financial instruments

The carrying values of the Institution's financial assets and liabilities are summarised below:

	31 July 2024		31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Financial assets				
Measured at fair value through Statement of Comprehensive Income				
Other investments	21,732	21,732	19,546	19,546
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	269	269
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost				
Cash and cash equivalents	16,157	16,140	22,411	22,381
Other investments	-	-	-	-
Loans receivable	-	2,196	-	2,620
Trade and other receivables	25,217	25,078	28,422	35,316
Equity instruments measured at cost less impairment				
Investments in associates	274	-	863	-
Investments in subsidiaries	-	300	-	300
	63,380	65,446	71,511	80,432
Financial liabilities				
Measured at amortised cost				
Loans payable	109,993	109,993	113,274	113,274
Trade and other payables	60,489	60,403	50,178	50,037
	170,482	170,396	163,452	163,311

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

	Restricted permanent endowment	Unrestricted permanent endowment	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
22 Endowment reserves				
Consolidated and Institution				
Permanent endowments				
Balances at 1 August				
Capital	3,885	1,321	5,206	4,562
Unapplied return	1,591	214	1,805	2,922
	5,476	1,535	7,011	7,484
New endowments	17	1	18	92
Reclassifications	-	-	-	(601)
Investment income	-	-	-	2
Expenditure	(60)	-	(60)	(76)
(Decrease)/increase in market value of investments	(15)	130	115	110
Total endowment comprehensive income for the year	(58)	131	73	(473)
At 31 July	5,418	1,666	7,084	7,011
Represented by:				
Capital	3,930	1,320	5,250	5,206
Unapplied return	1,488	346	1,834	1,805
	5,418	1,666	7,084	7,011
Analysis by type of purpose:				
Lectureships			480	432
Scholarships and business			2,682	3,031
Research support			107	102
Prize funds			926	1,009
General			2,889	2,437
			7,084	7,011
Analysis by asset:				
Non-current asset investments			7,084	6,323
Cash and cash equivalents			-	688
			7,084	7,011

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000	
22 Endowment reserves (continued)			
Restricted expendable endowments			
Balance at 1 August			
Capital	12,208	9,674	
Accumulated income	4,078	7,104	
	16,286	16,778	
New endowments	1,842	213	
Reclassifications	-	601	
Investment income	-	14	
Expenditure	(1,362)	(1,629)	
Increase in market value of investments	2,068	308	
Total endowment comprehensive expenditure for the year	2,548	(493)	
At 31 July	18,833	16,285	
Represented by:			
Capital	12,162	12,208	
Accumulated income	6,671	4,077	
	18,833	16,285	
Analysis by type of purpose:			
Lectureships	1,696	2,075	
Scholarships and bursaries	2,855	2,161	
Research support	12,066	10,526	
Prize funds	273	75	
General	1,943	1,448	
	18,833	16,285	
Analysis by asset:			
Current asset investments	14,644	13,223	
Cash and cash equivalents	4,189	3,062	
Pledged endowments debtor	-	-	
	18,833	16,285	
Analysis of major endowments:			
	Capital £'000	Income £'000	Total £'000
van Geest Foundation Heart and Cardiovascular Disease Research Fund			
Balance at 1 August 2023	6,677	-	6,677
Investment income	-	-	-
Expenditure	(88)	-	(88)
Increase in market value of investments	746	-	746
Balance at 31 July 2024	7,335	-	7,335

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

	Donations £'000	Other restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
23 Restricted reserves				

Consolidated and Institution

Balances at 1 August	983	1,646	2,629	2,344
New donations	159	-	159	746
New other restricted funds	-	468	468	132
Expenditure	(508)	(304)	(812)	(593)
	(349)	164	(185)	285
At 31 July	634	1,810	2,444	2,629

	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Analysis of restricted funds by type of purpose:		
Scholarships and bursaries	221	307
Research support	2,091	1,659
General	132	663
	2,444	2,629

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

24 Cash and cash equivalents	At 1 August 2023 £'000	Cash flows £'000	At 31 July 2024 £'000
------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------

Consolidated

Cash and cash equivalents			
Endowed cash and cash equivalents	3,750	439	4,189
Non-endowed cash and cash equivalents	18,661	(6,693)	11,968
	22,411	(6,254)	16,157

Institution

	At 1 August 2023 £'000	Cash flows £'000	At 31 July 2024 £'000
Cash and cash equivalents			
Endowed cash and cash equivalents	3,750	439	4,189
Non-endowed cash and cash equivalents	18,631	(6,680)	11,951
	22,381	(6,241)	16,140

Non-endowed cash and cash equivalents includes **£114,000 (2023: £281,000)** of term deposits and notice accounts with a maturity of 3 months or less from the date of placement. At 31 July 2024 the weighted average interest rate of these fixed rate deposits was 1.45% per annum and the weighted average period for which the interest rate is fixed on these deposits was 3 months.

25 Consolidated net debt reconciliation	At 1 August 2023 £'000	Cash flows £'000	Changes in market value and exchange rates £'000	Other non- cash changes £'000	At 31 July 2024 £'000
-----------------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-----------------------------

Cash and cash equivalents	22,411	(6,254)	-	-	16,157
Derivatives	269	-	-	-	269
Borrowings due within one year					
Unsecured loans	(3,274)	3,280	-	(3,664)	(3,658)
Borrowings due after more than one year					
Unsecured loans	(110,000)	-	-	3,665	(106,335)
Derivatives	-	-	(654)	-	(654)
	(110,000)	-	(654)	3,665	(106,989)
Net debt	(90,594)	(2,974)	(654)	1	(94,221)

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

26 Capital commitments

Provision has not been made for the following capital commitments at 31 July:

	31 July 2024		31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Commitments contracted for	2,242	2,242	2,613	2,613

27 Lease obligations

Total rentals payable under operating leases are as follows:

Consolidated and Institution	Land and buildings £'000	Other £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Future minimum lease payments due:				
Not later than one year	133	658	791	763
Later than one year and not later than five years	222	1,113	1,335	1,814
Later than five years	-	4	4	4
Total lease payments due	355	1,775	2,130	2,581

28 Subsidiary undertakings

The subsidiary companies (all of which are registered in England) wholly-owned or effectively controlled by the Institution are as follows:

Company	Principal activity	Status	Note
College Court Conference Centre Limited	Operation of a conferencing facility	100% owned	14
UoL Food and Drink Limited (formerly The Leicester Services Partnership Limited)	Operation of catering facilities	100% owned	14
UOL Investments Limited	Investment holdings	100% owned	14
UOL FC Limited	Investment holdings	100% owned	14

The registered address for all the subsidiary companies is: University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

29 Related party transactions

Due to the nature of the Institution's operations and the composition of its Council (being drawn from local public and private sector organisations) and Senior Leadership Team, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of Council or the Senior Leadership Team may have an interest. All such transactions are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Institution's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. The Institution has taken advantage of the exemption within FRS 102 Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures' and has not disclosed transactions with other wholly owned group entities.

	2024			
	Income transaction £'000	Expenditure transactions £'000	Balance due from the related party £'000	Balance due to the related party £'000
University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust	15,777	6,831	1,335	544
Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust	658	59	164	-
University of Leicester Students' Union	61	56	2	-
Rockstar Marketing Group Ltd	-	66	-	-
DeMontfort University	41	139	14	19
London School of Economics	12	4	4	-
Leicester Theatre Trust	-	30	-	-
Brookvale Groby Learning Campus	-	5	-	-
Universities Superannuation Scheme	-	15	-	-
UCEA Universities and Colleges Employers Association	-	15	-	-
	16,549	7,220	1,519	563

	2023			
	Income transaction £'000	Expenditure transactions £'000	Balance due from the related party £'000	Balance due to the related party £'000
University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust	12,889	5,580	488	917
University of Leicester Students' Union	18	70	-	-
Rockstar Marketing Group Ltd	-	76	-	22
DeMontfort University	20	294	11	4
Kettering General Hospital	377	-	112	-
Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust	572	163	137	-
UK Space Agency	1,067	-	-	-
	14,943	6,183	748	943

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

The majority of income from University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust relates to staff recharges and research funding. Expenditure relates to salaries and use of facilities by staff and students.

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

The majority of income from Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust relates to staff recharges. Expenditure relates to salaries and use of facilities by staff and students.

University of Leicester Students' Union

The majority of income from University of Leicester Students' Union relates to supporting SU with their activities such as IT Equipment, Catering, graduation; expenditure relates to supplier invoices processed through the accounts payable system and payable in the normal course of business.

Rockstar Marketing Group Ltd

The majority of expenditure with Rockstar Marketing Group Ltd relates to supplier invoices processed through the accounts payable system and payable in the normal course of business.

DeMontfort University

The majority of income from DMU relates to Universities Partnership agreed costs contribution; the majority of expenditure with DeMontfort University relates to supplier invoices processed through the accounts payable system and payable in the normal course of business.

London School of Economics

The majority of income from the LSE relates to Research Project, NIHR Three Schools, Dementia Career Development Awards.

Leicester Theatre Trust

The majority of expenditure with Leicester Theatre Trust relates to supplier invoices processed through the accounts payable system and payable in the normal course of business.

Brookvale Groby Learning Campus

The majority of expenditure with Brookvale Groby Learning Campus relates to supplier invoices processed through the accounts payable system and payable in the normal course of business.

Universities Superannuation Scheme

The majority of expenditure with USS relates to supplier invoice processed the accounts payable system and payable in the normal course of business.

UCEA Universities and Colleges Employers Association

The majority of expenditure with UCEA relates to supplier invoices process through the payable system and payable in the normal course of business.

Council members

The Institution's Council members are the trustees for charitable law purposes. Due to the nature of the Institution's operations and the composition of the Council, being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Council may have an interest. All transactions involving organisations in which a member of Council may have an interest, including those identified above, are conducted at arms length and in accordance with the Institution's Financial Regulations and procurement procedures.

No Council member has received any remuneration or waived payments from the Institution during the year (2023: none).

The total expenses paid to or on behalf of 3 council members was £997 (2023: £713). The amounts paid represent travel and subsistence costs incurred in attending Council, committee meetings and charity events in their official capacity. Where Council members are also employees of the Institution, expenses claimed in their capacity as an employee are not included.

30 Events after the reporting period

On 1 August 2024, the subsidiary previously known as The Leicester Services Partnership Limited changed its trading name to UoL Food and Drink Limited. This change occurred after the end of the reporting period and is considered a non-adjusting event. The financial position of the group as of 31 July 2024 remains unaffected by this change.

The name change was made to better align with the subsidiary's strategic branding and market presence. No adjustments to the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2024 are required as a result of this change.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

31 Pension schemes

Different categories of staff are eligible to join one of the following schemes:

- Universities' Superannuation Scheme (USS).
- The University of Leicester Stakeholder Scheme.
- The Leicester Services Partnership Stakeholder Scheme.
- National Health Service Pension Scheme (NHS).

The USS has two sections which work alongside each other: the Retirement Income Builder which is a defined benefit section where benefits are based on length of service and salary up to a threshold; and the Investment Builder a defined contribution section for earnings above the salary threshold and any additional contributions members choose to make.

The two stakeholder schemes are defined contribution schemes.

The NHS scheme is a defined benefit scheme.

The Institution also continues to administer two previous pension schemes: the University of Leicester Pension and Assurance Scheme (PAS), a defined benefit scheme, and the Federated Superannuation System for Universities (FSSU), a defined contribution scheme. Both schemes are now closed to new entrants.

The amounts charged to staff costs in respect of the schemes is as follows:

	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Universities' Superannuation Scheme	21,761	21,761	24,473	24,473
University of Leicester Stakeholder Scheme	1,743	1,743	1,620	1,620
NHS Pension Scheme	1,593	1,593	1,393	1,393
The Leicester Services Partnership Stakeholder Scheme	126	-	105	-
Total pension deductions due within one year	25,223	25,097	27,591	27,486

The amounts included in creditors due within one year in respect of the schemes is as follows:

	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000	Consolidated £'000	Institution £'000
Universities' Superannuation Scheme	2,327	2,327	3,186	3,186
University of Leicester Stakeholder Scheme	227	227	223	223
NHS Pension Scheme	220	220	187	187
The Leicester Services Partnership Stakeholder Scheme	17	-	14	-
Total pension deductions due within one year	2,791	2,774	3,610	3,596

These are the July employee deductions plus employer contributions due in August.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2023

31 Pension schemes (continued)

(i) The Universities' Superannuation Scheme

As at 31 July 2024 there are **2,532 (2023: 2,409)** active members of USS.

The total (credit)/cost (released)/charged to the profit and loss account is **(£96,863,969) (2023: £9,126,874)**.

Deficit recovery contributions due within one year for the Institution are **£0 (2023: £7,692,393)**.

The latest available complete actuarial valuation of the Retirement Income Builder is as at 31 March 2023 (the valuation date), which was carried out using the projected unit method.

Since the institution cannot identify its share of USS Retirement Income Builder (defined benefit) assets and liabilities, the following disclosures reflect those relevant for those assets and liabilities as a whole.

The 2023 valuation was the seventh valuation for the scheme under the scheme-specific funding regime introduced by the Pensions Act 2004, which requires schemes to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover their technical provisions (the statutory funding objective). At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the scheme was £73.1 billion and the value of the scheme's technical provisions was £65.7 billion indicating a surplus of £7.4 billion and a funding ratio of 111%. The key financial assumptions used in the 2023 valuation are described below. More detail is set out in the Statement of Funding Principles (uss.co.uk/about-us/valuation-and-funding/statement-of-funding-principles)

CPI assumption	Term dependent rates in line with the difference between the Fixed Interest and Index Linked yield curves less: 3.0% p.a. to 2030, reducing linearly by 1.0% p.a. to a long term difference of 0.1% p.a. from 2030
Pension increases (subject to a floor of 0%)	Benefits with no cap: CPI assumption plus 3bps Benefits subject to a "soft cap" of 5% (providing inflationary increases up to 5%, and half of any excess inflation over 5% up to a maximum of 10%): CPI assumption minus 3bps
Discount rate (forward rates)	Fixed interest gilt yield curve plus: Pre-retirement: 2.5% p.a. Post retirement: 0.9% p.a.

The main demographic assumption used relates to the mortality assumptions. These assumptions are based on analysis of the scheme's experience carried out as part of the 2023 actuarial valuation. The mortality assumptions used in these figures are as follows:

	2023 valuation
Mortality base table	101% of S2PMA "light" for males and 95% of S3PFA for females.
Future improvements to mortality	CMI 2021 with a smoothing parameter of 7.5, an initial addition of 0.4% p.a., 10% w2020 and w2021 parameters, and a long-term improvement rate of 1.8% pa for males and 1.6% pa for females.

The current life expectancies on retirement at age 65 are:	2024	2023
Males currently aged 65 (years)	23.7	24.0
Females currently aged 65 (years)	25.6	25.6
Males currently aged 45 (years)	25.4	26.0
Females currently aged 45 (years)	27.2	27.4

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2023

31 Pension schemes (continued)

(ii) University of Leicester Pension and Assurance Scheme (PAS)

The PAS is a defined benefit scheme and a registered pension scheme for tax purposes (reference number 100222535).

The scheme closed to new members in July 2003 and then on 31 March 2016 to future benefit accrual. The scheme was contracted out of the State Second Pension Scheme until its closure. Active members of the scheme at the closure date were enrolled into The University of Leicester Stakeholder Plan or, if eligible, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS). As at 31 July 2024, there are **861 (2023: 861)** deferred members of the scheme.

The Trustees of the scheme have the responsibility for its management. The scheme administrators are Aon who also act as consultant and actuary to the scheme.

The last actuarial valuation was held on 31 July 2022 and this reported a past service deficit of £37.9 million, which represented a funding ratio of 85%. A recovery plan has been agreed with the Institution which provides for repayment of this deficit by 31 July 2029. The next actuarial valuation is due on 31 July 2025.

Assumptions

The financial assumptions used to calculate scheme liabilities under FRS 102 are

	At 31 July 2024 %pa	At 31 July 2023 %pa
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.95	5.10
Price inflation (RPI)	3.25	3.25
Price inflation (CPI)	3.00	3.00
Rate of increase in salaries	3.00	3.00
Pension increases	%pa	%pa
Pre 06.04.1988 GMP	0.00	0.00
Post 05.04.1988 GMP	2.25	2.30
Pre 06.04.1997 Non-GMPs	3.00	3.05
Post 05.04.1997	3.00	3.05
Post 01.08.2012	2.85	2.90

Demographic assumptions

The main demographic assumption used relates to mortality assumptions. Mortality in retirement is assumed to be in line with the Continuous Mortality Investigations (CMI) tables. The table below shows the life expectancy assumptions used in the accounting assessments based on the life expectancy of male and female members at age 65.

	Male (currently aged 65)	Male (currently aged 45)	Female (currently aged 65)	Female (currently aged 45)
At 31 July 2023 (S3PMA/S3PFA)	19.9	20.5	22.6	23.4
At 31 July 2024 (S3PMA/S3PFA)	20	20.6	22.7	23.5

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

	31 July 2024 £'000	31 July 2023 £'000
31 Pension schemes (continued)		
Scheme assets		
The assets in the scheme were:		
Equities	15,796	17,705
Bonds	82,292	74,314
Gifts	-	-
Property	8,273	8,702
Diversified growth funds	12,658	14,710
Cash	218	337
Other	-	-
Total	119,237	115,768

None of the Scheme assets are invested in the Institution's financial instruments or in property occupied by, or other assets used by, the Institution.

Analysis of the amount shown in the balance sheet for PAS:

	31 July 2024 £'000	31 July 2023 £'000
Scheme assets	119,236	115,767
Scheme liabilities	(138,775)	(136,391)
Deficit in the scheme – net pension liability recorded within pensions provision (note 19)	(19,539)	(20,624)

Analysis of the amount charged to expenditure for PAS:

	Year ended 31 July 2024 £'000	Year ended 31 July 2023 £'000
Current service cost	-	-
Past service cost	-	-
Admin expenses	606	664
Total operating charge	606	664

Analysis of the amount charged to interest payable for PAS:

Interest on net defined benefit liability	875	658
Total expenditure charge	1,481	1,322

Analysis of other comprehensive (expenditure) for PAS:

Gain/(loss) on assets	110	(34,100)
Experience (loss)/gain on liabilities	(2,656)	32,379
Total other comprehensive expenditure	(2,546)	(1,721)

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

31 Pension schemes (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023
£'000	£'000

Changes in value of defined benefit obligation

Present value of PAS liabilities at the start of the year	136,391	169,612
Past service cost	-	-
Interest expense on defined benefit obligation	6,792	5,585
Actuarial loss/(gain)	2,656	(32,379)
Actual benefit payments	(7,064)	(6,427)
Present value of PAS liabilities at the end of the year	138,775	136,391

Analysis of movement in the fair value of scheme assets

Fair value of assets at the start of the year	115,767	147,216
Interest income on assets	5,917	4,926
Gain/(loss) on assets	110	(34,100)
Actual contributions paid by Institution	5,112	4,816
Actual benefit payments	(7,064)	(6,427)
Admin costs incurred	(606)	(664)
Fair value of scheme assets at the end of the year	119,236	115,767

Actual return on scheme assets

Interest income on scheme assets	5,917	4,926
Gain/(loss) on scheme assets	110	(34,100)
	6,027	(29,174)

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

31 Pension Schemes (continued)

(iii) NHS Pension Scheme

The Institution also participates in the NHS Pension Scheme for which the notional assets are assessed by His Majesty's Government actuary with the benefits also underwritten by His Majesty's Government. The NHS Pension Scheme is a defined benefit public service pension scheme, which operates on a pay-as-you-go basis that calculates pension benefits based on career average earnings. The NHS Pension Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme that is treated as a defined contribution scheme as it is not possible to identify the Institution's share of the underlying assets and liabilities. As at 31 July 2024, the Institution had **136 (2023: 123)** employees who were members of the Scheme. The Institution allows continued membership of the NHS Pension Scheme for new employees who are already members of the NHS Pension Scheme at the point they join the University. Employees contribute between 5.2% and 12.5% of pensionable earnings with the percentage payable depending on their salary rate. The Institution contributes a further 23.78% including an 0.08% scheme administration levy (**2023: 20.68%**).

(iv) The University of Leicester Stakeholder Scheme The Leicester Services Partnership Scheme

Both Schemes are defined contribution pension schemes offered through and administered by Aviva. They are open to the Institution's support staff in salary grade level 5 and below, all employees of the Institution's trading subsidiaries and are also available to casual workers.

As at 31 July, each scheme had active members as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
The University of Leicester Stakeholder Scheme	1,199	1,229
The College Court Stakeholder Scheme	-	-
The Leicester Services Partnership Scheme	81	77

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

31 Pension Schemes (continued)

Each scheme employer contributes to the scheme in proportion to that of member contribution rate as a percentage of pensionable pay, according to the table below.

	Employee's contribution	Employer's contribution
Tier 1	3%	5%
Tier 2	4%	7%
Tier 3	5%	9%
Tier 4	6%	11%
	7% or more	11%

The scheme(s) operate a salary sacrifice arrangement for pension deductions.

As of 1 January 2016, all new scheme members are enrolled in the Aviva My Future Fund default investment fund. The Aviva default investment fund incorporates a lifestyle strategy which changes the mix of default investments as the member nears their chosen retirement age from growth investments to lower risk funds.

The Aviva My Future Fund carries a management charge of **0.43% (2023: 0.43%)** of fund value.

The Institution maintains an Advisory Group, which has employee representation, and supports the governance of the scheme(s) and provides advice on the scheme(s) to the Institution's Finance Committee. The scheme(s) retains Isio as independent pension advisors.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

32 US Department of Education: Financial Responsibility Supplemental Schedule

We have an obligation as part of our participation in the US Federal Loans program to include Supplemental Information which complies with Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 184/Monday, September 23, 2019/Rules and Regulations

The below data is prepared using UK GAAP and does not include any adjustments to comply with US GAAP.

Reference	Expendable Net Assets	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Statement of Changes in Reserves: unrestricted	Net assets without donor restrictions		144,987		61,412
Statement of Changes in Reserves: restricted + endowment + NCI	Net assets with donor restrictions		28,361		25,925
	Secured and Unsecured related party receivable	-		-	
	Unsecured related party receivable		-		-
Note 13 exc. right of use asset	Property, plant and equipment, net (includes Construction in progress)	484,623		491,412	
Note 13 exc. right of use asset and additions	Property, plant and equipment – pre-implementation		332,181		332,181
	Property, plant and equipment – post-implementation with outstanding debt for original purchase		-		-
Note 13 exc. right of use asset: additions	Property, plant and equipment – post-implementation without outstanding debt for original purchase		142,261		134,684
Note 13	Construction in progress		11,181		24,547
Note 13	Lease right-of-use asset, net	8,797		7,970	
	Lease right-of-use asset pre-implementation		-		-
	Lease right-of-use asset post-implementation		8,797		7,970
Note 12	Intangible assets		3,135		2,715
Note 19	Post-employment and pension liabilities		19,539		118,427
Note 18	Long-term debt – for long term purposes	109,994		113,274	
Note 18 less new loans in year	Long-term debt – for long term purposes pre-implementation		109,994		113,274
	Long-term debt – for long term purposes post-implementation		-		-
	Line of Credit for Construction in process		-		-
Note 17	Lease right-of-use asset liability	8,797		7,970	
	Pre-implementation right-of-use leases		-		-
Note 17	Post-implementation right-of-use leases		8,797		7,970
	Annuities with donor restrictions		-		-
	Term endowments with donor restrictions		-		-
	Life income funds with donor restrictions		-		-
Note 22 + 23	Net assets with donor restrictions: restricted in perpetuity		28,361		25,925

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Year ended 31 July 2024

32 US Department of Education: Financial Responsibility Supplemental Schedule (continued)

Reference	Total Expenses and Losses	Year ended 31 July 2024		Year ended 31 July 2023	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Note 10a	Total expenses without donor restrictions – taken directly from Statement of Comprehensive Income		299,193		357,984
Statement of Comprehensive Income: (investment income + other (gains) + actuarial (gain)/loss)	Non-Operating and Net Investment (gain)/loss		(455)		1,226
Statement of Comprehensive Income: investment income + other (gains)	Net investment losses/(gains)		(3,540)		(927)
	Pension-related changes other than net periodic costs		-		-
Modified Net Assets					
Statement of Changes in Reserves: unrestricted	Net assets without donor restrictions		144,987		61,412
Statement of Changes in Reserves: restricted + endowment + NCI	Net assets with donor restrictions		28,361		25,925
Note 12	Intangible assets		3,135		2,715
	Secured and Unsecured related party receivable	-		-	
	Unsecured related party receivable		-		-
Modified Assets					
Statement of Financial Position: total assets	Total Assets		571,851		581,719
	Lease right-of-use asset pre-implementation		-		-
	Pre-implementation right-of-use leases		-		-
Note 12	Intangible assets		3,135		2,715
	Secured and Unsecured related party receivable	-		-	
	Unsecured related party receivable		-		-
Net Income Ratio					
Statement of Changes in Reserves: unrestricted	Change in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions		83,575		10,646
Statement of Comprehensive Income: total income – investment income + gain on disposal of fixed assets	Total Revenue and Gains		385,080		369,631



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

www.le.ac.uk

Finance Division

University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK

t: +44 (0)116 252 2522

w: www.le.ac.uk



[/uniofleicester](https://www.facebook.com/uniofleicester)



[uniofleicester](https://www.instagram.com/uniofleicester)



[@uniofleicester](https://twitter.com/uniofleicester)



[university-of-leicester](https://www.linkedin.com/company/university-of-leicester)