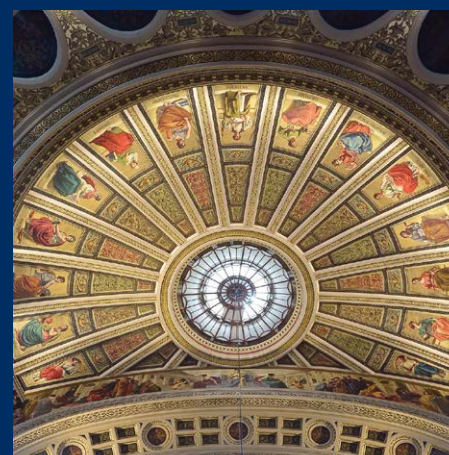
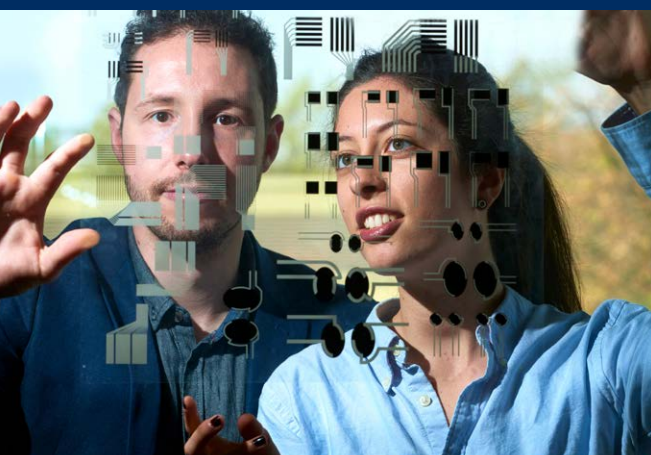
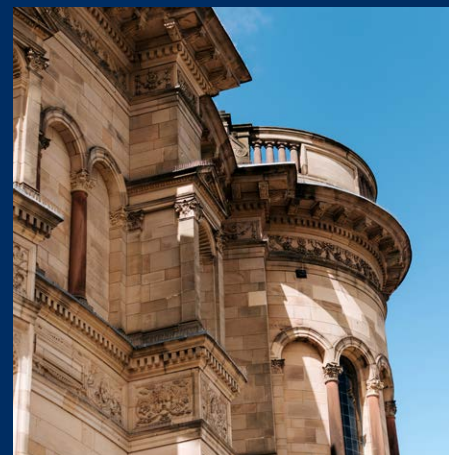




# THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

## Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31 July 2024

[www.ed.ac.uk](http://www.ed.ac.uk)



# Our vision and purpose

Our graduates, and the knowledge we discover with our partners, make the world a better place.

As a world-leading research-intensive University, we are here to address tomorrow's greatest challenges. Between now and 2030, we will do that with a values-led approach to teaching, research and innovation, and through the strength of our relationships, both locally and globally.

## Table of contents

### Overview

- 01 Headlines of 2024
- 02 Senior Lay Member of Court's foreword
- 04 Principal's welcome
- 05 Our approach to reporting
- 06 Material issues

### Strategy and value model

- 09 Our strategy
- 12 Our value model
- 14 Understanding our risks

### Operational review

- 22 Operational review

### Financial review

- 38 Director of Finance's foreword
- 40 Financial review

### Governance

- 47 Corporate governance statement

### Audit

- 55 Independent auditors' report to the Court of The University of Edinburgh

### Financial statements

- 59 Consolidated and Institution statement of comprehensive income and expenditure
- 60 Consolidated and Institution statement of changes in reserves
- 61 Consolidated and Institution statement of financial position
- 62 Consolidated statement of cash flows
- 63 Notes to the financial statements
- 102 Five-year summary (unaudited)



# Headlines of 2024

## University world league table position



→ The University continues to place in the **top 30** of the two most influential world league tables.

## Student numbers including Online Distance Learning

2024:

**49,485**



→ **Student numbers reduced by 0.5% in total, although new student intakes grew. Driving the fall was a 4% fall in postgraduate taught.** Students from Scotland increased in number but there were fewer students from both rest of UK and from outside the UK.

2023: 49,740. 2022: 49,065

## Total income

2024:

**£1,434m**



→ Total income **grew by £49m**. Investment income grew significantly by close to 50% with research and other income growth more modest at 7%. Tuition fees growth slowed further to under 3%.

2023: £1,385m. 2022: £1,298m

## Earnings Before Interest, Taxation, Depreciation & Amortisation (EBITDA)<sup>1</sup>

2024:

**£84m**



→ **EBITDA achieved** in the year **was 5.8%** of income, below our target 7-9%. The Financial Review provides further commentary on income and expenditure in the year.

2023: £148m. 2022: £168m

## Capital expenditure

2024:

**£186m**



→ **Capital expenditure (including spend on intangibles) grew in the year.** Spend on land and buildings exceeded £120m in the year, a rise of £20m from prior year. Spend on fixtures, fittings and equipment was £63m in the year.

2023: £165m. 2022: £158m

<sup>1</sup> In calculating EBITDA, adjustments are made for interest costs, capital grants and non-cash items such as depreciation and pension provision movements.

# Senior Lay Member of Court's foreword

**Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon)**  
Senior Lay Member of Court




The landscape in which the University operates is constantly evolving. The changes we've seen over the past year have been particularly pronounced, both at a domestic and international level.

We have seen a new government arrive in Westminster, ushered in with a significant majority in the House of Commons. We have felt financial challenges grip the whole higher education sector in the UK and we have witnessed the distressing scenes from the renewed conflict in Israel and Palestine.

**“We take our responsibility seriously to ensure the University not only remains sustainable amidst these changes, but to also use its immense influence to leave a positive legacy in the lives of those we work with. 🗨️”**

The University Court, the governing body for the institution, is tasked with giving the University the strategic guidance to chart its way through these shifting sands. We take our responsibility seriously to ensure the University not only remains sustainable amidst these changes, but to also use its immense influence to leave a positive legacy in the lives of those we work with.

This means making difficult decisions, something from which we do not shirk.

Our immediate and ongoing priority is to ensure the long-term financial stability

of the University. To address a shortfall in our projected tuition fee income and increased National Insurance costs for employers, a number of actions are being taken forward, including an ongoing programme of modernisation, making more efficient use of our estate and managing staffing costs. By taking such robust responses to the challenges we face, we will ensure that we maintain and develop the University's world-leading research and teaching.

The past year points to many examples of when the University has acted with integrity, delivering impressive outcomes for our community, the city and our partners.

For example, our Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) programme, a major aspect of the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal and delivered in partnership with Heriot-Watt University, continues to deliver on its ambition of turning the city and surrounding area into the data capital of Europe.

DDI's Data Education in Schools initiative won the Education Initiative of the Year title at the British Data Awards for boosting data literacy skills, vital for the economy of the future, for 40,000 participants within 850 schools.

All six of the DDI hubs are now open, including in June 2024, the Edinburgh Futures Institute.

I have loved seeing the old Royal Infirmary, an iconic building that served the city for decades, be restored to life with its transformation into the Edinburgh Futures Institute. In August 2024 it proved to be the perfect new home for the Edinburgh International Book Festival, with

the old wards filled with discussion, debate and a celebration of ideas.

We have proved to be surefooted and nimble in the face of the rapid acceleration of capabilities in AI. The launch of the Generative AI Laboratory (GAIL) brings together our already world-class expertise in this area, supercharging it and readying Edinburgh and our partners for shaping what comes next.

We have responded to global challenges in keeping with our values of being a welcoming, inclusive place and our commitment as a university of sanctuary. Our Education Beyond Borders programme provides funding, support, and community-led initiatives to ensure continued access to education for scholars displaced by conflict around the world.

We continue to be bold, ambitious, diverse and accessible to all.

For students closer to Edinburgh, we continue to demonstrate our commitment to widening participation, once again meeting the Commission for Widening Access target of 10 per cent of our intake coming from the 20 per cent most deprived areas in Scotland.

The launch of our Widening Participation Strategy 2030 this year reinforces our belief that university can be a place of transformation and self-improvement, as demonstrated by the inspiring profile of Biomedical Sciences student Alessandra Giovannelli in our Operational Review on page 23.

Protecting the environment is important to us, too. There is no future for the University if we do not secure our planet's future.

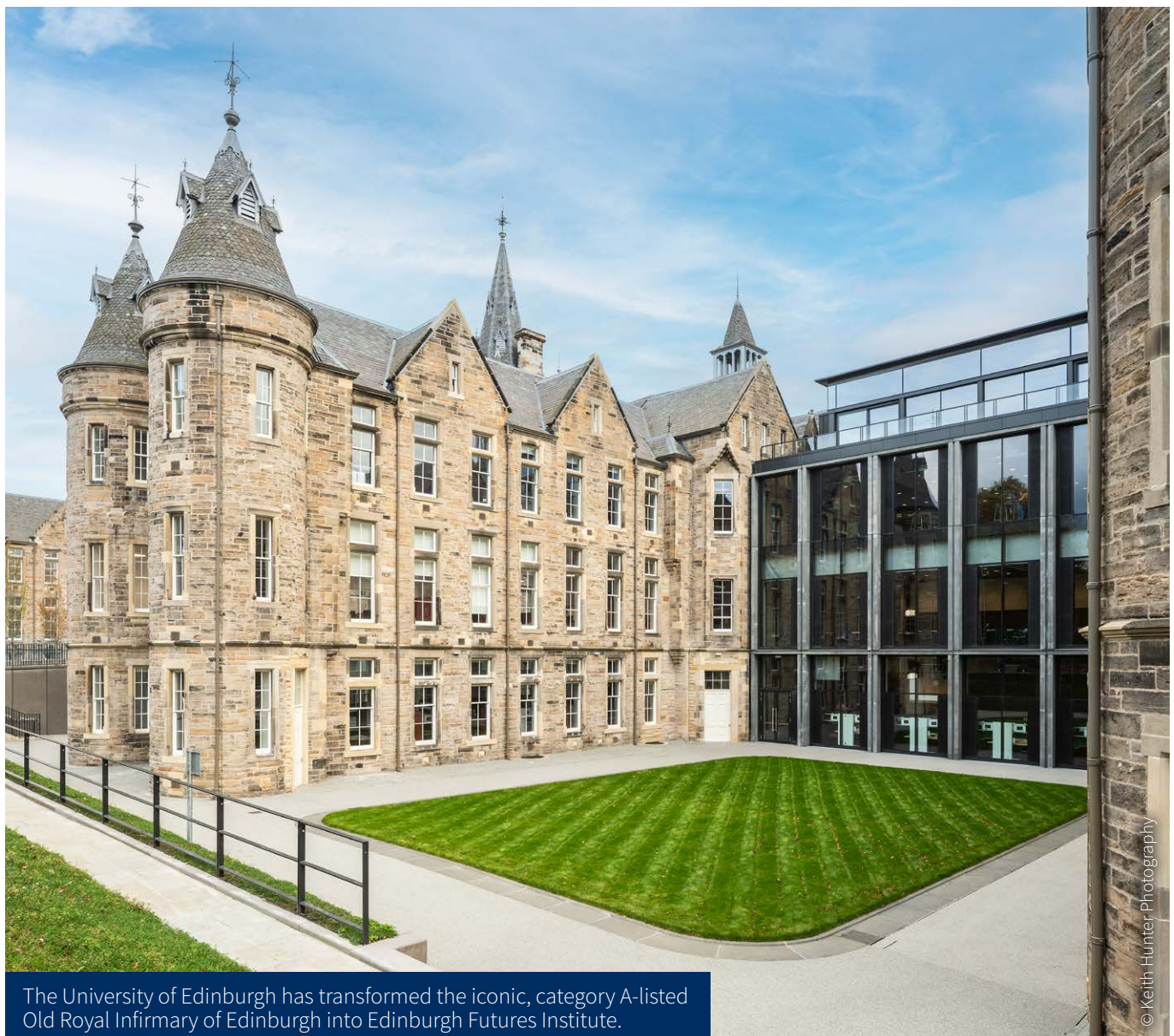
## Senior Lay Member of Court's foreword (continued)

We are supporting the transition to a fossil-free world, uniting with 60 other higher education bodies and trusts to issue a request to financial institutions to invest in products with no ties to fossil fuel expansion. In the past year, we also took major strides in planting an estimated 2 million trees and restoring at least 855 hectares of peatlands in Scotland, regenerating sites and offsetting carbon emissions.

This work, and more, contributed to the University being recognised as one of the world's top universities by The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings for delivering on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

The ground on which we work and innovate will continue to change in the next 12 months. We will engage constructively, creatively and enthusiastically with the new UK Government on projects that will deliver economic growth and societal benefit.

Through our support and research we will offer refuge and hope for those affected by events worldwide. And we ourselves will adapt and change to address the financial challenges we face, to ensure the University remains a sustainable, positive force for good in the world.



The University of Edinburgh has transformed the iconic, category A-listed Old Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh into Edinburgh Futures Institute.

© Keith Hunter Photography



# Principal's welcome

**Professor Sir Peter Mathieson**  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor

*P. W. Mathieson*



**The University of Edinburgh is a place of innovation, collaboration and bold ambition. I see this every day in the people, research, learning, teaching and other inspiring achievements I witness.**

This edition of our Annual Report and Accounts describes a generally good set of financial outcomes despite some challenging circumstances. Unfortunately, these challenges are growing in severity and urgency and the next financial year is likely to be much more difficult.

The university sector is facing severe financial challenges brought about by a series of factors, including international student recruitment within an already competitive international student market, increasing staff costs, utility costs, the impact of inflation and supply chain issues together with the continued inadequate levels of funding for Scottish domiciled and other UK students. Our outgoings are consistently growing faster than our income. We are therefore taking a series of steps to change our operating model to ensure that we remain financially sustainable. These actions will be reflected upon in more detail in the next edition of our Annual Report and Accounts.

We need to ensure that Edinburgh remains strongly placed to provide leadership in research, teaching and social impact for the immediate and longer-term future and to seize strategic opportunities when they arise. This will require changes that will be difficult and potentially painful.

The impact of our world-leading research continues to be far-reaching, across disciplines and across the globe. This year, significant strides have been made in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), sustainability and medical care. Researchers are probing the use of ethical AI, while

other academic colleagues have pinpointed cells that can help diseased livers to heal. One of our values is that our work is relevant to society, so we really are seeing our values in action.

The University's inaugural Research Impact Festival shared colleagues' experiences engaging with industry, communities, policy-makers and other practitioners to maximise the benefit of research.

**“The impact of our world-leading research continues to be far-reaching, across disciplines and across the globe. 🗨️”**

The importance of interdisciplinary work was highlighted when the Edinburgh Futures Institute opened its doors in June 2024 in the former Edinburgh Royal Infirmary building: a heritage restoration project that we can all be proud of. Students, researchers, partners and civic society can use the space for integration and collaboration, transforming it into a dynamic environment that can benefit the local and global community.

The University is committed to responsible investment and the way we invest our money has been in sharp focus this year. We invited staff and students to share their views on

our Responsible Investment Policy. The existing policy has been widely recognised as being sector-leading but we continue to keep it under review.

We also convened working groups to consider the definition of armaments and our approach to investments in the international context, with regard to UN Principles for Responsible Investment and our University's values. Outputs from this work will be considered by the University Executive and ultimately by the University Court.

We remain committed to internationalism and an inclusive environment, for example welcoming three new fellows from Palestine, Syria, and Sudan as part of our Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA) Fellowship Programme.

The Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program has entered its second phase, nurturing a community of skilled, entrepreneurial, and justice-oriented climate leaders from across Africa. Elsewhere, our Education Beyond Borders programme has also secured funding for students with refugee or related status living in the UK to undertake one-year taught postgraduate programmes. Despite the serious financial challenges facing the sector to which Edinburgh is not immune, we remain confident that we have much to offer society and governments alike: we are key contributors to the economic growth that must underpin the future. Our people contribute to making the University a bold and ambitious place of excellence. It is these individual stories that come together to make us a world-class place to work and study.

# Our approach to reporting

In the production of the 2023/24 Annual Report and Accounts, the University has once again used Integrated Reporting as a reporting framework, bringing together the diverse but interconnected strands of reporting to demonstrate how we create value for our stakeholders.

“I am pleased to have worked with many wonderful colleagues and stakeholders and I’m incredibly proud of everything we have achieved together. ”

**Lee Hamill**

Director of Finance,  
The University of Edinburgh

By following this framework, we report a broader and more meaningful explanation of our performance, offering transparency on our use of, and dependence on, different resources. It also helps us to make better short and long-term decisions on how we create value now and in the future.

Our value model highlights our access to multiple resources, the value we create from these and the resulting positive impact on the University, its stakeholders, our environment and wider society.

The University of Edinburgh’s Strategy 2030 sets out our vision to make the world a better place. The value model in this year’s Annual Report and Accounts reflects the strategic performance framework of Strategy 2030.

The value of the University is influenced by these different types of resource:

- People
- Knowledge
- Networks and relationships
- Natural resources

Each resource creating value that is underpinned by:

- Finance
- Physical estate
- Virtual infrastructure

The University’s reputation is embedded in all value created by the University.

In our future reporting, we will continue to advance the principles of integrated thinking and reporting as developed by the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC).

➔ More information: [Integrated Reporting](#)

# Material issues

## In assessing what should be included in our integrated report, we applied the principle of materiality.

Material issues have been identified as those that:

- We believe could affect our ability to create value in the short, medium or long-term;
- Are important to key stakeholders;
- Form the basis of strategic discussions and decision-making; and
- Could intensify or lead to lost opportunity if left unchecked.

Insight into how the material issues identified are managed and how they impact the University are signposted here.

### The student experience

Our most recent rating in the National Student Survey (NSS) of 70.4% (2022/23: 70.8%) serves to highlight the challenge in improving the student experience we offer. The University remains committed to improving student satisfaction as measured through the NSS as well as how we score in the Postgraduate Taught Experience and Postgraduate Research Experience Surveys.

It is understood that survey ratings below what we strive for has the potential to damage our reputation, affect future student recruitment and retention and therefore potentially impact unfavourably on the University's financial health. This is particularly the case at this moment in time where growth in the International student market has become more challenging for us and for the UK higher education sector as a whole.

Strategic programmes, aligned to Strategy 2030 objectives are progressing and Our Student Support Model is now in place. We know that it may take some time for positive results to be seen and this will remain as a priority for the entire University until we see improvement desired.

This is covered in the Strategic Plan performance framework on page 11, Understanding our Risks on page 16 and from page 29 of the Operational Review.

### Financial and economic environment

The University closely monitors the changing macro-economic environment and any challenges it presents. This includes inflation, which has reduced in the last year but the impact of the recent higher inflation period is still reflected in the University cost base and inflation in some types of expenditure remain above the historic trend.

Higher interest rates over the same period have resulted in the University benefitting from increased interest income on our treasury funds. Future interest rates are uncertain but the direction is expected to be downwards, with an impact on the income the University generates.

Changes to UK National Insurance have a financial impact and will result in a significant increase in our staff costs from April 2025. The impact of our current higher cost base combined with slower growth in income from overseas tuition fees requires us to carefully monitor and control the overall financial sustainability of the University in the short, medium and longer term, and we do this through regular scenario modelling for University Court.

This is covered in Understanding our risks from page 14, in the Director of Finance's foreword on page 38 and in the Financial Review from page 40.

### Political and geopolitical uncertainty

As 2024 nears an end, uncertainty remains with regard to the new UK Government direction and policy on matters such as immigration and higher education. Very recent announcements on tuition fees are welcome but more clarity is needed on impact beyond 2025/26 and this will not be known until the Government sets out its long-term plan for universities.

The very recent UK Government budget announcement on employer National Insurance charges serves as an example of how the University can be significantly impacted by Government decisions.

Additionally, geopolitical tensions remain from the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East and the impact of a new US Government in 2025 is unclear. With nearly half of our student population from overseas markets, unfavourable geopolitics has the potential to impact negatively on our teaching income. Our cost base is also exposed to decisions and tensions across the globe.

This is covered in Understanding our Risks from page 14 of this document.



## Material issues (continued)

### Climate change

The University has committed to become net zero carbon by 2040. Achieving this ambitious target is not without its challenges that the University must overcome to meet ever-growing stakeholder expectations.

Current challenges include the size and age of the University estate and energy-intensive activity such as research and supercomputing where the University plays a world-leading role.

The financial cost of overcoming technical challenges and achieving net zero carbon is significant but the University remains fully committed to tackling the climate crisis.

A refreshed version of the University Climate Strategy (2016–2026) is currently under development that will raise our ambitions further to meet stakeholder expectations.

---

This is covered in Understanding our Risks on page 17 and in the Operational Review from page 32.

### Industrial action and pensions

For the first time since 2016 there is no mandate for staff to strike on disputes covering pay and condition. This follows successful national negotiations on pay award and changes to benefits for member of staff in the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

Benefits offered to USS members have improved following completion of the 2023 valuation that showed scheme assets now exceeded scheme liabilities. As well as increasing member benefits, the scheme being in surplus also resulted in a reduction in employee contributions to the scheme.

Staff costs are the University's greatest single cost and with pay award negotiated annually and USS valuation completed every three years, there remains a need to closely monitor developments for potential impact on staff happiness and financial cost to the University.

---

This is covered in note 33 of the financial statements from page 92 and the Financial Review from page 40.

### Digital security

A programme of capital investment in core IT infrastructure has completed this year, with an outcome of reduced IT infrastructure risk.

The University does however remain exposed to cyber threats, presenting a risk to how we operate and perform our core activities. These threats have potentially significant financial consequences for us and therefore mitigation will remain a key area of focus for the foreseeable future.

---

This is covered in Understanding our Risks from page 14.

# Strategy & value model



# Our strategy

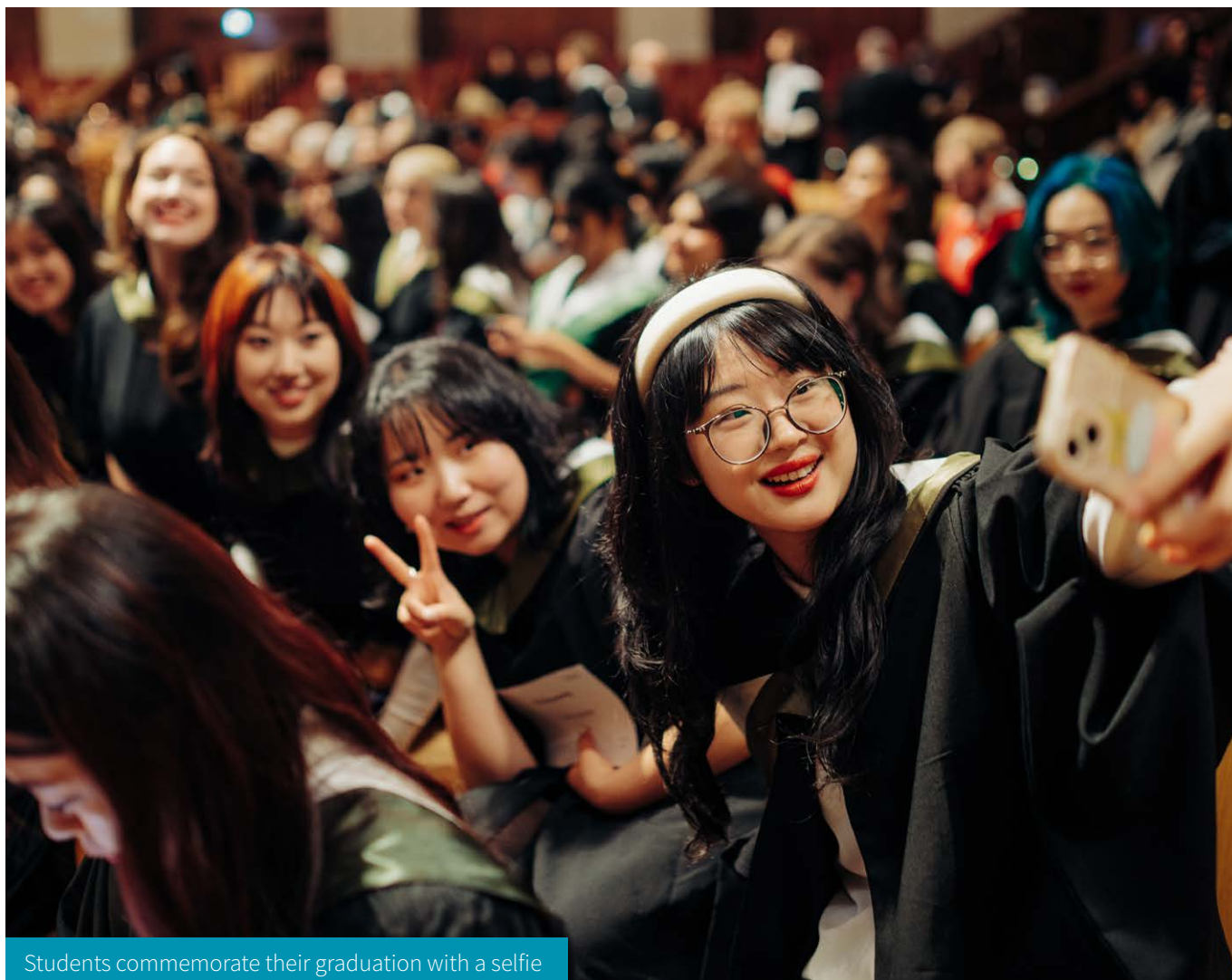
Strategy 2030 is led by a distinctive set of guiding principles and goals, and our focus is on making the greatest impact in whatever we do.

Our strong vision and values, coupled with our four key focus areas (People, Research, Teaching and Learning and Social and Civic Responsibility), help us in our mission to deliver excellence to 2030 and beyond.

➔ More information: [Strategy 2030](#)

To assess how well we are performing, our Strategic Performance Framework (SPF) sets out how we will achieve our goals over the period of the Strategy. Our SPF takes into account internal and external factors which influence or affect our work.

Aligned to our four focus areas is our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Strategy 2030 recognises that the University has the opportunity to contribute to the SDGs in different ways across our communities and across our different locations.



Students commemorate their graduation with a selfie



## Our strategy (continued)

### Performance framework

In Strategy 2030, we highlight that our vision to continue delivering excellence to 2030 and beyond is rooted in our values, with a focus on our four key areas. We have structured our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) around these four key areas (People, Research, Teaching and Learning and Social and Civic Responsibility) to reflect the University's ambitions outlined in Strategy 2030 and to demonstrate how well we are performing against them.

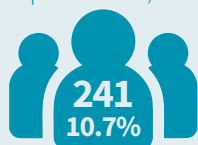
The information below shows our performance in each of these focus areas.

Unless indicated otherwise, data shown reflects 2023/24 performance.

#### Strategy 2030 focus area: People

Our students, staff, alumni and friends are our lifeblood.

**1. Widening participation:** Number (and proportion) of undergraduate entrants from an SIMD20 (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation - most deprived 20%) area



2022/23: 300 (13.4%)

**2. International student diversity:** Ratio of largest international market to 5th and 10th largest overseas markets

Ratio to 5th: **25:1**

2022/23: 28:1

Ratio to 10th: **38:1**

2022/23: 46:1

**3. Staff equality, diversity and inclusion:** Gender, ethnicity and disability pay gaps (measures are 2022/23 as reported biennially)

Average gender pay gap: **15.3%**

2020/21: 16.2%

Average ethnicity pay gap: **10.3%**

2020/21: 7.1%

Average disability pay gap: **8.1%**

2020/21: 1.0%

**5. Staff satisfaction:** 2023 staff survey

Staff engagement: **54%**

In development: **4. Efficient systems and user-friendly processes<sup>1</sup>**

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



#### Strategy 2030 focus area: Research

Our ethos of working without boundaries will deliver a step change in innovation and research.

**6. Research quality/competitiveness:** REF performance, supported by a between-REFs proxy including share of UKRI income

**5.57%**

2022/23: 5.64%

**7. Research activity:** Total research income



2022/23: £340m

**8. Research activity with industry:** Total value of industrial and translational research awards



2022/23: £91.9m

**9. Innovation & collaboration:** Research and entrepreneurship related City Region Deal TRADE targets

Research income: **£158.1m**

2022/23: £127.1m

Entrepreneurship companies: **108**  
Interactions: **135**

2022/23: Entrepreneurship companies: **41**  
Interactions: **60**

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



<sup>1</sup> The key performance indicator for efficient systems will focus on the intended benefits of more user-friendly processes and efficient systems to support our work.

Our strategy (continued)

Strategy 2030 focus area: Teaching and learning

Our teaching will match the excellence of our research. We will improve and sustain student satisfaction and wellbeing.

**11. Talent – data skills:**

People gaining qualifications via certified data skills courses and MOOCs

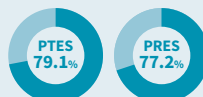
**100,092**

2022/23: **33,352**

**12. Student experience:<sup>2</sup>**

Student satisfaction as reported in the NSS and other national student surveys

**NSS2024 position: 60.6%**  
(NSS2023: lower quartile)



PRES collected every second year

2022/23: **PTES 74.3%**  
2022/23: **PRES 77.2%**

**13. Graduate outcomes:**

Graduates entering graduate level employment or further study

**85.5%**

(2021/22 graduating cohort)

2022/23: **85.4%**

In development: **10. Curriculum transformation<sup>3</sup>**

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Strategy 2030 focus area: Social and civic responsibility

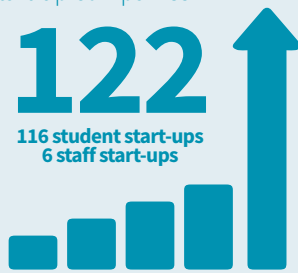
Our vision is to make the world a better place, so we will ensure that our actions and activities deliver positive change locally, regionally and globally.

**14. Social impact:** Community Grants awarded



2022/23: **£95,041 total grants**

**15. Innovation:** Number of start-up companies



2022/23: **115 student start-ups**  
**4 staff start-ups**

**16. Net zero:** Absolute (and relative to £m turnover) carbon emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>)

**Absolute carbon emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>):** **78,720 tCO<sub>2</sub>**

2022/23: **78,025 tCO<sub>2</sub>**

**Relative carbon emissions:** **54.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>/£m**

2022/23: **55.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>/£m**

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



<sup>2</sup> Current year measure only as KPI measurement has changed and comparison with prior year is not valid.

<sup>3</sup> We are developing a small number of critical measures to measure our progress on Curriculum Transformation.

# Our value model

The University is committed to integrated thinking and has adopted the principles of Integrated Reporting within this annual report.

## Our approach

Our Value Creation Model is a fundamental part of our annual report. The model shows how we use and influence resources to create and sustain value for our many stakeholders.

The case studies throughout this annual report demonstrate how we maximise the potential of our resources to create value for our stakeholders. Our model has at its centre the overall strategic objectives of the University with research-led teaching and learning flowing through all of the outputs.

We are continuing to explore how our model can align and report on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

## How we create value

We deliver impact for society. As a truly global university, rooted in Scotland's capital city, we make a significant, sustainable and socially responsible contribution to the world. Our mission to discover, develop and share knowledge is at the heart of everything we do.

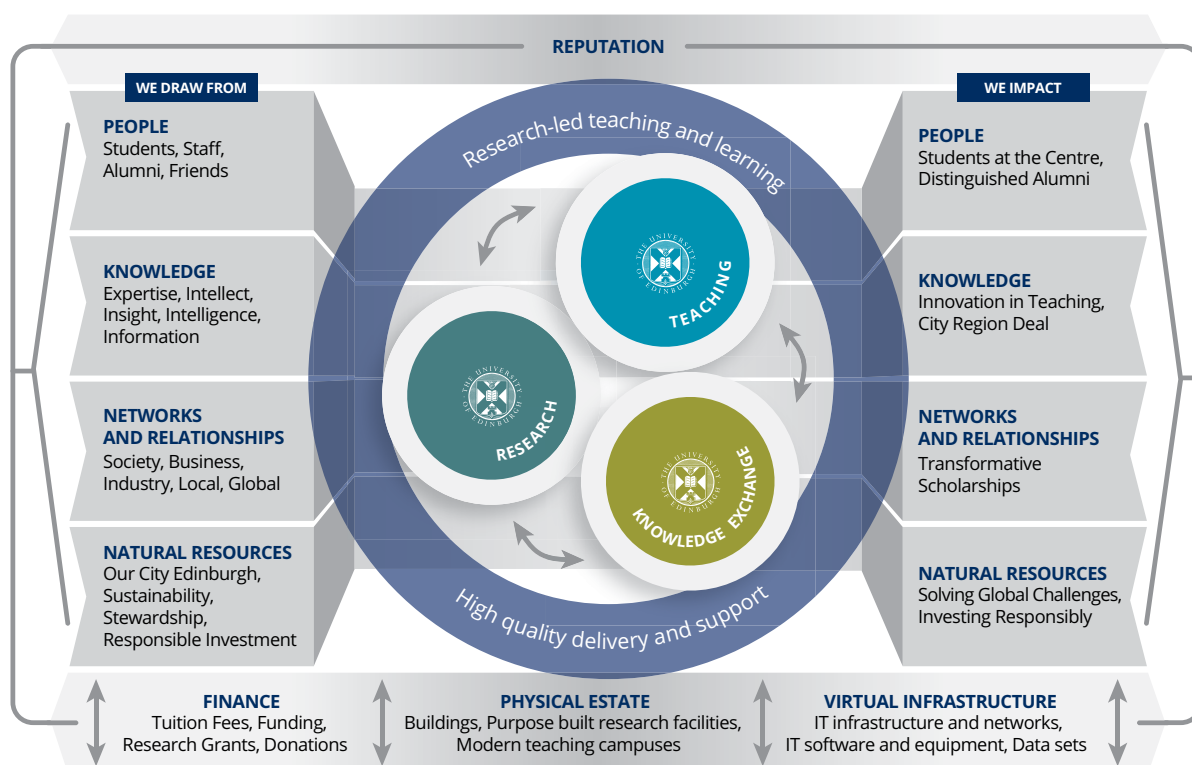
We teach students from across the

world. We equip our students with the knowledge, skills and experience to become successful graduates who contribute to society.

The research we conduct is of the highest standard across a broad spectrum of disciplines. This brings together world-class researchers who provide world-leading outputs and insight.

We seek to convert our research findings and knowledge capital into successful commercial activities to create wealth and improve society.

## University of Edinburgh – Delivering Impact for Society





## Our value model (continued)

### The value created

The memorable moments highlighted throughout this integrated Annual Report demonstrate real examples of how we continue to create value and contribute to the global Sustainable Development Goals from our resources, having a positive impact on society. In our Operational Review, we have directly aligned these stories with the relevant Sustainable Development Goals to illustrate how we support these important benchmarks.

We have also illustrated how our approach to understanding our risks supports these goals.



#### Protecting our planet

Universities join forces on greener financial products

Edinburgh has joined 60 other higher education institutions and trusts to issue a Request for Proposals to financial institutions to invest in products with no ties to fossil fuel expansion.



#### Research

The impact of research

The University's inaugural Impact Festival took place in May 2024 and concluded with the announcement of the first Research Impact prize winners.



#### Revolutionary partnership

Edinburgh Futures Institute nurtures new horizons

The Edinburgh Futures Institute (EFI) opened to the public on Monday 3 June 2024 after its seven year, multi-million-pound restoration and brings together a mix of students, researchers, partners and civic society to address global challenges.



#### Supporting our community

Free to flourish: Community groups thrive in University spaces

The University's Community Access to Rooms project has now become a permanent arrangement. More than 40 community groups have used the buildings on offer across the campuses.



#### People

The science of widening participation

Alessandra Giovannelli is passionate about the benefits of widening participation at the University of Edinburgh. A third-year Biomedical Sciences student, Alessandra was introduced to the programme as a pupil at St Augustine's High School in Edinburgh.



#### Learning and teaching

Nadin Akta: Building community in Edinburgh

Nadin arrived in Edinburgh in 2008 with her husband, who was pursuing a PhD. Initially, they planned to stay for a few years, with hopes of returning to Syria to establish their family. However, as the war in Syria began, their plans to move back home were delayed indefinitely.

### Our Strategy and Value Creation Model is assured by effective governance

Read more: Financial Review, page 37  
Corporate Governance Statement, page 46  
Independent Auditors' report to Court, page 55

# Understanding our risks

“This approach increases the probability of successful outcomes while protecting the values, reputation and sustainability of the University. ”

Risk is the effect of uncertainty on objectives and, when crystallised, can take the form of adverse consequences or unexpected opportunities.

A university is experimental by nature and a dynamic enterprise like the University of Edinburgh must take risks in pursuit of its evolving objectives. We have a mature approach to risk management, articulating our objectives and what might prevent or promote their achievement, which we consider together with any possible unintended consequences in our planning and decision making. This approach increases the probability of successful outcomes while protecting the values, reputation and sustainability of the University.

## Risk management

The University aims to minimise its exposure to reputational, compliance and financial risk, while recognising that controlled risk-taking enables the University to take advantage of opportunities in the pursuit of research, education, knowledge exchange and innovation. This dynamic is detailed in our Risk Appetite Statement.

➔ More information: [Risk Management Policy and Risk Appetite Statement](#)

“Controlled risk-taking enables the University to take advantage of opportunities in the pursuit of research, education, knowledge exchange and innovation. ”

## Process

The University operates a process for the identification, evaluation and management of risks at the Local (School and Departmental), Operational (College, Professional Services Group, and Major Programme) and Strategic (University) levels. These strategic risks are selected based on several considerations including their relationship to our strategic objectives and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, rating of likelihood and impact, their proximity to our stated appetite and the extent to which they may be representative of similar risks across the University. Strategic risks are recorded in the University Risk Register, where they are monitored and reviewed by the Risk Management Committee (RMC) throughout the year. The RMC tracks the implementation of risk management strategies, informs the University Executive and reports the Committee’s findings to the University Court’s Audit and Risk Committee. External benchmarking and horizon scanning help us consider emerging risks from across higher education, the wider public sector, and globally. Internal Audit supports this process and undertakes reviews of key risk areas and the risk management process according to a rolling audit plan.

➔ More information: [Audit and Risk Committee](#)

## Our Risks

The higher education sector in the UK is facing well documented risks, with a challenging existing funding environment made worse by falling international student recruitment. In turn, this introduces risk to our capacity to invest in capital and other substantial

programmes. Our sector remains a target for international cyber-crime, something which has to be addressed in the context of our strategic imperative to remain globally networked with key partners and influential on the academic world stage. Student experience, including capacity to provide wellbeing support, continues to be a key thematic discussion for the sector. The University of Edinburgh, like its peers, wrestles with these risks among many. That said, at Edinburgh we have seen some risks recede; we are gratified that our work on a range of staff concerns means that there is no mandate for industrial action at the University for the first time since 2016. While labour market pressures continue to be a challenge in some areas, our enhanced support for international staff recruitment and retention, our talent attraction proposition project and the University-wide grade scale changes have had positive impact on our People risks. Our digital infrastructure replacement project made major advances in the stability and reliability of our IT systems, lowering risks to our digital estate. Energy prices and material costs remain high, but they have stabilized to bring some predictability to the costs of maintaining and developing our estate. Similarly, the previously uncertain impacts of addressing buildings affected by Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) have become clearer. While these costs are substantial, we are now able to plan and manage this remediation.

## Looking ahead

The University is presently facing significant financial pressures, including challenges in attracting new international students in an increasingly



## Understanding our risks (continued)

competitive global market, rising staff and utility costs, the effects of inflation, and supply chain disruptions. Additionally, the persistent underfunding of Scottish-domiciled and other UK students exacerbates these issues. As our expenditure continues to outpace our income, we are implementing a range of measures to adapt our operating model and ensure long-term financial sustainability.

Polarisation of debate on wider social issues continues as an emerging risk, albeit one we believe we are managing effectively as we remain committed

to upholding academic freedom and freedom of expression, including the right to engage in lawful protest. We express this commitment by facilitating an environment where students and staff can discuss and debate challenging topics free from intimidation and undue disruption, challenging as that effort can sometimes be. The coming year will see continued focus on maintaining our enviable reputation as a premier world research university as we seek to better define and manage risks to research funding and industrial and international partnerships, and pursue opportunities

in emerging fields such as artificial intelligence. We remain optimistic that a new Exascale Supercomputer will be funded at the University of Edinburgh to support our world-leading work. We will seek to better quantify the risk posed by lack of supply and corresponding expense of student and staff accommodation 'liveability' in Edinburgh and potential impacts on our attractiveness to students (which could affect student fee income) and staff (affecting recruiting and retention, research reputation and salary expectations).





## Understanding our risks (continued)

### Strategy 2030 focus areas and core functions:

#### Teaching and Learning

##### Risk description: Student experience

No significant improvement in students' satisfaction with their student experience.

Supports Strategic KPI

12: Student experience



**Risk management:** We recognise the significant improvements required in our student satisfaction survey results, which have the potential to damage our reputation, affect student recruitment and retention and ultimately challenge the University's financial health. Accordingly, we are prioritising student experience in line with the objectives of Strategy 2030 with two large strategic programmes: Student Support Model and Curriculum Transformation, with underpinning improvement work.

Our Student Support Model is now in place and is being overseen and monitored via the Student Lifecycle

Management Group (SLMG) and Colleges/Schools from September 2024.

We have continued implementation of Assessment and Feedback Principles and Priorities set in academic year 2022/23 with the establishment in January 2024 of the Student Experience Delivery and Monitoring Oversight Board, chaired by the Provost with membership including the three Heads of College. Its initial focus has been to monitor assessment and feedback turnaround times, and our revised Assessment and Feedback Strategy Group now oversees and supports the implementation of the wider Assessment

and Feedback Principles and Priorities. In-year monitoring of progress continues via School Annual Quality Reports and Internal Periodic Reviews.

We are committed to improving student satisfaction as measured through the National Student Survey (as well as the Postgraduate Taught Experience and Postgraduate Research Experience Surveys). We will also monitor the success of our work, initially through student feedback via focus groups and pulse surveys and against our key performance indicator. While actions underway have promise, we recognise that positive impacts may take time.

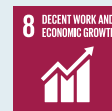
#### People

##### Risk description: People

People risk linked to staff engagement, recruiting and retention, and wellness.

Supports Strategic KPI

5: Staff satisfaction



**Risk management:** Staff engagement has the potential to impact productivity, workplace relations and organisational effectiveness, recruiting and retention, and has a direct relationship to our students' experience. After a challenging year, we are beginning to see improvement.

After successful national negotiations, we are very pleased to have reached agreements with our major unions, resulting in there being no mandate for a strike for the first time since 2016.

Our Talent Attraction project aims to bring focus on the University as an

employer of choice and the many benefits there are to working here, differentiating us from other employers to make us more appealing to potential candidates. Focusing on what we can offer prospective employees will widen our pool and reduce dissonance for new recruits between recruitment and employment.

Internal initiatives such as our Grade Scale Review, ongoing work on associated operational plans overseen by the Staff Experience Committee (a standing committee of the University Executive) and enhanced financial

support for international staff, covering associated UK Visas and Immigration costs, have also contributed to the management of this risk.

The University Initiatives Portfolio Board was established this year to support the implementation of major change programmes and projects. Backed by lessons learned from the recent challenging implementation of a major HR and finance management system, we will better support our staff through major change initiatives in the future and monitor engagement activity to ensure that we are doing so.

## Understanding our risks (continued)

### Strategy 2030 focus areas and core functions:

#### Social and Civic Responsibility

##### **Risk description: Social responsibility and sustainability**

Pursuit of our goals and objectives, associated with energy-dependent City Region Deal and data-driven initiatives. Limits also imposed by city and regional infrastructure will challenge achievement of our carbon reduction targets.

**Supports Strategic KPI**

16: Net Zero



**Risk management:** Having set ambitious targets to reach net carbon zero by 2040, we are challenged by having a large estate populated with buildings not all of which were designed with a carbon neutral agenda and the costs and technical challenges of decarbonising heat are significant. The energy-intensive nature of our world-leading research and our commitment to run national facilities such as supercomputers on behalf of the UK further increase our energy requirements, the

decarbonisation of which is largely dependent on the national energy grid.

To address these risks, we continue to decarbonise the estate and improve metering and usage control of energy, optimising the performance of our laboratories and science activities. We have created a position of Director of Estates Net Zero and Carbon Leadership to accelerate our decarbonisation of the Estate, and an Estates Net Zero Programme Board. Our sustainable travel policy introduced a presumption

against mainland UK flights and we are seeking to embed the concept of climate conscious travel across all of our travel activities. We are exploring how to use waste heat from our supercomputing facilities to heat our estate, have accelerated our plans to electrify heat sources and are working to refresh our climate strategy and raise our ambition levels, commensurate with the external challenges we face. Despite technical and financial challenges, we remain committed to our carbon reduction targets.

#### Research

##### **Risk description: Collaboration with external partner**

Exposes University to security-related loss of reputation, revenue, or to legal liability.

**Supports Strategic KPI**

7: Research activity

8: Research activity with industry



**Risk management:** As a global university, we will see our research having a greater impact as a result of partnership, international reach and investment in emergent disciplines.

Internationalisation, however, can expose the University to risks resulting from competing geopolitical interests. Edinburgh Global and Edinburgh Research Office coordinate the University's response to the changing security and risk landscape across international collaboration. The Security and Risks in International Partnerships Group

(SRIPG) coordinates implementation of the National Protective Security Authority (NPSA) 'Trusted Research', and Universities UK (UUK) 'Managing Risks in Internationalisation: Security Related Issues in Higher Education' guidance across the University. The group is chaired by the Vice-Principal International and includes all key stakeholders from relevant professional services and senior academic leads.

SRIPG meets quarterly and has raised awareness of responsible global engagement through messaging to key colleagues and by developing an

action plan – shared by colleagues across the University – to address the key areas highlighted in UUK guidance and implement Trusted Research guidance. SRIPG provides regular reporting on these matters to the Risk Management Committee, Audit & Risk Committee and to University Court. Work to decrease this risk exposure will concentrate on improvements to better coordinate the security-related controls and oversight provided by our various offices responsible for international collaboration.

## Understanding our risks (continued)

### Strategy 2030 focus areas and core functions:

#### Core Functions

##### Risk description: Core IT infrastructure

Disruption to basic network services.

Supports Strategic KPI

4: Efficient systems



**Risk management:** We are pleased to report that Information Services Group capital programme has completed a major replacement of core IT infrastructure this year, resulting in a reduction of our IT infrastructure risk.

Inclusion of core IT infrastructure replacement cycles within the Digital Estate plan will now help ensure ongoing refreshment of critical platforms.

#### Core Functions

##### Risk description: Information security / data breach

Compromise of University information.

Supports Strategic KPI

4: Efficient systems



**Risk management:** The University continues to face a significant level of online risk to our digital services, systems and data that underpin our teaching, research and operational activities. We are aware of the ever-

changing scale and nature of this risk and continue to implement improvements to our technology and day-to-day processes to counter them. We continue to identify risks to key data-reliant activities, services and

processes, mitigating these with resilient business continuity plans in case of a data breach. This risk will remain a key area of focus for the foreseeable time.

#### Core Functions

##### Risk description: Concentration risk

Recruitment of international students diverges from our size and shape planning and fee income forecasting.

Supports Strategic KPI

2: International student diversity



**Risk management:** Increased global competition, a challenging global economy, changes to UK immigration policy, and concentration of demand from particular domiciles outside the UK and Europe, making us vulnerable to market swings and unfavourable geopolitics. This could result in reduced tuition fee revenue which would undermine University's financial sustainability. Academic sustainability would be undermined if international recruitment shortfalls were to make

some programmes unviable and/or impeded the research pipeline, while over-reliance on one region/sector creates vulnerability to foreign influence from particular source—countries, with potential academic freedom, freedom of expression, security and data integrity risks.

While across higher education the sector is facing greater risk, the University of Edinburgh has taken measures such as making earlier offers and pursuing our strategic enrolment strategy that

have mitigated the risk. We are in a less vulnerable position than many of our peer institutions, but the balance of international student enrolment (measured by the ratio of largest international market to fifth and 10th largest overseas markets), particularly in postgraduate taught, remains an issue. We continue to work towards a better integrated, strategic enrolment model, and to engage with University Executive to define acceptable levels of reliance/diversification.



## Understanding our risks (continued)

### Strategy 2030 focus areas and core functions:

#### Core Functions

##### Risk description: Finance

Failure to maintain financial headroom required to pursue strategic priorities and ensure financial sustainability in the face of increasing financial pressures.

Does not relate directly to the Strategic Performance Framework, however, Financial Risk Appetite is our EBITDA should be in the range of 7-9 per cent over our five year plan.



**Risk management:** The University manages its financial risk by not breaching its risk appetite as described in its financial metrics. A key metric is that our Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation (EBITDA) should be in the range of 7-9 per cent to remain sustainable. We continue to be challenged to remain within this target due to a number of factors, including:

- Pay inflation and increase in employer's National Insurance contributions

- The cost of internal initiatives to improve staff benefits and engagement, such as the Grade Scale Review
- Macro-economic issues including high inflation, particularly around utilities
- Challenges to international tuition fee income

The University has achieved an EBITDA below its 7-9 per cent target and the future financial and economic

outlook is such that we will require careful cost control and strategic management of business operations. EBITDA achieved in 2023/24 does not impact on the requirement for the University to deliver against agreed budgets for 2024/25, including the need to identify cost reductions or increases to income to deliver the Court approved EBITDA budget for 2024/25.

#### Core Functions

##### Risk description: Estate

The physical estate fails to meet the needs of the University (volume, condition, and accessibility).

Does not directly support a specific Strategic KPI, but is essential in our achievement of many of them, particularly 4, 5, 7, 12, and 16\*



**Risk management:** During 2021/22, the University formulated a new Capital Plan, which was approved by Court in February 2022. This six-year plan covers the period 2021/22 to 2026/27 and:

- Is fully aligned with the University's 2030 strategy
- Covers all capital expenditure for the University, including digital and equipment expenditure

- Enables investment in priority projects including those addressing volume, condition and accessibility requirements
- Is agile and able to respond to unforeseen emerging University capital needs

In addition, to strengthen the University response to the climate emergency

and commitment to 'Zero by 2040' the post of Director of Estates Net Zero and Carbon Leadership is focusing on the de-carbonisation of the physical estate.

The Capital Plan is monitored and reported to the Estates Committee, Policy and Resources Committee and Court through the normal governance cycle.

\*4: Efficient systems. 5: Staff satisfaction. 7: Research activity strategic. 12: Student experience. 16: Net Zero

## Understanding our risks (continued)

### Strategy 2030 focus areas and core functions:

#### Core Functions

##### Risk description: **Strategic Change**

Scope, pace and complexity of change negatively impacts both project success and staff wellbeing.

##### Supports Strategic KPI

4: Efficient Systems, 5: Staff Engagement  
10: Curriculum Transformation  
12: Student Experience



**Risk management:** Implementation of major change initiatives is challenging for any organisation. The University has identified the requirement to manage and better coordinate the delivery of major strategic programmes, particularly in light of the lessons learned during implementation of a major new HR and Finance system called People and Money. The external review of People and Money, published in December

2023, made recommendations which are now being incorporated into the planning of Strategic Projects. The University's new Initiatives Portfolio Board (UIPB) is now operational and has collective oversight of these projects. With the establishment of the UIPB, oversight of the whole portfolio has been established and prioritisation is taking place. All strategic projects will be monitored going forward.

Particular attention is being focused on organisational capacity, resource management, increased engagement and understanding variations in practice across the University. Other initiatives such as implementation of the new Student Support model and Curriculum Transformation continue to progress, and lessons learned are being applied to ensure successful delivery.



# Operational review





# Operational review

Discover the stories behind the numbers that make us a world-leading research-intensive University. Our values-led approach to teaching, research and innovation allows us to address tomorrow's greatest challenges, both locally and globally.



Three students sit down for a chat in Bristo Square

...proud to be known as a place which welcomes students from all backgrounds and provides an exciting, inclusive and supportive environment...



Read our [Fair Work statement](#)

## People

### Equality and diversity

Widening participation is about nurturing talent across all parts of society and continuing to represent and be relevant to the communities we serve, whether local, national or international.

We're proud to be known as a world-class and highly selective research-driven institution. However, we're even more proud to be known as a place which welcomes students from all backgrounds and provides an exciting, inclusive and supportive environment in which all students can feel they can belong and can grow, thrive and succeed through their studies at the University.

The University continues to meet the Commission for Widening Access target of 10 per cent of our intake coming from the 20 per cent most deprived areas in Scotland, known as the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 20 (SIMD20). This year, 10.7 per cent of our intake came from SIMD20.

In 2024, we launched our Widening Participation Strategy 2030, refreshing our commitment to widening participation and continuing to work towards the University's Strategy 2030 ambition to be 'leading Scotland's commitment to widening participation'. Our six priorities are:

- We will be evidence-led, transparent and demonstrate our impact clearly
- We will focus on the individual's whole life context
- We approach widening access and diversity from a UK-wide perspective
- We value and support a range of learning pathways into the University
- We will ensure that all of our students have equal opportunities to flourish, thrive and develop a sense of belonging
- We will enable greater access to postgraduate study

YourEd+ is an intensive attainment and aspiration raising programme for pupils in S5 and S6. It aims to support pupils who have the potential to go to university to achieve desired grades and successfully transition into university level study. It is spread out over four phases: study skills, subject week (studying on campus), assignment/summer project and e-mentoring.



**6** % of staff are disabled

## Operational review (continued)

Participants must attain certain academic requirements at one of our partner schools and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Live in Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) decile one and two (SIMD20) area
- Are care-experienced
- Are estranged from family and living without family support
- Are a carer (provide unpaid care)
- Are seeking asylum in the UK
- Have refugee status
- Have a teacher nomination because they have been impacted by challenging circumstances that have significantly impacted on your educational journey (considered on a case-by-case basis)

The programme makes a profound impact on the educational experience of its participants. Read *The science of widening participation* (right) to find out how.

In 2023/24, the University's Study and Work Away Service launched its Mobility for All Strategy 2030.

Currently, we offer students around 4,000 study or work abroad opportunities annually, with nearly 80% of placements undertaken by undergraduates. This figure represents about 10% of our student body. However, Universities UK research shows disadvantaged and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) students are 50% less likely to go abroad.

As part of the Curriculum Transformation Programme, we are embedding experiential learning, including international experiences, into the curriculum. Sustainability considerations, especially given the climate emergency, also drive this strategy.

Our three-pronged strategic approach focuses on:

- Refreshing and consolidating our partnership portfolio for sustainability.
- Offering a diverse range of international experiences, including virtual and hybrid mobility.
- Enhancing the student experience.

### People

## The science of widening participation

### Our Memorable moments

Alessandra Giovannelli

Alessandra Giovannelli is passionate about the benefits of widening participation at the University of Edinburgh. A third-year Biomedical Sciences student, Alessandra was introduced to the programme as a pupil at St Augustine's High School in Edinburgh.

"My school really emphasised the importance of widening participation," Alessandra says. "I was introduced to it by my Personal and Social Education (PSE) teacher. She talked about the YourEd+ programme.

"I met staff from the University and completed some sessions of the first phase of the programme, I got to understand what it was about; the different skills you use at the University, critical thinking, writing and referencing. It was interesting because we were never introduced to these skills, so it was something new for us all. It's useful to have an insight before actually going to uni."

Alessandra has continued her involvement in widening participation during her time at the University, too. "I help at open days as a Student Ambassador and participate in the YourEd+ programme. I am mainly there to answer questions from students.

"This year I worked with high school students in the lab, too. My

**"When I speak with the students I help, they are so enthusiastic about the whole process and what they are learning."**

role was to help them understand what they were doing, telling them about equipment and how to be safe in the lab. My experience on the programme helps me understand what they are going through because I have already been through it and I know the sort of questions they might want to ask about studies and the University."

Alessandra's work has also exposed her to new opportunities. "Being part of the programme has given me important networking opportunities in the University and Biomedical Sciences, allowing me to get more involved in work in the lab."

It is also a very personally rewarding activity for Alessandra: "When I speak with the students I help, they are so enthusiastic about the whole process and what they are learning, which is very nice to see."





## Operational review (continued)

This strategy aims to provide inclusive and equitable mobility opportunities for all students, with a commitment to inclusivity for under-represented groups such as widening participation students, BAME students, and students with disabilities.

These programmes address the shifting landscape of mobility and exchanges post-Erasmus+, exacerbated by reduced external funding. They also seek to provide more flexible alternatives for students who may want shorter experiences or to avoid travel for financial or sustainability reasons.

Some of these unique and accessible short-term programmes, which present students with opportunities to work within intercultural teams, develop their employability skills and design their own international learning experiences are already underway.

The Go Abroad Fund provided financial support for students to undertake short-term international experiences in summer 2024. Widening Participation students can apply for higher funding. In 2023/24, 222 students were selected, with 56 participating in sustainability-focused activities. Widening Participation students receive £950 each, funded by the Development Trust. The remaining 120 students receive £500 each, funded by the University.

Students participated in activities in over 55 countries. Some examples include:

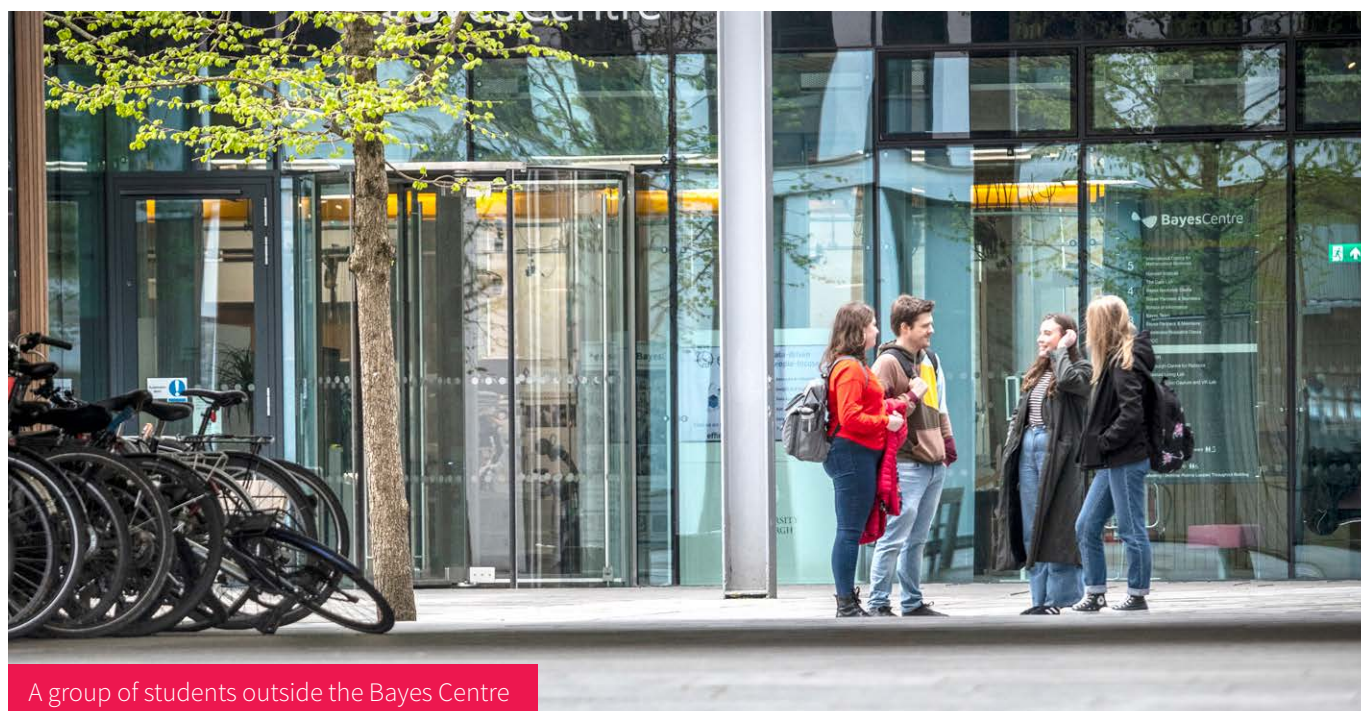
- Rainforest Restoration and Sustainability work in Brazil's Atlantic Forest: This student volunteer helped plant trees on local farms, collect seeds for scientific research, and worked in the forest nursery to help regrow the natural habitat.
- Ecological restoration work for the for the California State Park: Sustainable trail construction and maintenance, non-native species removal, fence construction, erosion control, wilderness restoration and forestry.
- An 8-week sustainable tourism construction workshop in Fiji: Using local materials and vernacular design, the project prioritised environmental sustainability and respect for the local village's cultural identity.
- Volunteering in a water sanitation project in Lobitos, Peru to improve access to clean water in the area. This will save 16,000 litres of water per year and produce 1,700 litres of compost which is used in local greening and reforestation efforts.
- Using their engineering degree to volunteer in disaster recovery construction in Nepal following the

2015 earthquake. All Hands and Hearts is an impressive charity, rebuilding schools and homes, along with creating a female mason training programme. This provides women with social and economic empowerment, whilst solving the problem of limited numbers of masons in the country.

## Revolutionary partnership

### More international student experiences

The INCiTE Summer School is a part-funded, two-week course in Southeast Asia, where students collaborate globally while learning intercultural competence, design thinking, social innovation, and entrepreneurship. In July 2024, the fourth INCiTE Summer School was hosted at Duy Tan University in Da Nang, Vietnam, with 25 students solving global challenges on location. The curriculum includes entrepreneurship, intercultural communication, and design and systems thinking, co-taught by faculty from the University of Amsterdam, the University of Sydney, Nanyang Technological University, Duy Tan University, and the University of Edinburgh. Funding for the 25 Edinburgh students, all from widening participation backgrounds, is provided by the Development Trust.



A group of students outside the Bayes Centre



## Operational review (continued)

## Revolutionary partnership

Edinburgh Futures Institute  
nurtures new horizonsOur  
Memorable  
moments

EFI Main Entrance

The Edinburgh Futures Institute (EFI) opened to the public on Monday 3 June 2024 after its seven-year, multi-million-pound restoration and brings together a mix of students, researchers, partners and civic society to address global challenges, such as the ethics of artificial intelligence, social inequality and climate change.

The interdisciplinary Institute is housed in the former Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh on Lauriston Place. “The amazing restoration of the Old Royal Infirmary has created an inspiring place for us all to collaborate”, says Professor Kev Dhaliwal, Interim Director of EFI and Professor of Molecular Imaging and Healthcare Technology. “It opens up exciting opportunities to co-locate students, staff and external partners to innovate and address local and global challenges together. The Institute is a place that asks questions and strives to find solutions for the challenges of where data meets society.”

The 20,000 square metre redevelopment is now one of the leading institutes for interdisciplinary learning, research and innovation in Europe.

“Originally designed for infection control through isolation, the building now facilitates the spread of ideas by integration and collaboration, transforming it into a dynamic environment for a forward-thinking educational institution.”

**“The amazing restoration of the Old Royal Infirmary has created an inspiring place for us all to collaborate.”**

said Professor Sir Peter Mathieson. “So many people in Edinburgh have a connection to this historical building and we want to ensure that it fulfils the pledge set in stone above the main entrance, ‘patet omnibus’ - open to all.”

The EFI will not solely benefit the University community but will also benefit the general public. The redevelopment offers new access points from Middle Meadow Walk, a new public square, a cafe, exhibition and performance spaces. The Institute hosts a range of events and opportunities for members of the public and the University of Edinburgh community

In August 2024, the Edinburgh International Book Festival was hosted in the EFI, bringing together over 500 events with writers and thinkers to ignite imaginations, foster human connections and challenge the status quo.

By **Jay Cormack**

NICE offers an online international experience to learn about entrepreneurship and intercultural competence with students from Europe and South Africa.

The 2023/2024 programme launched on 4 March with over 160 students from seven universities, including the University of Edinburgh. Participants are working in multicultural teams on global challenges through NICE online modules.

The 2024 summer school was held at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland, from 30 June to 5 July. This week-long, in-person programme focuses on solutions to international student integration in the Polish context. The Study and Work Away Service (SWAY) used Development Trust funding to support 15 Edinburgh students, including four from widening participation backgrounds.

We also continue to work closely with the Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA) and have recently welcomed four new fellows from Palestine, Syria, and Sudan as part of our Fellowship Programme.

The Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program continues to accept students from across Africa as it enters its second phase, connecting scholars with climate leadership opportunities, networks and support systems to enable them to make the most of the opportunities available, and to give back to their communities.

## Commercialisation and industrial partnerships

At the University of Edinburgh, we help researchers, students and industry partners make their ideas work for a better world.

Edinburgh Innovations leads the University’s activities in industry engagement and business development, enterprise support for students and staff, and the identification, management and commercialisation of University intellectual property. By pinpointing opportunities and building partnerships, Edinburgh Innovations helps turn ideas into successful projects and thriving businesses that benefit society and the economy.

## Operational review (continued)



Our research makes connections between people

The University of Edinburgh was ranked first in the world for 'Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure' by The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2024, which assess the performance of universities against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The University scored 100 out of 100 for its contribution to SDG9, which includes its research, patents citing university research, research income from industry and number of University spinouts. This top ranking reflects the University's flourishing culture of innovation and is a testament to its ongoing commitment to deliver positive change through research, education and partnerships.

In 2023/24, Edinburgh Innovations helped to launch 127 start-up and spinout companies founded by staff and students, making Edinburgh the leading entrepreneurial University in the Russell Group of 'world-class, research-intensive' universities (according to the Higher Education Statistics Agency). 1,000 academic staff are now working on innovation activity across the University, and in 2023/24 140 patents were filed and 55 licenses were entered into by those involved. A total of £141 million

was invested in University-associated companies across the year, including £73 million into staff spinouts.

Edinburgh Innovations has supported the development of the University's Research and Innovation Strategy 2030, which launched this year. One aim of the Strategy is to establish a clear and compelling Innovation Career Pathway for academics keen to focus on industry collaboration, commercialisation and impact. Implementation of these aims is already underway: in 2023/24 the first Innovation Fellows were appointed by Edinburgh Innovations to blaze a trail for innovation-focused scholarship at the University, and EI has also been instrumental in launching the University's BRAID (Bridging Responsible AI Divides) Fellowships programme, in partnership with the BBC and the Ada Lovelace Institute. These unique fellowships will bring together arts and humanities researchers with industry and the public sector on projects that will help drive responsible innovation in artificial intelligence.

Old College Capital (OCC), the University's in-house venture investment fund, supports the University's research,

staff and students by investing in high-growth, early-stage businesses associated with the University, and follows a co-investment model by partnering with experienced private sector investors. Working closely with founders, investors, and the University representatives, OCC accelerates the journey of startups and spinouts that are looking to make a positive impact on people and our planet. OCC's returns are reinvested back into the University ecosystem to support future generations of ambitious, deep-technology companies. In 2023/24, OCC announced the expansion of both its team and investment capacity, which will allow the fund to support the most exciting ideas and technologies emerging from the University.

## Research

In 2023/24, the University received a total of £457 million in research awards. The award total is notable as the record £488 million in 2022/23 was bolstered by a number of core awards from the Medical Research Council (MRC), Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and Dementia



## Operational review (continued)

Research Institute, totalling almost £90 million) The University of Edinburgh maintains a diverse funding portfolio but has seen particularly good performance in charity, UK Government and overseas funding (including EU) this year.

The University's research income in 2023/24 totalled £365 million. This is an increase of £25 million on the previous year and reflects the performance of world-class researchers at the University.

Our application rate remained high in 2023/24 with colleagues submitting 2,776 applications worth £1.42 billion. The University of Edinburgh continues to enjoy a high success rate and expects a similar level of performance in 2024/25.

## Research highlights

### Research initiative to build collaborative and creative AI futures

A £2.4 million initiative has been launched to help organisations develop solutions for pressing questions around the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI).

The Bridging Responsible AI Divides (BRAID) Fellowships are part of the BRAID programme. BRAID is led by the University of Edinburgh in partnership with the Ada Lovelace Institute and the BBC. The £15.9 million, six-year programme is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), part of UK Research & Innovation (UKRI).

Researchers will address a range of AI-related challenges in industry, public organisations and the third sector through a series of fellowships.

The Fellows, appointed from universities across the UK, will apply research expertise from humanities and arts, including data ethics, copyright law, digital design and qualitative analysis to address questions around the responsible use of AI.

Each fellow, numbering 17 in total, will partner with an organisation from the public, private or third sector to unite expertise for tackling existing, new or emerging AI challenges.

Partners from the technology sector include Adobe, Datamind Audio, Diverse AI, Mozilla Foundation and Microsoft.

### Research

## The impact of research

Our Memorable moments



Impact Festival lecture

The University's inaugural Impact Festival took place in May 2024 and concluded with the announcement of the first Research Impact prize winners.

Over the course of three days and 25 events, staff from across the University learned about their colleagues' experiences engaging with industry, communities, policy-makers, the media, artists and practitioners to maximise the benefits of research.

The festival was brought to a close with a 'Celebrating Impact' event where researchers, teams and partnerships received prizes in recognition of their outstanding engagement and research impact activities.

Anne Sofie Laegran, Head of Research Impact, said: "The Impact Festival has highlighted some fantastic examples of how research is making a real difference in the world that we hope will inspire others to start or further their impact journey."

Dr Sarah McGeown, one of the winners of the Sustained Partnership Award, and Co-Deputy Director of Research, Knowledge Exchange and Impact and Senior Lecturer in Developmental Psychology, explained:

"Children and young people's reading attitudes and volitional reading are at an all-time low, despite the rich and diverse benefits associated with reading books. To

**"The success of our sustained partnership is our shared passion and commitment to improving children and young people's experiences with books'."**

address this urgent and important issue, I have been working in close partnership with colleagues from the Scottish Book Trust and the National Literacy Trust. Our collaborative research has been funded by Nuffield Foundation, Leverhulme Trust, ESRC, Education Endowment Foundation and the University of Edinburgh.

Our research has resulted in 10 plus co-authored journal articles and one mini-book, five joint conference symposium/talks, blogposts, resources and programmes for teachers, children and/or young people.

The success of our sustained partnership is our shared passion and commitment to improving children and young people's experiences with books. We have developed very positive and productive partnerships, characterised by trust and a desire to support each other, recognising the benefits of bringing together our diverse knowledge, experience and expertise."



## Operational review (continued)

Project partners from regulatory and public organisations include Ada Lovelace Institute, The Alan Turing Institute, BBC, Institute for the Future of Work and the Public Media Alliance.

Elsewhere, fellows will be working with arts and cultural institutions including the Arts Council England, Edinburgh International Book Festival, Serpentine Galleries, and Royal Botanic Gardens Kew.

**“The BRAID fellowships aim to bring together researchers with industry and the public sector to help bridge that divide between technical capability and the knowledge of how to use it wisely and well, to ensure that the benefits of AI are realised for the good of us all.”**

**Professor Shannon Vallor**  
BRAID Co-director

The collaborative projects will address questions, including examining approaches for the use of generative AI in the media, exploring the societal and ethical factors shaping

the adoption of AI in a medical setting, developing a responsible AI innovation framework for the arts and culture sector, and supporting the needs of creatives when using AI.

Elsewhere, other collaborations will research the complex issue of copyright and generative AI in creative and cultural industries, including the impact of generative AI on writing novels, exploring the creation and ownership of AI-generated sounds, and examining the impact of generative AI in publishing.

➔ More information: [Research initiative to build collaborative and creative AI futures](#)

### Using AI’s power to fight climate change

Dramatic shifts in weather patterns and extreme events caused by climate change pose stark threats to global food security, but the reverse is also true: the foods we eat – specifically, the environmental costs associated with them – are major contributors to climate change. At the University’s Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Systems, Dr Joe Kennedy has

been working with AI to reveal the environmental impacts of UK food consumption as a whole for the first time.

Previous research has shown the impacts of individual foods – for instance, it is well known that meat and dairy are the worst culprits – but carrying out in-depth analysis of the environmental footprint of an entire country’s dietary habits based on nationally representative surveys has simply not been possible. Working with Professor Lindsay Jaacks, Dr Kennedy is aiming to do just that.

The researchers are using AI to match two huge, complex sets of data. One is UK Government data on consumption patterns and the nutritional content of different foods, and the other is data from FoodDB, a database holding details of the environmental impact of tens of thousands food products sold in UK supermarkets. Combining these two data sets will reveal the climate impact of UK diets by tallying sales figures on the foods people buy with data on their environmental footprint, from growing or making foods to transporting them to supermarket shelves.



Lasagne: Studying a common food’s impact on climate change

## Operational review (continued)



The liver in the human body

© libre de droit via Getty Images

The process of matching these two data sets can be done manually by researchers, but it's long, painstaking work. Part of what makes it so challenging is that the UK Government data is broad, while the data in FoodDB is very specific. For example, while beef lasagne is logged as one product in the UK Government data, details of more than 100 different beef lasagnes sold in supermarkets are recorded in FoodDB. That can make doing projects like this manually extremely time consuming and expensive – often prohibitively so.

Dr Kennedy and the team worked out that it would take a team of four researchers around nine months and cost close to £300,000. Using AI, the matching took two weeks and cost around £300.

As well as greatly speeding up the matching process, using AI makes the technique much more replicable. That means with the right data it could be used to calculate similar impacts for other parts of the world. Drilling down to that level of detail would provide policymakers with key evidence to inform decision-making about encouraging changes to diets and food production practices.

**“Given the cost and time involved, this project simply couldn't have been done without AI.”**

**Dr Joe Kennedy**

Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Systems

➔ More information: [Using AI's power to fight climate change](#)

### Study pinpoints cell that helps liver heal

A type of cell responsible for repairing damaged liver tissue has been uncovered for the first time by scientists.

A study showing how these new-found cells migrate to the site of damage provides fresh insight into the way the liver heals itself.

Experts say the findings could spur the development of new therapies that harness the liver's unique capacity to regenerate following damage.

During acute liver failure, this ability to repair and regenerate is often overwhelmed, with patients requiring an emergency liver transplant to regain liver function.

Scientists from the University of Edinburgh studied human liver tissue

from patients with acute liver failure for signs of cell proliferation and regeneration following the rapid loss of liver function.

They found that a significant proportion of cells retained the ability to multiply. There were, however, still substantial areas of damage in the patients' livers, suggesting that processes other than cell proliferation are critical during regeneration.

The research team profiled the genes within every liver cell in both healthy and regenerating human liver tissue to better understand the regeneration process. They did so using a cutting-edge technique called single cell RNA sequencing.

The findings uncovered a previously undetected population of wound-healing liver cells that emerge during human liver regeneration to boost its recovery.

**“We hope that our findings will accelerate the discovery of much-needed new treatments for patients with liver disease.”**

**Professor Neil Henderson**

Centre for Inflammation Research

## Operational review (continued)

## Learning and Teaching

## Nadin Akta: Building community in Edinburgh



Nadin Akhta

Our Memorable moments



Nadin arrived in Edinburgh in 2008 with her husband, who was pursuing a PhD. Initially, they planned to stay for a few years, with hopes of returning to Syria to establish their family. However, as the war in Syria began, their plans to move back home were delayed indefinitely. As they waited year after year for the war to end, and with the birth of their two children, they eventually decided to settle down in Edinburgh.

Nadin started officially working for the University of Edinburgh in 2018 as the Outreach and Projects Coordinator for the Alwaleed Centre. Her role here involved organising school visits, conferences, and workshops focused on Islam. While in this role, she realised that there was a need to put all the work she and others had done in one place, where people could easily access this support. Thus, she founded Syrian Futures, a project focused on education, employment and general development of Syrian Refugees. Through University open days, peer matching and translating services they helped Syrians feel less isolated and more integrated into their new communities.

Nadin is currently Manager of Education Beyond Borders (EBB), a

**“I believe these scholarships are life changing for their futures, lives and career.”**

programme that provides funding, support, and community-led initiatives to ensure continued access to education for displaced scholars. It launched its new scholarship in January 2024 and welcomed the first cohort of EBB scholarship students in September 2024. 21 students with refugee or related statuses living in the UK will undertake one-year taught postgraduate programmes across all three Colleges.

“When we got the scholarships, it was the best day ever for me. Refugees are often told they either need to have the work experience or the equivalent educational qualifications to have access to work, but to get that experience you need the qualifications...I believe these scholarships are life changing for their futures, lives and career.”

➔ More information: [Nadin Akta: Building Community in Edinburgh](#)

Working with University of Glasgow scientists at the Cancer Research UK Scotland Institute, the team used special imaging techniques in mice to view the wound-healing cells in action.

During liver regeneration, so-called leader cells appear at the edge of the healthy tissue, dragging the tissue together to close the wound – similarly to how skin heals after a cut.

Imaging also revealed that the population of healing liver cells appears before cell proliferation begins.

Wide-spread infection is a major concern following acute liver failure. Bacteria from the gut can escape into the liver when the liver is damaged. This can lead to sepsis if the liver is unable to clear the infection.

The liver may prioritise the healing of wounds before cell proliferation to restore the gut-liver barrier and prevent the spread of bacteria, experts say.

The study, funded by the Wellcome Trust, is published in the journal Nature. The research team also included scientists from the Universities of Birmingham, Cambridge and Texas, University College London, and the United States Acute Liver Failure Study Group network.

➔ More information: [Study pinpoints cell that helps liver heal](#)

## Learning and teaching

This year has been marked by a concerted effort from our academic community, students and staff alike, to foster an innovative, supportive, and inclusive educational experience that leads the way in the higher education sector.

The initiatives being developed and the feedback gathered from our community are key in shaping a more effective and engaging approach to education and student experience.

Results from the National Student Survey (NSS) were released in July 2024, an important measure for us and the sector. Our overall satisfaction score is 70.4%, slightly down from 70.8%



## Operational review (continued)

last year. These results highlight that there are several areas where we need to improve. However, our response rate this year was 71%, compared to 65% last year, and we continue to perform strongly in teaching, learning resources and academic support. Areas we need to continue to prioritise include assessment and feedback and student voice. Students highlighted the importance of receiving timely feedback, receiving feedback that helps them improve their work, and clarity on how student feedback has been acted upon. This is a priority for the entire University and we know colleagues are actively working across every School to improve the feedback responses and quality for our students.

Excellence in learning and teaching is also recognised and celebrated at the University. The Edinburgh University Students' Association Teaching Awards are now in their fifteenth year, celebrating the very best in teaching and support at the University. Almost 2,000 nominations were submitted by students.

Winners included Inga Ackermann, Online Learning and Leadership Coordinator for the MasterCard Foundation Online Scholars' Program. Inga won the Outstanding Commitment to Social Justice and Sustainability award for showing dedication to

commitment to the learning, wellbeing, and sense of community for students studying online in Africa. Nominees appreciated her deep understanding of the African context that her students exist in and the issues that affect them, continuously working to mitigate these issues as much as possible. Inga was described as not just a member of staff, but also a role model and friend to many of her students. She also sits on the University's Refugee, Asylum, and At-Risk Advisory Group and coordinates the University's annual Refugee Week.

Dr Simone Ferracina's course, Radical Harvest, won the award for Outstanding Course. Dr Ferracina's course was praised for the opportunities for students to create projects for social enterprises and charities across Edinburgh using repurposed and reclaimed items. Alongside this, the course was credited with being a comfortable space for students to share ideas and get support in a collaborative environment.

The Curriculum Transformation project is ongoing and is implementing the first batch of Challenge Courses for academic year 24/25. This is a core priority for the University, with further plans being developed for co-creation between staff and students. A Postgraduate Taught Framework for Curriculum Transformation is also in development, and has been met with widespread

positivity. It is critical to the continuing success of our students and our institution that the curriculum prepares them for the future and produces graduates who can not only answer big questions but ask even bigger ones.

The Institute for Academic Development (IAD) has continued to offer support for the Curriculum Transformation Project through a range of initiatives. These included developing new programme and course design webpages that offer new resources as well as drawing together resources from across IAD, Academic Services, Information Services and other areas of the University of Edinburgh. This offers staff a more easily navigable way to find the information they are looking for when designing curricula.

We also updated the Board of Studies Training available for Convenors and Administrators in response to feedback from colleagues and in anticipation of changes needed to support Curriculum Transformation. The University's Teaching Matters blog featured a new series of posts focused on assessment and feedback. In addition, the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice (PgCAP) was reaccredited by Advance HE in 2024, and the programme, which is aimed mainly at teaching staff, is now a fully online resource.

In July 2024, we also launched new systems for timetabling and booking rooms. New features include geolocation maps and photographs of spaces.

The system allows students and staff to search all centrally managed rooms at once, see pictures of the layout, and filter by capacity, availability and room type.

Students can view their personal timetables as they are populated, see course timetable information for academic year 2024/25, and access calendar views for individual rooms. Connections to Outlook are improved, with personalised timetable information getting to calendars faster.

## Strategic Change

Resolving the challenges with the People and Money finance system and processes continues to be a priority.

### Student recruitment and admissions

Entry to academic year	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22
<b>Undergraduate enrolments</b>			
Total applications	<b>71,968</b>	78,739	72,349
Total offers	<b>28,275</b>	26,548	33,085
Total enrolments	<b>6,571</b>	6,576	7,909
Applications to enrolments ratio	<b>11.0</b>	12.0	9.1
Matriculate rate (enrolments / offers)	<b>23.2%</b>	24.8%	23.9%
<b>Postgraduate enrolments</b>			
Total applications	<b>122,884</b>	100,317	92,184
Total offers	<b>30,377</b>	29,432	29,570
Total enrolments	<b>9,216</b>	9,432	10,182
Applications to enrolments ratio	<b>13.3</b>	10.6	9.1
Total applications	<b>194,852</b>	179,056	164,533
Total offers	<b>58,652</b>	55,980	62,655
Total enrolments	<b>15,787</b>	16,008	18,091

These figures include Online Learning students. Visiting and undergraduate non-graduating students are excluded; PGDE programmes are categorised as undergraduate.

## Operational review (continued)

We have introduced a two-year improvement plan for our HR and Finance processes, shaped by feedback we've received from staff, students, suppliers and external reviewers. Work has started on the initial projects, with a particular focus on research finance.

This work, along with other large Strategic Change programmes, is monitored by the new University Initiatives Portfolio Board. The Board is made up of a broad range of staff from across the University and takes a holistic approach to the assessment of current and future change programmes, making recommendations to University Executive.

### Our estate

The University's estate serves our staff, students and the wider community. A £17 million multiyear energy efficiency programme was recently established and an additional £2 million of grant funding has been received this year from the Scottish Government's £20 million fund for public sector bodies to employ clean heating and energy efficiency improvements. A further £13 million was also secured from the Scottish Funding Council.

This funding allows the delivery of a range of projects that form part of a programme of works required by 2040, focusing on the key themes of reducing energy demand, carbon and energy cost and enabling future transition to new net zero enabling technology. The range of projects currently underway includes:

- Expanding the heating, power and cooling network at Easter Bush
- Lighting efficiency replacement programme
- Rooftop solar PV programme
- Teviot Row energy efficiency improvements (adding to ongoing refurbishment)
- Installation of a heat recovery heat pump at King's Buildings
- Upgrading roof insulation and glazing
- Upgrading lab ventilation systems
- Improved pipework insulation

Following a change to Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) policy guidance in the UK in August 2023, detailed assessments have been undertaken by structural engineers, comprising a visual, non-disruptive survey, along with targeted investigations. As a result, the University restricted access to some areas of its buildings as a precautionary measure and remedial works have been ongoing, in line with advice from the Institution of Structural Engineers (iStructE).

Building works have completed at the Western General Hospital campus and the new Institute of Genetics and Cancer (IGC) building was handed over to users in May 2024. The project, supported by a joint investment by the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the University of Edinburgh, is a five-storey building which connects to the existing IGC East Building and IGC North Building.

Refurbishment works have commenced at the former Tynecastle High School. The project, including an extension to the existing building, will include 469 student bedrooms with internal and external amenity space. Completion is planned for Autumn 2026.

Upgrade works have begun at the Edinburgh College of Art. This is being

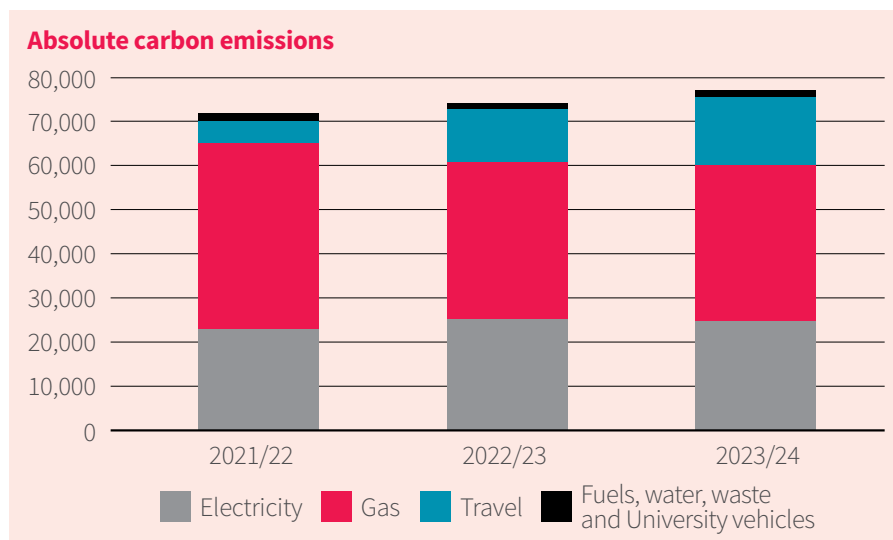
carried out in phases with the first seeing the conversion of the Fire Station into academic offices. This will free up space in the other building to convert into studio space in the second phase. The central courtyard will be re-landscaped to allow for better accessibility.

**“Sport and activity underpin community life on campus. We believe wellness is about choice, and we want to offer users an abundance of ways to engage with physical activity.”**

**Mark Munro**  
Director of Sport & Active Health

At our Pleasance Sports Complex & Gym, the refurbishment of the new Eric Liddell Gym coincided with the beginning of a new awareness drive launched by The Eric Liddell Community, the Eric Liddell 100 campaign. This programme of events and activities recognises a newly created UK sporting and community service achievements of one of Scotland's iconic figures who was the inaugural inductee into the University of Edinburgh Sports Hall of Fame in 2008.

The refurbishment includes a significant investment in new, state-of-the-art, equipment from Technogym. The new



Absolute carbon emissions have increased by approximately five per cent compared to last year, driven by an increase in carbon emissions associated with business travel. The volume of business travel has increased with the lifting of international travel restrictions put in place during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Note: Figures awaiting external verification at time of writing.

## Operational review (continued)

five-year partnership brings in 30 brand new treadmills, 15 cross-trainers, nine exercise bikes and, for the first time, eight stair climbers to the 765 metre<sup>2</sup> space. Other key developments include the new ground-breaking Hockey 2 surface at Peffermill which is the first carbon zero hockey surface in Scotland as well as the refurbishment of the old reception and the changing areas at The Pleasance. As Mark Munro, Director of Sport & Active Health, said, “Sport and activity underpin community life on campus. We believe wellness is about choice, and we want to offer users an abundance of ways to engage with physical activity.”

## Protecting our planet

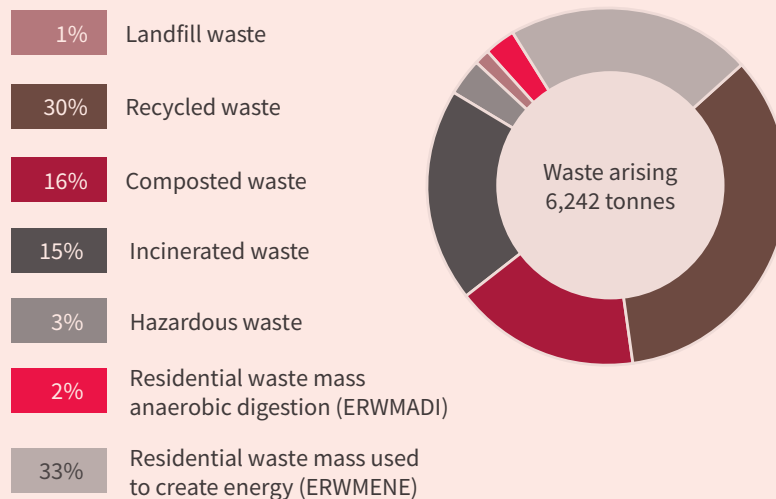
### Combating climate change

The University was among several organisations to share grants from the Scottish Government’s Public Sector Heat Decarbonisation Fund. Alongside its own funding, the University will decarbonise the King’s Buildings campus heat supply by reusing heat from a University data centre. Work to plant woodland and restore peatlands in Scotland has begun as part of a project to capture the University of Edinburgh’s unavoidable emissions from flying. The project will involve planting over 2 million trees, restoring peatlands and ecologically regenerating approximately 5,600 hectares of land across various sites in Scotland, over 4,500 of which is owned by partners – a combined area of more than 8,000 football pitches. A 431-hectare site overlooking the Ochil Hills in Stirlingshire and 26 hectares at Rullion Green in the Pentland Hills Regional Park near Edinburgh are the first of several sites that will be regenerated. Emissions generated from flying, which cannot currently be reduced to zero, will instead be offset using the restored sites.

Carbon emissions from University business travel have decreased by a third compared with pre-pandemic data from 2018/19 to 2022/23. The University was ranked as a ‘top performer’ in an independent review of climate-conscious business travel across 50 public sector organisations in Scotland. The recognition, based on a report by Transform Scotland,

Key performance indicators	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22
Income (tonnes CO2e / £m)	54.9	54.6	54.7
Staff (tonnes CO2e / staff FTE)	6.0	6.2	6.3
Students (tonnes CO2e / student headcount)	1.6	1.5	1.5

### University waste breakdown 2022/23



More staff and students have returned to campus over the last academic year, resulting in a higher volume of waste being produced. There has been an increase in the percentage of waste being composted or recycled compared to last year.

Note: Figures awaiting external verification at time of writing

the alliance for sustainable travel, acknowledges efforts to reduce flying, and the strength of climate-friendly policies aimed at reducing emissions.

A newly created UK concordat aims to ensure that the design and practice of research and innovation become environmentally sustainable. The agreement, the UK Concordat for the Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice, was co-developed by more than 25 organisations including universities, research institutes and funders in the UK research and innovation sector. The University has committed to fully adopting the Concordat, and is an early signatory. The Concordat coincides with another major sustainability initiative founded this year by the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow – Scotland Beyond Net Zero. This scheme is aimed at maximising the contribution academic research makes to Scotland’s ambitious climate goals.

The University has again been ranked among the world’s top universities by The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings for its contribution to the

UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. It achieved joint 1st in the world for its contribution to SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, reflecting the University’s flourishing culture of innovation, harnessing its research power to drive innovation and directly benefit society. The University was also recognised as one of the leading universities in the UK for sustainability, being ranked 3rd in the UK in the QS World University Rankings: Sustainability 2024.

## Supporting our community

### Contributing locally

Since launching a Community Grant scheme in 2017, the University of Edinburgh has invested over £730,000 in more than 200 community projects in South-East Scotland. A total of £115,000 has been awarded this year through the scheme, as well as through a Midlothian STEM scheme and the Micro-grant scheme.

In March 2024, student athletes gathered at Peffermill Playing Fields to plant



## Operational review (continued)

trees and celebrate the launch of an exciting new project. ‘Wild Peffermill’ marks the start of a long-term vision to protect and restore nature and wildlife habitats across our campus, with the University committing to transforming over 25,000m non-pitch amenity grassland areas into wildflower meadows and grasslands, as well as actively manage woodland areas to improve their health at Peffermill.

**“Peffermill is already home to curlews, bats and otters, and we will continue to work hard to develop our sporting estate whilst supporting biodiversity and wildlife across the site.”**

**Mark Munro**

Director of Sport & Active Health

### Responsible investments

The approach the University takes to responsible investment is rooted in its focus on social and civic responsibility, and its vision to make the world a better place.

In August 2024, the Endowment Fund was given an ‘A’ grade by investment advisers Mercer in their Responsible Investment Total Evaluation benchmarking exercise, placing it in the top quartile in the UK.

The University’s £8 million Social Investment Fund continues to deliver positive social impact within Edinburgh and beyond. This year, a further £1 million was committed to the Social and Sustainable Housing fund, which has enabled charities like Simon Community Scotland to provide affordable accommodation for adults at risk of homelessness.

### Reviewing the Responsible Investment Policy

A review of the University’s Responsible Investment Policy (2016) is underway, proposing commitments to social investment, aligning portfolios to net zero targets and adopting nature positive approaches to investments.

In May, the University set up two working groups to address concerns from

Protecting our planet

## Universities join forces on greener financial products

Our Memorable moments

Growing green energy with ‘pots’ of money

Edinburgh has joined 60 other higher education institutions and trusts to issue a Request for Proposals to financial institutions to invest in products with no ties to fossil fuel expansion.

The Request for Proposals aims to redirect financial investments to the construction of renewables and accelerate energy transition away from new oil, coal or gas projects. The extraction and burning of fossil fuels is a major cause of climate change, with banking playing a key role in financing fossil fuel production.

A large majority of primary financing of fossil fuels comes from debt – from sources such as bank loans and bonds.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) is a document from an organisation or group of organisations that outlines a project and asks for bids from prospective vendors that match a set of evaluation criteria.

This one will solicit proposals from banks and fund managers for cash products, such as deposits and money market funds, that do not support companies engaging in fossil fuel expansion.

The joined-up approach emphasises the collective efforts higher education institutions can take to influence other sectors – including the financial sector – to change

**“Using their influence and capital, universities have a significant role to play in the transition toward a net zero economy. We are proud to join other UK universities to support the Cambridge request for proposals for net zero-aligned banking products.”**

their behaviours and help combat climate change.

The RFP has been issued by the University of Cambridge, with the responses from banks and fund managers to be reviewed by any – or all – of the signatory institutions.

Alongside the University of Edinburgh, other institutions signed up include the Universities of Oxford, Leeds, Bristol and University College London.

➔ More information: [Universities join forces on greener financial products](#)



## Operational review (continued)

## Supporting our community

## Free to flourish: Community groups thrive in University spaces

Our Memorable moments



Bare Productions perform

The University's Community Access to Rooms project has now become a permanent arrangement. More than 40 community groups have used the buildings on offer across the campuses. The scheme aims to foster a meaningful relationship between the University and the community through free room hire, ensuring that the rooms are used to their full potential and that cost is not a barrier to good quality meeting space.

Dominic Lewis, Director of Edinburgh theatre group, Bare Productions, has used a variety of spaces across campus to host rehearsals, auditions and events.

He says: "We were charging people a membership fee to cover the cost of room hire, as well as having a high fundraising target and applying for grants. Although we still apply for funding now, it means that we can redirect those funds into other areas to help us expand or to provide more opportunities for the community."

Bare Productions was set up in 2017 to provide theatre opportunities to those living in Edinburgh. The 40 group members include University students, staff, and people from across the city.

**"We can redirect... funds into other areas to help us expand or to provide more opportunities for the community."**

"Everything we do is centred around an ethos of community values: community accessibility, innovation and creativity," Dominic continues. "We also have separate strands to the company that help amplify voices of those often unheard."

Last year, the group worked with Waverley Care, Scotland's HIV and Hepatitis C charity, on a production of *Rent*, which portrays the AIDS crisis in the 1980s. They created resource packs and put on presentations for the public. Dominic says: "Having access to the University space has also been helpful for when we've hosted external events and filled the space with public audiences."

➔ More information: [Free to flourish: Community groups thrive in University spaces](#)

**Dominic Lewis**

Director of Bare Productions

students and staff regarding investments in relation to international contexts, human rights, and the policy's definition of 'controversial weapons'. A survey was launched to gather opinions from the University's communities regarding the proposed changes to the Policy.

The outcomes of these activities will inform the new Policy, which will be published in 2025.

➔ More information: [Reviewing our Responsible Investment Policy](#)

## City Region Deal

The signing of the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal in 2018 marked the start of a journey to make the city region the 'data capital of Europe'.

Key to realising that ambition is the Deal's Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) initiative, which is delivered by the University of Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt University.

The DDI initiative is a network of hubs bringing together academic disciplines and external partners to solve some of the world's most pressing issues. All six hubs have now opened. Most recently, the Edinburgh Futures Institute transformed the old Royal Infirmary building, designed to prevent contagion, into a place which encourages a modern-day contagion of ideas and debate around real-world challenges. Construction is also complete on the new Usher Institute, which specialises in how data can improve health and social care.

There have been many highlights in the last year, more than can be mentioned here.

In November, the Generative AI Laboratory (GAIL) was launched to unite the University's world-leading research and innovation in AI to develop safe solutions and systems for industry and government.

In April, the flagship Childlight programme received a multi-million pound boost in the worldwide battle against the sexual exploitation and abuse of children. This was followed in May, when Childlight published the first global index of online child abuse and





## Operational review (continued)

exploitation. As Childlight's Director of Data, the University's Professor Debi Fry plays a key role in this vital activity.

Also in May, the Data Education in Schools (DES) team scooped the top prize for Education Initiative of the Year at the 2024 British Data Awards. DES is part of the Data Skills Gateway strand of the City Region Deal. Since 2018, DES has reached around 40,000 participants, from school-aged children participating in online learner events to returners to the workforce who are learning to code. The DES team has boosted data literacy in more than 850 schools, creating learners fluent in using data to answer big societal questions and teachers who feel confident to teach data skills.

## Annual Procurement Report

The University's Annual Procurement Report acts as the foundation for annually assessing our delivery against our strategic aims and objectives, our regulatory compliance and the constant pursuit of value for money in all that we do. It details the performance and achievements of the Procurement Department, as well as the strategic and operational activities undertaken over the reporting period.

➔ More information: [Annual Procurement Report](#)

In 2024, we also published our new Procurement Strategy, setting out how we will support the University in achieving its ambitions by delivering strategic sourcing solutions that foster excellence in research and education, with a focus on our people and our civic and social responsibility.

➔ More information: [Procurement Strategy 2030](#)



Wild Peffermill project team

© Andrew Perry



# Financial review



Students in study space

# Director of Finance's foreword

**Lee Hamill**

Director of Finance




## The University of Edinburgh has recorded another year of solid financial performance in 2023/24 against a backdrop of uncertainty for the UK higher education sector.

We have not been immune to the significant financial challenges that have persisted during the last year, and we are keenly aware of new risks and issues that will continue into future years. However, we can be proud of what the University has achieved, whilst anchoring itself to responsible and sustainable financial management.

Like the majority of the sector, we have experienced an unexpected challenge around international student recruitment for the 2023/24 intake as well as the lasting impact of a number of years of very high inflation on our cost base. Despite this, we have worked hard to adapt quickly to changing circumstances, to mitigate risks and take advantage of new opportunities where we can. We have seen our overall revenue grow to in excess of £1.4 billion which supports the activities and projects that are necessary to sustain and move the University forward. This Annual Report and Accounts covers the University's financial performance for the year to 31 July 2024, with a detailed review of the key areas presented in the Financial Review section on pages 40 to 45.

### Financial headlines

Our total income increased by 3.5 per cent in 2023/24 to over £1.4 billion, and caps off a six-year period where we

have achieved £450 million growth in income and delivered approximately £650 million of cumulative EBITDA. In what was a challenging year for student recruitment for us and the rest of the sector, our international tuition fees were lower than the target we had set for the year. However, we still managed to achieve a 3 per cent year-on-year increase in our total tuition fees.

The situation we faced across our largest income stream emphasised the importance of our commercial income that we generate alongside our core teaching and research activity. We saw income grow by 5.3 per cent in our accommodation, catering and events business to over £98 million and our proactive treasury management generated over £40 million in investment returns by taking advantage of favourable market conditions.

We saw expenditure grow in 2023/24 with staff costs increasing due to the implementation of the nationally agreed cost of living pay awards, as well as a large proportion of staff moving up the pay scale after the University implemented a positive change to where Edinburgh's grade points sit on the national pay scale. Non-staff costs also increased in the year reflecting the impact of a number of years of high inflation across our activities. While it

did not affect the costs for the 2023/24 financial year detailed in this document, the UK Government's October 2024 budget statement will result in a significant increase to employers' national insurance contributions from April 2025. The full year net impact, after accounting for assumed matched income in restricted funds, is estimated to be circa £12.5 million, which will add almost 2% on to the total unrestricted staff cost bill.

We use Earnings Before Interest, Taxation, Depreciation and Amortisation (EBITDA) to measure our underlying financial performance. EBITDA can be used as a proxy for the cash generated from our internal operations – this is the cash we use to service our debt and fund important investment in equipment, our digital infrastructure and our physical estate. Following the British Universities Finance Directors Group definition of EBITDA, we start with surplus/(deficit) before other gains and losses and make adjustments thereafter to account for the funding models in operation in the sector.

Our EBITDA for 2023/24 was £84 million, or 5.8 per cent of total income (2023: £148 million, 10.7 per cent of income). See the table below for the reconciliation from surplus before other gains and losses through to EBITDA.

	2024 £m	2023 £m
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>84</b>	148
Depreciation and amortisation	(91)	(85)
Interest and other finance costs	(22)	(27)
Capital grant income	54	69
<b>Surplus before other gains and losses prior to movement in USS provision</b>	<b>25</b>	104
Exceptional: Movement in USS provision	352	53
<b>Surplus before other gains and losses</b>	<b>378</b>	157

In calculating EBITDA, adjustments are made for interest costs, capital grants and non-cash items such as depreciation and pension provision movements.



## Director of Finance's foreword (continued)

### Capital investment

The University maintains one of the most complex and sophisticated physical estates in the sector with over 500 buildings across five distinct campuses, and we remain committed to our ambitious capital plan which will deliver significant investment in new student accommodation and facilities as well as fulfilling our compliance and maintenance. Despite the continued impact of recent high inflation in the construction sector we have been able to deliver our committed capital projects over the last year resulting in a total capital expenditure of £186 million, with £122 million allocated to improving our physical estate and £64 million to fixtures, fittings, and equipment.

### Pensions

The Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) is our largest pension scheme and remains the UK's largest private pension scheme in terms of assets under management. USS is the principal pension scheme for universities and higher education institutions with more than half a million active, deferred and retired members and covering over 340 participating employer organisations. The 2023 USS triennial valuation was undertaken as at 31 March 2023 and resulted in the scheme being in surplus, on a technical provision basis. Following the conclusion of the valuation in November 2023, the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) confirmed

**“We have worked hard to adapt quickly to changing circumstances, to mitigate risks and take advantage of new opportunities where we can.”** 

that the University is no longer required to maintain a provision on its balance sheet for our share of the scheme deficit recovery plan – as there is no longer a deficit to fund.

As a result, our financial statements show that the provision previously held on our balance sheet has been removed and a £352 million non-cash credit has been applied to our staff costs in 2023/24. It is important to highlight that this non-cash accounting adjustment is not included in the standard calculation for EBITDA, nor does it have an effect on the University's underlying operating performance. Even though it does not represent any real cash flowing in or out of the University, it is however included in the statutory calculation for operating surplus and is the main driver of the total comprehensive income of £403 million noted in the primary financial statements from page 58.

Separate from the USS, we are also required to include the annual non-

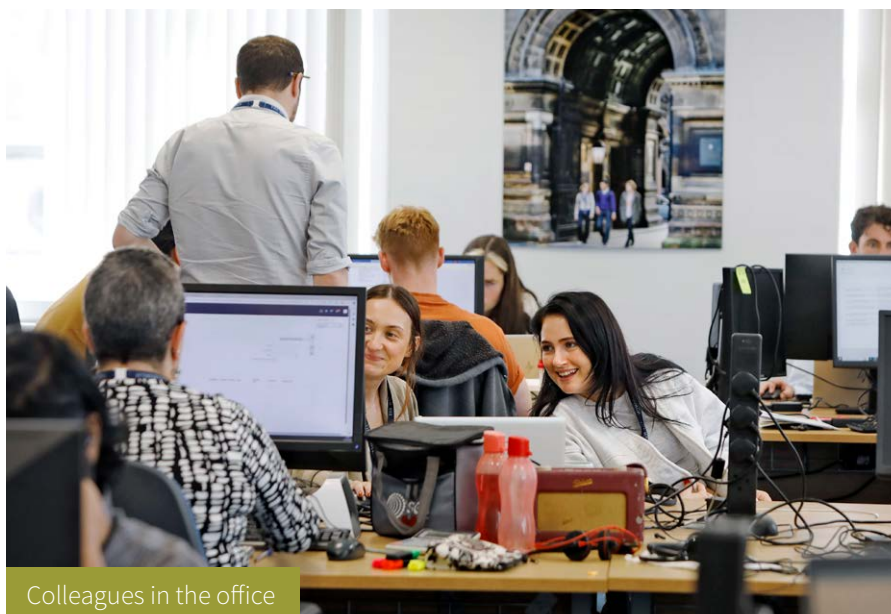
cash actuarial movements relating to our other main defined benefit pension scheme, the Edinburgh University Staff Benefits Scheme (EUSBS), in the primary financial statements. This is also a non-cash movement and is derived from the year-on-year revisions to the estimated actuarial value of the EUSBS assets and liabilities. The calculation for 2023/24 was based on the 2021 EUSBS triennial valuation and resulted in a non-cash loss of £18 million as the scheme's liabilities exceed assets. While we are required to report this position in the 2023/24 financial statements, it should be noted that the most recent triennial valuation for the EUSBS was struck in March 2024 and the preliminary results report a scheme surplus on a technical provisions basis. The final outcome of the 2024 valuation will be reflected in our 2024/25 financial statements and will likely result in a positive non-cash movement. Just like the movement in the USS deficit recovery plan provision noted above, the annual actuarial changes for the EUSBS are not included in the standard EBITDA calculation and are not a measure of the University's operational performance.

### Endowment fund

Our endowment fund recorded an increase in valuation at the end of the 2023/24 financial year with the fund valued at £580 million (2023: £560 million). After a challenging couple of years, the unit price of the endowment fund increased by 3.5 per cent. This year's recovery is welcomed and we are reminded that the endowment fund is invested for the long-term with success measured in decades rather than over a single year.

### Conclusion

This foreword marks my final year as Director of Finance at the University of Edinburgh as I take on a new challenge in a new sector from January 2025. Reflecting on the last six years, there are many significant financial highlights and metrics that I could mention, but most of all I am pleased to have worked with many wonderful colleagues and stakeholders and I am incredibly proud of everything we have achieved together. I wish the University of Edinburgh continued success in the future.



Colleagues in the office



# Financial review

## The University delivered an EBITDA of 5.8 per cent this year.

The University uses Earnings Before Interest, Taxation, Depreciation and Amortisation (EBITDA) as our key financial metric. University EBITDA in 2023/24 was £84 million. This is a reduction of £64 million on the EBITDA reported last year (2023: £148 million) driven by the impact of growth in income slowing relative to growth in expenditure, as detailed in the commentary below. EBITDA in 2023/24 equates to 5.8 per cent of total income (2023: 10.7 per cent). The University's balance sheet remains strong with total net assets amounting to £3.1 billion (2023: £2.7 billion).

### Scope of the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting for Further and Higher Education Institutions 2019 (SORP 2019), the Scottish Funding Council's 2023/24 accounts direction and with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

### Financial performance

Commentary on financial performance in 2023/24 excludes the impact of the non-cash credit to staff costs of £352 million, relating to movement on the USS pension provision in the year (in 2022/23 this was a smaller non-cash credit of £53

million). This is a result of the University previously holding a provision on its balance sheet for our share of the USS Deficit Recovery Plan. The movement year-on-year (either up or down) does not represent cash moving in or out of the organisation as it is an accounting adjustment. Further comment is provided in the pensions update below.

FRS 102 requires that unrealised gains and losses be reported as part of the statement of comprehensive income and expenditure. These gains and losses, which are not realised cash movements, form part of the total comprehensive income for the year of £393 million (2023: £182 million).

	2023/24 £m	2022/23 £m
Total income	1,434	1,385
Less: Capital grant income	(54)	(69)
<b>Income included in EBITDA<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>1,316</b>
Staff costs	756	706
Other operating expenses	540	462
<b>Expenditure included in EBITDA<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>1,168</b>
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>148</b>
Exceptional: Movement in USS provision	352	53
Depreciation and amortisation	(91)	(85)
Interest and other finance costs	(22)	(27)
Capital grant income	54	69
<b>Surplus before other gains and losses</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>157</b>
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	0	0
Gain/(loss) on investments	29	(6)
Taxation <sup>2</sup>	(1)	-
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>152</b>
Actuarial (loss)/gain in respect of pension schemes <sup>3</sup>	(13)	30
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>182</b>

1. Income and expenditure included in EBITDA exclude a number of items that are included in Surplus. These items are outlined in the section below EBITDA.  
 2. UK corporation tax charge on subsidiary's profits. 3. This is the non-cash movement based on the difference, year-on-year, of revisions to the estimated value of the pension scheme assets and liabilities (excluding USS).

## Financial review (continued)

### Income

Total income in 2023/24 was £1,434 million (2023: £1,385 million). This represents an increase of 4 per cent from last year. This was principally driven by higher research income and increased returns on our treasury investments as a result of the higher interest rate environment in which we operate.

The University has a broad range of income streams and the funding mix remains fairly consistent across financial years. In total, tuition fees (37 per cent), funding body grants (15 per cent), research income (25 per cent) and other income (17 per cent) account for 94 per cent of the University's total income. The remaining six per cent relates to investment income, donations and endowments.

In what has been a challenging year for student recruitment across the wider higher education sector, income from tuition fees and education contracts grew by three per cent in the year to £527 million (2023: £514 million). Our student headcount is slightly down, though new student intakes grew; the reduction in overall population is driven by graduation of larger-than-planned cohorts recruited during the Covid years. Our student headcount fell by 0.5 per cent to 49,485 (2023: 49,740).

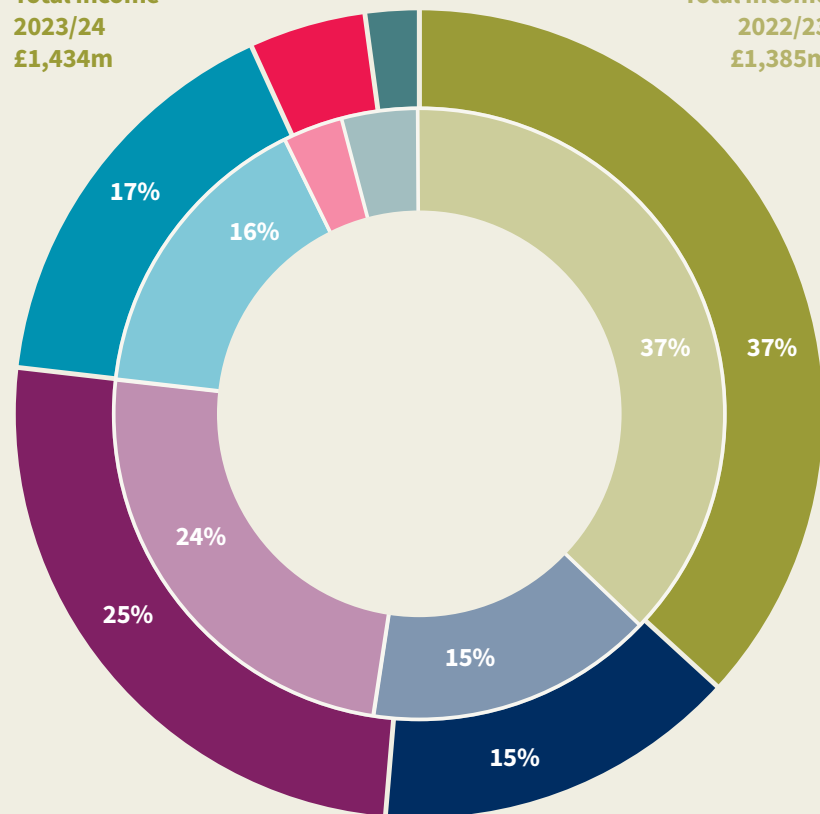
Funding body grants decreased by one per cent in 2023/24 to £209 million (2023: £211 million) driven by lower strategic funding. Included within funding body grants is our recurrent teaching and research grants received from the Scottish Funding Council. We have seen an increase in our core research grant in recent years linked to our excellent performance in the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF).

Research income grew by eight per cent on the previous year to £365 million (2023: £340 million). This reflects our current research activity along with the recognition of a £20 million Simons Foundation gift to fund future research activity and £15 million in capital funding received from the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal (2023: £30 million). Our research award pipeline remains strong and the associated income of these awards will

### Sources of income

**Total income**  
2023/24  
£1,434m

**Total income**  
2022/23  
£1,385m



		2023/24 £m	2022/23 £m
Tuition fees and education contracts	▲	527.2	513.7
Funding body grants	▼	208.7	210.9
Research income	▲	365.2	339.5
Other income	▲	238.2	222.2
Investment income	▲	64.4	43.3
Donations and endowments	▼	30.1	55.1

Notes to the Financial Statements 3 to 8 provide further detail on sources of income.

filter through into our research income over their lifetime.

The University's non-teaching and research income remains a key component of our funding model. Other income in 2023/24 has increased by seven per cent to £238 million (2023: £222 million). Driving this is the improvements we have seen in our commercial operations with income from our accommodation and catering business increasing to £98 million in 2023/24 (2023: £93 million) and income from other services, like consultancy, increasing to £66 million in 2023/24 (2023: £59 million).

Investment income has risen by almost 50 per cent in 2024 to £64 million (2023: £43 million). Contributing to this improvement are higher amounts of interest receivable on our treasury and cash funds due to higher interest rates.

Donations and endowments totalled £30 million in 2024 (2023: £55 million). This can be a volatile income stream across financial years. The total in 2023 included the receipt of £40 million of endowment funding that will be used to fund Phase Two of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

## Financial review (continued)

### Expenditure

Total expenditure in 2023/24 was £1,409 million (2023: £1,280 million), a ten per cent increase on last year. This excludes the impact of £352 million non-cash staff costs relating to movement on the USS pension provision we held on our balance sheet until the end of this year.

Staff costs for the year were £756 million (2023: £706 million), an increase of seven per cent. Staff costs remain our largest expenditure item and represented 54 per cent of total expenditure for the year (2023: 55 per cent).

Salary costs increased by 12 per cent in 2023/24, driven by a price increase of four per cent and a volume increase of eight per cent (which equates to 958 full time equivalents). The price increase is driven by nationally agreed cost of living increases and staff movement through pay grade scales.

Pension costs reduced across the year to £133 million (2023: £145 million) which was driven by the outcome of the 2023 USS valuation that ended with lower employee and employer contribution rates from January 2024.

Our mix of staff costs across different activities remained consistent in 2023/24

with 57 per cent relating to teaching (2023: 56 per cent) and 18 per cent relating to research grants and contracts (2023: 18 per cent). The remaining 25 per cent relates to our professional services and commercial staff that provide library, IT, premises and other administrative support to our core teaching and research activities (2023: 26 per cent).

In the spring of 2024, the University implemented a revised pay grade scale that adjusted the point at which grades start and end on the national pay spine points. Staff costs in 2023/24 included the first tranche of the impact of this decision, with the full impacts materialising from August 2024.

After staff costs, our next largest expenditure item is other operating expenses which increased by 17 per cent to £540 million this year (2023: £462 million).

Other operating expenses includes the costs of supporting our academic and research mission as well as the costs of supporting our students through scholarships and bursaries and accommodation and library services. The cost of supporting our estate, including utility and maintenance costs,

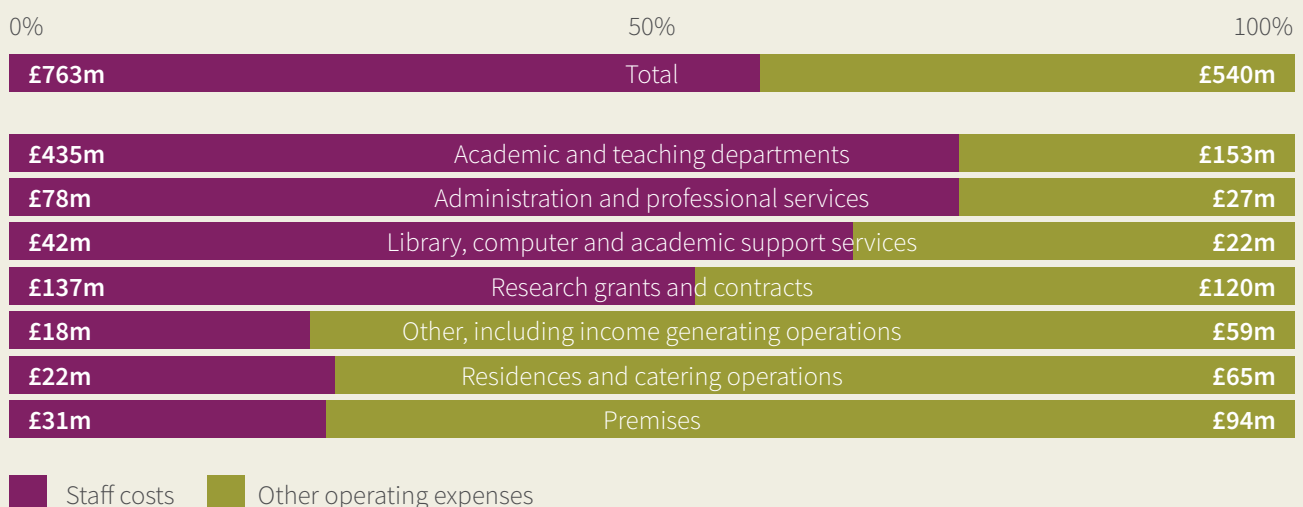
and general administrative costs are also included in other operating expenses.

Other operating expenses represented 38 per cent of total expenditure for the year (2023: 36 per cent). The increase across the last year has been driven by an increase in student support payments and the general high inflation environment we have been working in which has had an impact on all aspects of our cost base.

The University's depreciation charge increased by seven per cent to £91 million in 2024 (2023: £85 million). Depreciation charges are a reflection of our capital investment programme. The increase this year is driven by higher charges relating to our equipment purchases, which have increased in the last few years. There was no impairment made to fixed assets in 2023/24 (2023: nil).

Interest and other finance costs were £22 million in 2023/24 (2023: £27 million). This includes the cost of servicing our long-term borrowing (see note 20 to the financial statements) that is being used to help fund our capital investment plans, alongside our existing cash reserves and our annual cash generation from our operations.

### How we allocate our resources



The chart shows our staff costs and other operating expenses, and the corresponding proportions, across different types of activity in 2023/24.



## Financial review (continued)

### Update on Pensions

Pension schemes in the UK are required to undertake a formal valuation every three years to establish the scheme's assets and liabilities. The assets represent investments that are made in order to fund pensions (funded by employer and member contributions) and the liabilities relate to the amounts expected to be paid out to pensioners over time.

The Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) struck its latest valuation as at 31 March 2023. The 2023 valuation result shows a notable contrast to the outcome of the 2020 valuation as it moved from a position of significant deficit to a surplus.

Outcomes from the scheme valuation showing a surplus are improvement to benefits for members as well as a reduction in contributions for both members and employers. Following the conclusion of the valuation, the University is no longer required to make deficit reduction contributions and therefore the previously held provision for future deficit reduction payments was released in full. This results in a credit to the income statement of £352 million.

The USS is one of the largest private pension schemes in the UK with over 340 member organisations, and over

### Actuarial Gain/(Loss)

	£m
University of Edinburgh Staff Benefits Scheme (EUSBS)	(18)
Lothian Pension Fund	2
Strathclyde Pension Fund	3
<b>Total loss</b>	<b>(13)</b>

half a million individual members who account for over a fifth of the people in the UK who are still actively paying into private defined benefit schemes.

The long-term financial sustainability of the scheme is a priority for the University and we will continue to work constructively with all parties involved.

The University has recorded an actuarial loss on its funded pension schemes of £13 million in the year. This follows on from the previous year when we recorded an actuarial gain of £30 million. The actuarial loss or gain is a non-cash movement and is not a measure of the University's operational financial performance. It is simply the annual difference in the estimated value of the assets and liabilities in the University's own defined benefit pension scheme.

Certain assumptions are used to value the future liabilities and assets belonging to each pension scheme. These estimates reflect changes to the actuary's assumptions as a result

of another year's experience. The actuarial loss of £13 million is broken down as per the table above (see note 33 for further details on the individual pension schemes). The actuarial loss or gain can vary greatly from year-to-year depending on the remeasurements which have taken place.

The EUSBS is in deficit – the present value of the scheme liabilities is greater than the market value of the scheme assets. The net liability of the EUSBS as at 31 July 2024 was £32 million, having increased from a £20 million deficit as at 31 July 2023. The deficit on the EUSBS is reported on the balance sheet under pension provisions.

The most recent valuation for our in-house Edinburgh University Staff Benefit Scheme (EUSBS) was as at 31 March 2024, although valuation of the scheme has yet to formally conclude. Benefit structure and associated contribution rates by the Trustee and the University are being considered as the valuation concludes.



Finance colleagues at work

## Financial review (continued)

### Net Assets

Total Net Assets are £3.1 billion (2023: £2.7 billion) having increased by 15 per cent, principally driven by the release of the USS deficit recovery provision we previously held. The net book value of fixed assets increased by £96 million to £2.2 billion (2023: £2.1 billion). This is a reflection of the University's programme of estates development and equipment procurement.

### Endowments

In the year to 31 July 2024, the Endowment and Investment fund unit price grew by 3.5 per cent. The value of the Endowment and Investment fund grew to £580 million. The Investment Committee regularly reviews the fund managers and asset categories in the utilised fund to diversify risk while optimising returns. All of the University's

fund managers are signatories to the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment (UNPRI).

➔ More information: [Responsible Investment Policy](#)

### Treasury and cashflow

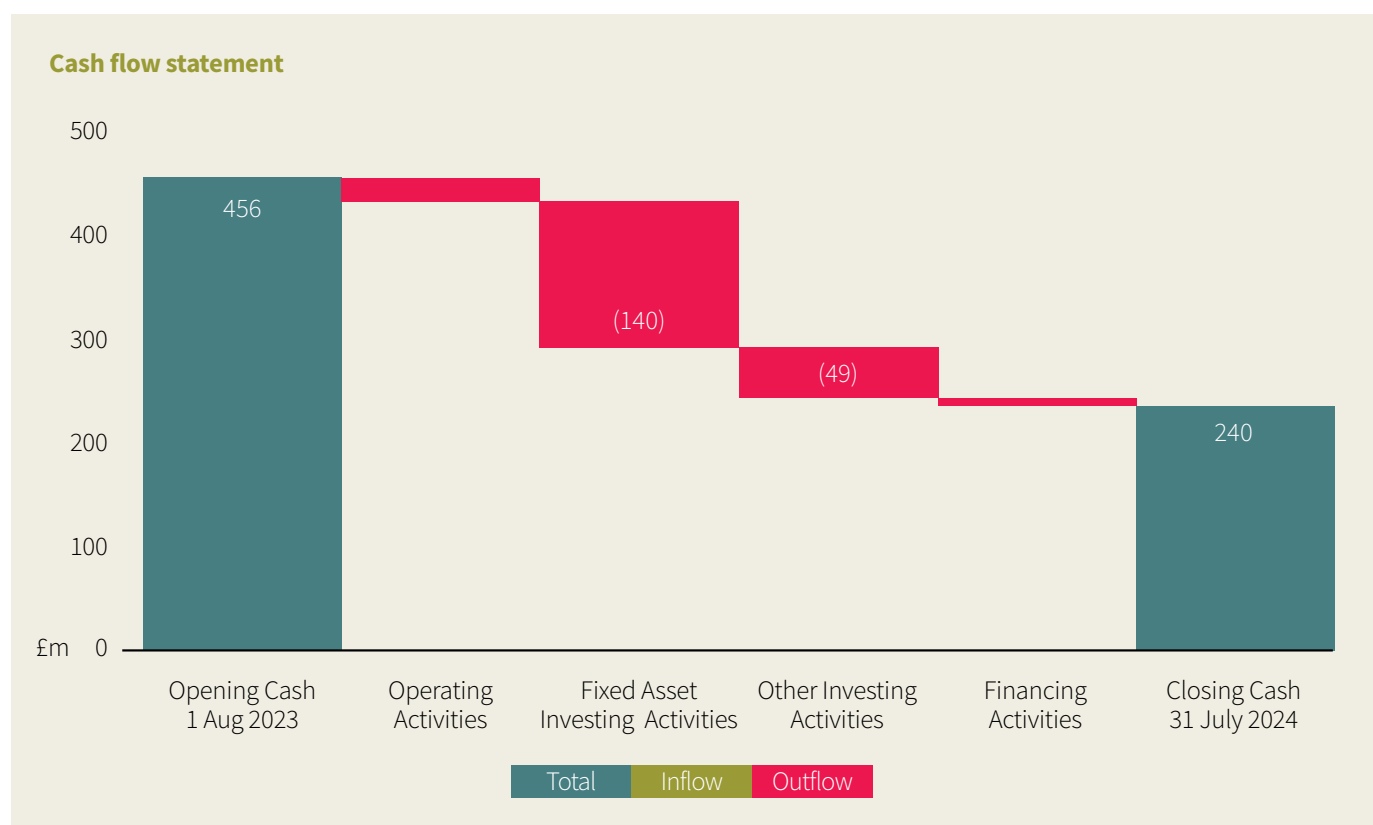
The University manages its treasury funds through cash and cash equivalents balances and investments in both current and non-current assets.

Management and investment of treasury funds allows the University to generate investment income that contributes to EBITDA achieved in the year.

Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year are £216 million lower than previous year, although much of this reduction was planned with a large amount placed into investments.

Overall treasury funds have reduced by £86 million, driven by capital expenditure of £186 million, which significantly exceeds EBITDA generated in the year.

The University cash and cash equivalents balance as at 31 July 2024 was £240 million (2023: £456 million) with movements presented in the chart below. The University is careful to manage its cash balances to ensure adequate resources are available to fund our ongoing obligations and our physical and digital infrastructure investment plans. It should be noted that a substantial amount of our cash and cash equivalents are ring-fenced and must be used under the terms in which we received it. For example, research purposes or donations with specific requirements.



1. Outflow on operating activities substantially reflects EBITDA generated in the year excluding new endowment cash received and the interest received on our treasury investments. 2. Fixed asset investing activities is payments made to acquire fixed assets, net of capital grant receipts and disposals. 3. Outflow on other investing activities relates to purchases and sales of non-current investments and the interest received on our treasury investments. 4. Outflow on financing activities relates to the new endowment cash we received and the payments made to service our debt.

## Financial review (continued)

### Institutional sustainability

Our financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, which is an accounting term that means we have the resources to meet our obligations and continue to operate for the foreseeable future. Although we and the rest of the higher education sector face many challenges – both financial and non-financial (see Understanding our Risks section for more information) – we are confident in the continuing financial sustainability of the University.

As a result of an extended period of high inflation and higher than planned cost of living pay awards, expenditure growth has outpaced income growth in recent years. This trend is unsustainable over a prolonged period of time and the University is taking action to reverse this trend by managing its cost base and protecting key income streams.

The University's governing body, the University Court, has comprehensive arrangements in place to monitor, assess and ensure the institution's on-going financial sustainability. We continue

to work hard to model various impact scenarios on the University's financial position. This focuses on existing and emerging risks and opportunities and is carried out to "stress-test" the University's financial strength. With our management of risks and our cost base we are confident we will remain a going concern and deal with our short and longer-term commitments.

### Outlook

The financial year 2023/24 was a challenging one for the University and the sector. EBITDA achieved in the year fell notably from prior year reflecting current challenges in the higher education sector. As we move into a new financial year that will bring with it new challenges, we must be prepared to actively and constructively address our increasing cost base to shape the University to deal with its short and longer-term commitments.

Growth in tuition fees, our largest income stream, is forecast to continue at levels below recent historic trend. Against this, our expenditure is forecast

to grow at a level greater than income driven by pressures from inflation, changes to pay scale and the recent increase to employer's National Insurance contributions.

The University presently faces a financial challenge greater than in any recent times, but we are well placed to respond to these challenges through the next financial year and beyond.

We remain committed to a holistic and integrated reporting model to provide the best quality assessment of our financial position to our broad audience of stakeholders and interested parties. This approach is embedded in our Strategy 2030 and underpins the decisions we make and the direction in which these take the University.



### Lee Hamill

Director of Finance  
19 December 2024



# Governance



Two students walk down the stairs while others study at tables below

# Corporate governance statement

The University is committed to the highest standards of corporate governance relevant to the higher education sector. In the opinion of Court, the University complied with all the principles and provisions of the [Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance \(2023\)](#) throughout 2023/24.

## University governance

The University of Edinburgh is constituted by the Universities (Scotland) Acts 1858 to 1966. The Universities (Scotland) Acts make specific provision for three major bodies in the Governance of the University: Court, Senate and General Council.

### University Court

Throughout 2023/24, up to 6 July 2024, the University Court had 23 members.<sup>2</sup> The Rector, who is elected by staff and students of the University, presides over meetings of Court. The Senior Lay Member of Court is responsible for the leadership of the University Court and chairs the business items at Court meetings. The Senior Lay Member was appointed by an open, transparent recruitment process, managed by the Nominations Committee which included involvement by staff and students, followed by an election with an electorate of all staff, students and Court members. In line with the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance, the Intermediary Member of Court (Co-opted Court member Dr Frank Armstrong) is responsible for leading the appraisal of the Senior Lay Member. The Principal is an ex-officio member and acts as the Chief Executive Officer of the University and its Accountable Officer. The remaining members are: one elected academic staff member; one elected professional services staff member; one academic and one professional services staff member nominated by a trade union; two academic staff members elected by

the Senatus Academicus; two student members; one member nominated by the City of Edinburgh Council who is not to be a member of staff or student of the University; one member nominated by the Chancellor of the University; three members appointed by the University Court who are members of the General Council; and seven members appointed by the University Court.

➔ More information: [Membership of Court](#)

The University participates in the Perrett Laver Governance Apprenticeship Programme to improve the diversity of university governing bodies by placing a candidate from an underrepresented group who demonstrates great potential but has little or no board experience as a board apprentice for a 12 month period. A Governance Apprentice was appointed and attended Court meetings throughout 2024.

➔ More information: [Court members' Skills Register](#)

The University has a long-standing commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and promoting a positive environment, which ensures fairness, challenges prejudice, and celebrates difference. The University's Equality Outcomes 2021-25 were approved by Court in April 2021 to align with Strategy 2030 and reflect the University's priorities with regard to equality, diversity and inclusion.

➔ More information: [Equality Outcomes 2021-2025](#)

Court has an Equality and Diversity Policy and a plan to improve the diversity of its membership. Court vacancies are widely advertised, including through the Women on Boards and Changing the Chemistry platforms; unconscious bias training has been provided to Court members involved in recruiting new members; Court members submit equality monitoring information and a skills and experience self-assessment and this is used to inform the recruitment of new members; and all advertisements for new members include an equality and diversity statement, encouraging a diversity of applications and an offer to meet all reasonable expenses including childcare costs. This is reported in the publicly available Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Progress Report 2023:

➔ More information: [Equality Outcomes 2021-2025 and Mainstreaming Progress Report 2023 The University of Edinburgh](#)

The University provides a report to the Scottish Government in April every two years in accordance with the requirements of the Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018. Training and development opportunities are made available as appropriate for all Court members throughout the year and an informal mentoring scheme for new Court members is also in operation.

Court is committed to ensuring ethical standards in public life. On joining Court, members are required to sign a statement confirming that they will

<sup>2</sup> General Council Assessor Douglas Alexander resigned with immediate effect following his appointment as Minister of State at the Department for Business and Trade

## Corporate governance statement (continued)

comply with the University's Code of Conduct, which includes the 9 Principles of Public Life in Scotland. Court maintains a Register of Interests of its members and senior University officers. The current interests of members of the Court are published on the University's website:

➔ More information: [Register of Interests](#)

Court met on five occasions during 2023/24. Between meetings, any urgent matters which required Court's approval were dealt with by the Exception Committee, which has delegated authority to enable decisions to be taken between Court meetings. Court seminars were held in October 2023 and in February 2024 on:

- Strategic Priorities for 2023/24
- Research Commercialisation
- Curriculum Transformation

Members were kept informed by electronic means of any significant issues affecting the University between meetings.

Court has overall responsibility for the University's strategic development. Strategy 2030 sets out our vision to deliver excellence in 2030 and Court is actively engaged in monitoring progress of its delivery. At its meeting on 4 December 2023, Court reviewed the 2022/23 year end report on the agreed Strategy 2030 Performance Measures and at its meeting on 22 April 2024, Court considered a mid-year update on the Performance Measures for 2023/24.

Court News is published after each Court meeting on the University website, highlighting key items considered by Court. At each meeting Court receives a report from the Students' Association President outlining activities and matters arising from the student body and also receives a separate report from the President of the Sports Union.

### Performance evaluation

At its 9 October 2023 meeting, Court considered an internal review of Court's effectiveness for the 2022/23 academic year which considered compliance with the Higher Education Governance (Scotland) 2016 Act and the Scottish Code of Good Higher

## ...strategy 2030 sets out our vision to deliver excellence in 2030 and Court is actively engaged in monitoring progress of its delivery...

Education Governance (2017 edition). It was noted that the Committee of Scottish Chairs had overseen a review of the Governance Code over the past year, with a new version now agreed and published (2023 edition). The review also included the outcome of individual discussions which the Senior Lay Member and University Secretary had held with Court members over the course of summer 2023.

There was an external review of Court's effectiveness in 2023/24 facilitated by Dr Veena O'Halloran, former University Secretary and Compliance Officer at the University of Strathclyde. The report was approved by Court on 17 June 2024 and is published on the University website:

➔ More information: [Report of the Externally-Facilitated Effectiveness Review of the University of Edinburgh's University Court and Committees](#)

The report concluded: 'Overall, Court and its committee structure is effective. Court and its committees are discharging their responsibilities effectively and the overall structure is fit-for-purpose.'

The report included some recommendations of areas for consideration and Court agreed that Nominations Committee would act as a working group to consider these recommendations in more detail and submit to Court any resulting proposals for change.

### Senate's effectiveness

Senate conducted a review of its effectiveness in 2022/23 through a short questionnaire to Senate members and a separate short questionnaire to Senate Standing Committee members. Their responses were collated and feedback,

analysis and proposed actions were presented to Senate on 11 October 2023 and subsequently to Court in December 2023.

The results of an Advance HE externally facilitated review of Senate, which took place in 2022/23, were presented to Senate at the same meeting. Senate established a Senate External Review Task and Finish Group at its February 2024 meeting, with responsibility for developing and taking forward actions in response to the recommendations in the Advance HE report. The Task and Finish Group is providing a report to each meeting of Senate with Court receiving progress updates via the routine Senate Report to Court.

### University Senate

The Senatus Academicus (Senate) is the University's supreme academic body. Its core function is to regulate and superintend the teaching and discipline of the University and to promote research. Senate is chaired by the Principal and Vice-Chancellor and meets at least three times per year. At each meeting, Senate hosts a presentation and discussion session which is open to all members of staff. Business is conducted between meetings via three meetings of Electronic Senate.

➔ More information: [Senate](#)

### General Council

The General Council consists mainly of graduates of the University of Edinburgh, includes eligible academic staff and a more limited number from other related categories. It has a statutory right to comment on matters which affect the well-being and prosperity of the University and to be consulted on Ordinances and Resolutions. In so doing, it ensures that graduates of the University have a continuing voice in the management of its affairs. There are three General Council Assessors positions on Court, appointed following an open advertisement and recruitment process overseen by a joint Court-General Council Selection Panel. It is also responsible for election of the Chancellor.

➔ More information: [General Council](#)



## Corporate governance statement (continued)

Committee structure	Standing committees
<p><b>University Court</b> University Court, the University's governing body, is a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal. The present powers of the Court are defined in the Universities (Scotland) Act (1966) and include the amendment of the composition, powers and functions of bodies in the University and the creation of new bodies, the administration and management of the whole revenue and property of the University, internal arrangements of the University, staff appointments and, on the recommendation of Senate, the regulation of degrees, admission and discipline of students. It is responsible for ensuring that the Senate has in place effective arrangements for academic quality assurance and enhancement.</p>	<p><b>Audit and Risk Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Douglas Millican, Lay Member of Court The Audit and Risk Committee's purpose is to review the effectiveness of the University's corporate governance arrangements, financial systems, internal control environment and risk management arrangements and provide appropriate assurances to Court on these areas.</p>
	<p><b>Exception Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon), Senior Lay Member The Exception Committee's purpose is, under delegated authority, to make decisions which would otherwise require Court approval between meetings of Court, subject to defined principles and on the understanding that any matter so referred can be referred to the full Court should this be the wish of the Exception Committee.</p>
	<p><b>Nominations Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon), Senior Lay Member The Nominations Committee's purpose is to make recommendations to Court on the appointment of co-opted members of Court, the Court's nominations of Curators of Patronage and the filling of vacancies as these arise in the Standing Committees of Court.</p>
	<p><b>Policy and Resources Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon), Senior Lay Member The Policy and Resources Committee's purpose is to provide strategic oversight of the University's financial, investment, estates and people affairs and to advise Court on any other business of particular importance or complexity.</p>
	<p><b>Remuneration Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Hugh Mitchell, Lay Member of Court The Remuneration Committee advises Court and oversees the preparation of policies and procedures in respect of salaries, emoluments and conditions of service including severance arrangements for the University's senior leadership team including the Principal and those at professorial or equivalent level and to keep these under review. Details of the operation of the Remuneration Committee and the policy adopted for senior pay, including that of the Principal are set out here: <a href="#">Remuneration Committee Framework</a></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p><b>Joint Committee of Senate and Court</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">↑</p>
<p><b>The Senate</b> The Senate is the academic authority of the University and draws its membership from the academic staff and students of the University. Its role is to superintend and regulate the teaching and discipline of the University and to promote research. The Principal presides at meetings of the Senate.</p>	<p><b>Education Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Vice-Principal Students Professor Colm Harmon The Education Committee is responsible, on behalf of Senate, for taught and research student matters, particularly strategy and policy concerning learning, teaching and the development of curriculum.</p>
	<p><b>Academic Policy and Regulations Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Professor Patrick Hadoke, Director of Postgraduate Research and Early Career Research Experience (CMVM) The Academic Policy and Regulations Committee is responsible, on behalf of Senate, for the University's framework of academic policy and regulation, apart from those aspects which are primarily parts of the Quality Assurance Framework.</p>
	<p><b>Quality Assurance Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Deputy Vice-Principal Students (Enhancement) Professor Tina Harrison The Quality Assurance Committee is responsible, on behalf of Senate, for the framework which assures standards and enhances the quality of the student learning experience.</p>
	<p><b>Senate Exception Committee</b> <b>Convener:</b> Professor Sir Peter Mathieson, Principal and Vice-Chancellor The Exception Committee's purpose is, under delegated authority, to make urgent formal business decisions which would otherwise require Senate approval between meetings of Senate subject to defined principles and on the understanding that any matter so referred can be referred to the full Senate should this be the wish of the Exception Committee.</p>

## Corporate governance statement (continued)

Standing Committees	Thematic committees
<b>Audit and Risk Committee</b>	<p><b>Risk Management Committee</b>  <b>Convener:</b> Catherine Martin, Vice-Principal Corporate Services</p> <p>The role of the Risk Management Committee is to support and advise Audit and Risk Committee and through it the Court, on the implementation and monitoring of the risk management policy.</p>
<b>Policy and Resources Committee</b>	<p><b>Estates Committee</b>  <b>Convener:</b> Dr Frank Armstrong, Lay Member of Court</p> <p>The Estates Committee's purpose is to oversee the University's estate in order that it can support world-class academic, teaching and research activity. From August 2022, Estate Committee's remit was expanded to include the digital estate.</p>
	<p><b>Investment Committee</b>  <b>Convener:</b> Richard Davidson, External Member (to 21 July 2024), Alastair Laing (External Member (from 1 August 2024)</p> <p>The role of the Investment Committee is to consider the corporate governance and other related implications of the University's investments.</p>

Each of these Committees is formally constituted with terms of reference and conducts its business both through regular meetings and by electronic communication when appropriate.

### University Executive

The University Executive is chaired by the Principal and is the main executive decision-making forum for the University. Membership includes the major budget holders in the University, Vice-Principals, senior professional services staff, the Students' Association President and representation from Heads of Schools from each of the three Colleges. It brings together the academic, financial, human resources and accommodation aspects of planning and it is responsible for managing the University's performance and for assisting the Principal in delivery of the University's strategy. The University Executive also provides advice and views on proposals and reports and ensures a consistent approach to activity across the University.

### The University's system of internal control

The University Court is responsible for the University's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. Such a system is designed to manage, rather than eliminate, the risk of failure to achieve business objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The internal control environment includes delegated authorities, policies, procedural and system controls, planning and budgetary processes, professional capability in specialist areas, governance structures and management reporting. A Delegated Authority Schedule lists those Committees or individuals to whom authority has been delegated by the University Court to commit the University to a contractual or quasi-contractual arrangements within approved budget limits.

The senior leadership team receives regular reports on the University's performance, including appropriate performance indicators, and considers any control issues brought to its attention by early warning mechanisms which are embedded within the operational units and reinforced by risk awareness training. The senior leadership team and the Audit and Risk Committee also receive regular reports from Internal Audit which include recommendations for improvement.

The University operates processes for the identification, evaluation and management of significant risks. The University's Risk Management Framework consists of the standards, policies, culture, responsibilities, and

governance and reporting structures within which the risk management process is applied. The risk management framework established in the University includes a Risk Management Committee which reports to the Audit and Risk Committee. The Audit and Risk Committee is a Standing Committee reporting directly to Court and has oversight of risk management arrangements based on advice and information from the Risk Management Committee. Strategic direction for Risk Management is set by University Court, and is detailed in the University of Edinburgh Risk Management Policy & Appetite Statement. Further information on the University's Risk Management framework, policies, guidance and practical risk management tools can be viewed at:

➔ More information: [Risk management information](#)

By its 2 December 2024 meeting, Court had received the Audit and Risk Committee Report for the year ended 31 July 2024 and information from the Risk Management Committee; it also had taken account of relevant events since 31 July 2024. During 2023/24, the Audit and Risk Committee was responsible for advising Court on the effectiveness of policies and procedures for risk

## Corporate governance statement (continued)

assessment and risk management arrangements. Court considers, on the recommendation of the Audit and Risk Committee, that a risk management process compliant with the guidance provided by the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance has been in place throughout the year ended 31 July 2024. Specific guidance includes:

- The Court is involved in the development of and monitoring performance against the strategic plan and objectives including approval of an annual plan covering the aspects being implemented in the year in question.
- The Court must ensure the University has appropriate procedures to identify and actively manage risk and determines the nature and extent of risks it is willing to take. The University should maintain a risk register and make

a risk management disclosure in annual financial statements.

- The Court should also receive reports on the University's risk management arrangements. These may be the responsibility of the Audit Committee or of a separate Risk Committee (or equivalent).

Court's review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control has also been informed by the following:

- The Internal Audit Service's annual report for 2023/24 presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on the adequacy and effectiveness of systems of internal control including governance and risk management, together with recommendations for improvement, along with the Principal's expression of satisfaction with the performance of the Internal Audit service in his capacity as Accountable Officer;

- The Risk Management Committee's Annual Report 2023/24 presented to the Audit and Risk Committee regarding its operation;
- The Audit and Risk Committee's annual report to Court providing information on the University's ongoing and annual activities for providing assurance over the system of internal control;
- Comments made by the External Auditors in their Report to the Audit and Risk Committee and other reports; and
- The work of managers within the institution, who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework, and by any relevant comments made by other external agencies (e.g. the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, Scottish Funding Council).



Students work in a lab



## Corporate governance statement (continued)

### Charitable status

The University had charitable status (No. SC005336) under the legislative framework operative throughout the 2023/24 financial year. The University's endowments are administered as the University of Edinburgh Endowment Fund, overseen by the Investment Committee. Professional fund managers are employed by that Committee on behalf of the University Court. Investment income is applied for the specific purposes of the relevant endowments, or in the case of other investment funds, for the University's general purposes. All of those purposes are charitable for the purposes of the legislation.

Income derived from philanthropic donations and benefactions arising from the University's Development activities are disbursed by a Trust with separate charitable status, The University of Edinburgh Development Trust. The Board of Trustees includes members of the University Court. All disbursements are applied for the specific purposes of the relevant donations and benefactions, or in the case of general donations and benefactions, for the University's general purposes. All of those purposes are charitable for the purposes of the legislation.

### Going concern

The University's activities and the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out

in the Financial Review. Its financial performance for the year to 31 July 2024, income and expenditure, assets, liquidity and cash flows are set out in more detail in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

The University has adequate financial resources and its current forecasts and projections show it to be able to manage its activities successfully, having taken account of risks and uncertainties highlighted in the Annual Report and Accounts. Court considers that the University has adequate resources to continue in operation and, for this reason, the going concern basis continues to be adopted when preparing the Accounts.

### Responsibilities of Court

On 12 May 2014 Court adopted a Statement of Primary Responsibilities published on the University website.

This was in operation throughout 2023/24.

➔ More information: [Responsibilities of Court](#)

### Statement of responsibilities relating to the reports and financial statements

The detailed requirements relating to financial matters are governed by law, agreements and regulations as decreed by various bodies and are stated as follows:

Court is responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial

position of the University at any time and enable it to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Universities (Scotland) Acts 1858-1966, the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Further and Higher Education and other relevant accounting standards. In addition, within the terms and conditions of a Financial Memorandum agreed between the Scottish Funding Council and the Court of the University of Edinburgh, the University Court, through its designated office holder, is required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the University and of the surplus or deficit and cash flows for that year.

In causing the financial statements to be prepared, Court has to ensure that:

- suitable accounting policies are selected and applied consistently;
- judgements and estimates are made that are reasonable and prudent;
- applicable accounting standards have been followed; and
- financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis.



**Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon)**  
Senior Lay Member of Court

## Corporate governance statement (continued)

Membership of the University Court 2023/24		Court meetings attended	Committee memberships 2023/24	Committee memberships 2024/25
Rector	Debora Kayembe (to 29 February 2024)	2/3		
	Simon Fanshawe (from 4 March 2024)	2/2		
Principal and Vice-Chancellor	Professor Sir Peter Mathieson	5/5	PRC EXC NC	PRC EXC NC
Senior Lay Member	Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon)	5/5	PRC EXC NC RC	PRC EXC NC RC
<b>Chancellor's Assessor</b>				
Nominated by Chancellor	Alastair Dunlop	5/5	ARC	ARC
<b>General Council Assessors</b>				
Three Assessors who are members of the General Council, appointed by a joint Court/General Council selection panel for terms of office of four years	Douglas Alexander (to 6 July 2024) <sup>1</sup>	3/5	PRC	PRC
	Jock Millican	4/5	PRC EXC IC	PRC EXC IC
	Sarah Wolffe	4/5	NC	NC
<b>Senatus Academicus Assessors</b>				
Two Assessors elected by the Senate for terms of office of four years	Dr Shereen Benjamin	5/5	KSC	KSC
	Professor Richard Blythe	5/5	KSC	KSC
<b>Academic Staff Member</b>				
Elected by academic staff for a period of four years	Professor Tobias Kelly	5/5	RC	RC
<b>Professional Services Staff Member</b>				
Elected by professional services staff for a period of four years	Sarah McAllister	5/5	KSC NC	KSC NC
<b>Trades Union Members</b>				
One academic and one professional services staff member nominated by a trade union for a period of four years	Mark Patrizio	5/5		
	Dr Kathryn Nash	5/5	PRC EXC	PRC EXC
<b>City of Edinburgh Council Assessor</b>				
One Assessor nominated by City of Edinburgh Council	The Rt Hon Robert Aldridge	2/5		
<b>Co-Opted Members</b>				
Seven members appointed by Court for a term of office of four years	Dr Frank Armstrong	5/5	PRC EC RC	PRC EC RC
	Douglas Millican	5/5	ARC EXC NC RC	ARC EXC NC RC
	Hugh Mitchell	5/5	PRC EXC NC RC	PRC EXC NC RC
	Ruth Girardet	5/5	PRC	PRC
	Alistair Smith	4/5	EC	EC
	Rushad Abadan	4/5	ARC	ARC
	Kavi Thakrar	4/5		
<b>Student Members</b>				
Annually nominated by the Students' Association from among sabbatical officers	Sharan Atwal (to 9 June 2024)	4/4	PRC EXC NC RC	PRC EXC NC RC
	Lauren Byrne (to 9 June 2024)	4/4		
	Dora Herndon (from 10 June 2024)	1/1	PRC EXC NC RC	PRC EXC NC RC
	Ruth Elliott (from 10 June 2024)	1/1		

Further information and biographies of Members of the University Court 2023/24 can be found on the [Membership of Court](#)

Audit and Risk Committee

ARC

Estates Committee

EC

Exception Committee

EXC

Investment Committee

IC

Knowledge Strategy Committee

KSC

Nominations Committee

NC

Policy and Resources Committee

PRC

Remuneration Committee

RC

<sup>1</sup> Douglas Alexander resigned with immediate effect following his appointment as Minister of State at the Department for Business and Trade

## Corporate governance statement (continued)

### Attendance at Standing Committees 2023/24

Audit and Risk Committee		Meetings attended
Lay Members of Court	Douglas Millican	5/5
	Rushad Abadan	5/5
	Alastair Dunlop	5/5
External Members		
Appointed through an open advertisement and interview process	Ross Millar	5/5
	Grant Macrae	4/5

Nominations Committee		Meetings attended
The Principal	Professor Sir Peter Mathieson	3/3
Senior Lay Member	Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon) (Convener)	3/3
University Secretary	Leigh Chalmers	3/3
Staff Member of Court	Sarah McAllister	3/3
General Council Assessor	Sarah Wolffe	2/3
Lay Members of Court	Douglas Millican	3/3
	Hugh Mitchell	3/3
Student Member of Court	Sharan Atwal	3/3

Policy and Resources Committee		Meetings attended
Senior Lay Member	Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon) (Convener)	5/5
The Principal	Professor Sir Peter Mathieson	5/5
University Secretary	Leigh Chalmers	5/5
Staff Member of Court	Kathryn Nash	4/5
Provost	Professor Kim Graham	4/5
General Council Assessor	Jock Millican	5/5
Lay Members of Court	Dr Frank Armstrong	5/5
	Douglas Alexander	5/5
	Ruth Girardet	5/5
	Hugh Mitchell	5/5
Student Member of Court	Sharan Atwal	5/5

Knowledge Strategy Committee		Meetings attended
Chief Information Officer	Gavin McLachlan	4/4
Students' Association Representative	Carl Harper	2/4
Members of Court	Dr Shereen Benjamin	2/4
	Sarah McAllister	3/4
	Professor Richard Blythe	4/4
Members of Senate	Professor Colm Harmon (interim Convener)	3/4
	Professor Tina Harrison	3/4
	Professor Patrick Hadoke	2/4
	Professor Siân Bayne	3/4
	Melissa Highton	4/4

Remuneration Committee		Meetings attended
Senior Lay Member	Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon)	3/3
Lay Members of Court	Hugh Mitchell (Convener)	3/3
	Douglas Millican	3/3
	Dr Frank Armstrong	3/3
Students' Association Representative	Sharan Atwal	1/3
Staff Member of Court	Tobias Kelly	3/3

Exception Committee		Meets by email circulation
The Principal	Professor Sir Peter Mathieson	
University Secretary	Leigh Chalmers	
Senior Lay Member	Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon) (Convener)	
Convener of Audit and Risk Committee	Douglas Millican	
Convener of Remuneration Committee	Hugh Mitchell	
General Council Assessor	Jock Millican	
Staff Member of Court	Kathryn Nash	
Student Member of Court	Sharan Atwal	

Full details of terms of reference and Committee membership are published on the [Court and its Committees](#)



# Independent auditors' report to the Court of The University of Edinburgh (the "institution")

## Report on the audit of the financial statements

### Opinion

In our opinion, The University of Edinburgh's group financial statements and institution financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the institution's affairs as at 31 July 2024 and of the group's and institution's income and expenditure and recognised gains and losses, and of the group's cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law);
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting for Further and Higher Education; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 14 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Accounts (the "Annual Report"), which comprise the Consolidated and Institution statement of financial position as at 31 July 2024; the Consolidated and Institution statement of comprehensive income and expenditure, the Consolidated and Institution statement of changes in reserves, and the Consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' 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 remained independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

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's and institution's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the group's and institution's ability to continue as a going concern.

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

## Independent auditors' report to the Court of The University of Edinburgh (the "institution") (continued)

### Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Court is responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of 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 based on these responsibilities.

Based on the responsibilities described above and our work undertaken in the course of the audit, ISAs (UK) require us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

#### *Annual Report*

Under the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the information given in the Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

### Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

#### *Responsibilities of the Court for the financial statements*

As explained more fully in the Statement of responsibilities relating to the reports and financial statements set out on page 52, the Court is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Court is also responsible for such internal control as they 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 Court is responsible for assessing the group's and institution'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 Court either intends to liquidate the group and institution or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### *Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements*

We are eligible to act and have been appointed auditors under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 auditors' 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.

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.

Based on our understanding of the institution/industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to employment laws, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 14 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to overstatement of the reported surplus. Audit procedures performed included:

- Understanding management's policies and procedures designed to detect and report fraud;
- Inquiries with management, including consideration of known or suspected instance of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Review minutes of key meetings of management and Court;

## Independent auditors' report to the Court of The University of Edinburgh (the "institution") (continued)

- Testing of journal entries with particular focus on unusual account combinations within income and expenditure that would increase the reported surplus;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in determining significant accounting estimates; and
- Review of the financial statements to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, 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 or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditors' report.

### Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the institution's Court as a body in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations made under that Act (regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)) and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

## Other required reporting

### Opinions on other matters prescribed in the requirements attached to the Scottish Funding Council's Financial Memorandum

In our opinion, in all material respects:

- the requirements of the Scottish Funding Council's accounts direction have been met;
- funds from whatever source administered by the institution for specific purposes have been properly applied to those purposes and, if relevant, managed in accordance with relevant legislation and any other terms and conditions attached to them; and
- funds provided by the Scottish Funding Council have been applied in accordance with the requirements of the Scottish Funding Council's Financial Memorandum with Higher Education Institutions.

### Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) exception reporting

Under the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the institution; or
- the institution financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

*PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP*

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
Edinburgh  
19 December 2024



# Financial statements





# Consolidated and Institution statement of comprehensive income and expenditure

For the year ended 31 July 2024

	Note(s)	2024		2023	
		Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
<b>Income</b>					
Tuition fees and education contracts	3	527.2	527.2	513.7	513.7
Funding body grants	4	208.7	208.7	210.9	210.9
Research income	5	365.2	365.2	339.5	339.5
Other income	6	238.2	197.0	222.2	178.6
Investment income	7	64.4	62.7	43.3	42.2
Donations and endowments	8	30.1	25.0	55.1	55.7
<b>Total income</b>		<b>1,433.8</b>	<b>1,385.8</b>	1,384.7	1,340.6
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Staff costs excl. movement on USS pension provision	9	755.9	727.3	705.8	678.3
Exceptional item: Movement on USS pension provision <sup>1</sup>	9	(352.4)	(352.4)	(52.8)	(52.8)
Other operating expenses	10	540.2	528.4	461.7	443.6
Depreciation and amortisation	13 & 14	91.0	88.6	85.4	84.4
Interest and other finance costs	11	21.6	21.6	27.4	27.4
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>1,056.3</b>	<b>1,013.5</b>	1,227.5	1,180.9
<b>Surplus before other gains and losses</b>					
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	0.1	0.1
Gain/(loss) on investments	16	29.0	27.8	(5.8)	(13.2)
<b>Surplus before tax</b>		<b>406.5</b>	<b>400.1</b>	151.5	146.6
Taxation	12	(0.8)	-	-	-
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<b>405.7</b>	<b>400.1</b>	151.5	146.6
Actuarial (loss)/gain in respect of pension schemes <sup>2</sup>	21	(12.9)	(12.9)	30.2	30.2
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>392.8</b>	<b>387.2</b>	181.7	176.8
<b>Represented by:</b>					
Unrestricted comprehensive income for the year		336.4	332.0	167.3	159.6
Endowment comprehensive income for the year	22	20.6	20.6	18.8	18.8
Restricted comprehensive income/(expenditure) for the year	23	35.8	34.6	(4.4)	(1.6)
		<b>392.8</b>	<b>387.2</b>	181.7	176.8

## Notes to table

1. The decrease in the USS provision is a non-cash movement in relation to the deficit recovery plan that was put in place following completion of the 2020 actuarial valuation. Full release of the provision in the current year follows the conclusion of the 2023 actuarial valuation which has resulted in no further deficit recovery payments currently being due. These movements are not a measure of the University's operational financial performance or surplus generation.

2. The actuarial (loss)/gain is a non-cash movement that is derived from year-on-year revisions to the estimated value of the pension scheme assets and liabilities of the University's defined benefit pension schemes. It is not a measure of the University's operational financial performance or surplus generation.

# Consolidated and Institution statement of changes in reserves

For the year ended 31 July 2024

## Consolidated

	Income and expenditure account			Revaluation reserve £m	Total £m
	Endowment £m	Restricted £m	Unrestricted £m		
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2022</b>	541.0	67.5	1,660.2	208.4	<b>2,477.1</b>
Surplus/(deficit) from the income and expenditure statement	45.6	(4.4)	123.4	-	<b>164.6</b>
Other comprehensive income/(expenditure)	(26.8)	-	43.9	-	<b>17.1</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>(4.4)</b>	<b>167.3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>181.7</b>
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2023</b>	559.8	63.1	1,827.5	208.4	<b>2,658.8</b>
Surplus from the income and expenditure statement	6.1	35.8	335.6	-	<b>377.5</b>
Other comprehensive income	14.5	-	0.8	-	<b>15.3</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>336.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>392.8</b>
<b>Balance as at 31 July 2024</b>	<b>580.4</b>	<b>98.9</b>	<b>2,163.9</b>	<b>208.4</b>	<b>3,051.6</b>

## Institution

	Income and expenditure account			Revaluation reserve £m	Total £m
	Endowment £m	Restricted £m	Unrestricted £m		
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2022</b>	541.0	42.3	1,646.9	208.4	<b>2,438.6</b>
Surplus/(deficit) from the income and expenditure statement	45.6	(1.6)	115.7	-	<b>159.7</b>
Other comprehensive income/(expenditure)	(26.8)	-	43.9	-	<b>17.1</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>(1.6)</b>	<b>159.6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>176.8</b>
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2023</b>	559.8	40.7	1,806.5	208.4	<b>2,615.4</b>
Surplus from the income and expenditure statement	6.1	34.6	331.6	-	<b>372.3</b>
Other comprehensive income	14.5	-	0.4	-	<b>14.9</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>332.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>387.2</b>
<b>Balance as at 31 July 2024</b>	<b>580.4</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>2,138.5</b>	<b>208.4</b>	<b>3,002.6</b>



# Consolidated and Institution statement of financial position

As at 31 July 2024

	Note(s)	2024		2023	
		Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
<b>Non-current assets</b>					
Intangible assets	13	26.4	26.4	28.6	28.5
Fixed assets	14	2,151.3	2,138.5	2,055.1	2,046.6
Heritage assets	14 & 15	217.5	217.5	216.8	216.8
Investments	16	969.5	970.3	676.8	678.9
		<b>3,364.7</b>	<b>3,352.7</b>	2,977.3	2,970.8
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock		4.6	3.7	4.6	3.6
Trade and other receivables	17	302.9	311.4	251.4	264.3
Investments	18	139.0	139.0	289.3	289.3
Cash and cash equivalents	25	240.1	217.7	455.7	434.9
		<b>686.6</b>	<b>671.8</b>	1,001.0	992.1
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	(448.8)	(471.0)	(430.1)	(458.1)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>237.8</b>	<b>200.8</b>	570.9	534.0
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>					
		<b>3,602.5</b>	<b>3,553.5</b>	3,548.2	3,504.8
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	20	(538.2)	(538.2)	(536.0)	(536.0)
Pension provisions	21	(12.1)	(12.1)	(352.8)	(352.8)
Other provisions	21	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.6)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>3,051.6</b>	<b>3,002.6</b>	2,658.8	2,615.4
<b>Restricted reserves</b>					
Income and expenditure reserve - endowment reserves	22	580.4	580.4	559.8	559.8
Income and expenditure reserve - restricted reserves	23	98.9	75.3	63.1	40.7
<b>Unrestricted reserves</b>					
Income and expenditure reserve - unrestricted reserves		2,163.9	2,138.5	1,827.5	1,806.5
Revaluation reserve	24	208.4	208.4	208.4	208.4
<b>Total reserves</b>		<b>3,051.6</b>	<b>3,002.6</b>	2,658.8	2,615.4

The financial statements on pages 58 to 101 were adopted by Court on 19 December 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



**Professor Sir Peter Mathieson**  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor



**Janet Legrand OBE KC (Hon)**  
Senior Lay Member of Court



**Lee Hamill**  
Director of Finance

# Consolidated statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 July 2024

	Note(s)	2024 £m	2024 £m	2023 £m
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>				
Surplus for the year before tax			406.5	151.5
<b>Adjustments for non-cash items</b>				
Depreciation	14	87.8		82.2
Amortisation	13	3.2		3.2
(Gain)/loss on investments	16	(29.0)		17.6
Decrease in pension and other provisions	21	(359.4)		(56.1)
Increase in stock		-		(0.3)
Increase in debtors	17	(51.8)		(11.9)
Increase in creditors and accruals	19 & 20	25.9		7.1
			(323.3)	41.8
<b>Adjustments for investing or financing activities</b>				
Investment income	7	(64.4)		(43.3)
Interest payable	11	21.6		27.2
New endowments received	22	(5.8)		(45.8)
Gain on the sale of fixed assets		-		(0.1)
Capital grant income		(53.8)		(68.9)
			(102.4)	(130.9)
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>				
			(19.2)	62.4
Taxation			(0.8)	-
<b>Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities</b>				
			(20.0)	62.4
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>				
Proceeds from sales of tangible assets		0.7		0.8
Capital grant receipts		53.8		68.9
Non-current investment disposals	16	122.9		216.9
Investment income	7	64.3		33.6
Payments made to acquire intangible assets	13	(1.0)		(0.9)
Payments made to acquire tangible assets		(192.5)		(138.7)
Non-current investment acquisitions	16	(386.6)		(177.0)
Advance to subsidiary		-		(5.8)
Decrease in short-term deposits	18	150.3		94.8
Lump sum pension contribution to EUSBS	21	(1.5)		(1.5)
<b>Net cash (outflow)/inflow from investing activities</b>				
			(189.6)	91.1
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>				
Interest paid	11	(14.3)		(14.1)
New endowment cash received	8	6.2		44.8
New unsecured loans		13.3		-
Repayments of amounts borrowed	20	(11.2)		(7.6)
Capital element of finance lease payments		-		(0.2)
<b>Net cash (outflow)/inflow from financing activities</b>				
			(6.0)	22.9
<b>(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>				
			(215.6)	176.4
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	25		455.7	279.3
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	25		240.1	455.7

# Notes to the financial statements

## 1. Statement of Principal Accounting Policies

### Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting for Further and Higher Education 2019 ('the SORP') and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102. The University is a public benefit entity and therefore has applied the relevant public benefit requirement of the applicable accounting standards. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention (modified by the revaluation of heritage assets and investments).

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. Court considers this is appropriate as it has comprehensive arrangements in place to monitor, assess and ensure the institution's sustainability.

Judgements made by management in the application of these accounting policies that have a significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are discussed in note 2.

### Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the University and all its subsidiaries for the financial year to 31 July 2024. The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the period are included in the consolidated statement of income and expenditure from the date of acquisition, or up to the date of disposal. Intragroup transactions are eliminated on consolidation. The Group has taken advantage of the exemption within FRS 102 Section 33.1A and has not disclosed transactions with other group entities where it holds 100 per cent of the voting rights. The Group has taken the exemption permitted under FRS 102 to not produce a cash flow statement for the Institution.

The consolidated statements do not include the income and expenditure of the Edinburgh University Students' Association as it is a separate charity over which the University

does not exert control or dominant influence over policy decisions.

Associated companies and jointly controlled entities are accounted for using the equity method.

### Income recognition

Income from the sale of goods or services is credited to the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure when the goods or services are supplied to external customers or the terms of the contract 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 and expenditure over the course of an associated academic year following a student's programme registration.

Bursaries and scholarships are accounted for gross as expenditure and not deducted from income.

Funds the University receives and disburses as paying agent on behalf of a funding body are excluded from the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure of the University where the University is exposed to minimal risk or enjoys minimal economic benefit related to the transaction.

Government grants, including funding council block grant and research grants from government sources, and other grants and donations, from non-government sources including research grants from non-government sources, are recognised within the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure when the University is entitled to the income and performance-related conditions have been met. Income received in advance of performance-related conditions is deferred on the balance sheet and released to the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure in line with such conditions being met.

Other grants and donations from non-government sources, including research grants from non-government sources, are recognised within the consolidated statement of comprehensive

income and expenditure when the University is entitled to the income and performance-related conditions have been met. Income received in advance of performance-related conditions being met is deferred on the balance sheet and released to the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure when such conditions are met.

Donations and endowments are non-exchange transactions without performance-related conditions. Donations and endowments with donor-imposed restrictions are recognised within the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure when the University is entitled to the income. 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.

Investment income and appreciation of endowments are recorded in income in the year in which it arises and as either restricted or unrestricted income according to the terms of the restriction applied to the individual endowment fund. Investment income is credited to the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure when received.

Donations with no restrictions are recorded within the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure when the University is entitled to the income.

Donations and endowments with restrictions are classified as restricted reserves with additional disclosure provided within the notes to the financial statements.

There are four main types of donations and endowments with restrictions:

1. Restricted donations - the donor has specified that the donation must be used for a particular objective.
2. 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 University.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 1. Statement of Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Income recognition (continued)

- Restricted expendable endowments - the donor has specified a particular objective other than the purchase or construction of tangible fixed assets, and the University can convert the donated sum into income.
- 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.

Where capital funding is received or receivable the income recognition is dependent on whether the University entitlement to the funds is subject to any performance-related conditions being met. Funding is recognised within the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure when any performance-related conditions have been met. Funding received in advance of performance-related conditions is deferred on the balance sheet and released to the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure in line with such conditions being met. In the absence of performance-related conditions, capital funding is recognised as income in line with other donations with donor-imposed restrictions and recognised within the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure when the University is entitled to the funding. The income is retained within the restricted reserve until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions, at which point it is released to general reserves through a reserve transfer.

#### Accounting for retirement benefits

The University participates in three active pension schemes, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), the University of Edinburgh Staff Benefits Scheme (EUSBS) and the National Employee Savings Trust (NEST). The University also participates in other legacy schemes on behalf of retired and active members, the Medical Research Council (MRCPS), the Lothian Pension Fund (LPF), the Strathclyde Pension

Fund (SPF) and the Scottish Teacher Superannuation Scheme (STSS).

USS, STSS, MRCPS and NEST are multi-employer schemes and, given the mutual nature of the schemes, it is not possible to identify the University's shares of the assets and liabilities for these schemes. Consequently, the University cannot apply defined benefit accounting and, according to Section 28 FRS 102, the schemes are accounted as defined contribution schemes. The EUSBS, SPF and LPF schemes are defined benefit schemes. Each fund is valued every three years by professionally qualified independent actuaries.

USS is a multi-employer scheme. Because of the mutual nature of the scheme, the assets are not attributed to individual institutions and a scheme-wide contribution rate is set. The institution is therefore exposed to actuarial risks associated with other institutions' employees and is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. As required by Section 28 of FRS 102, 'Employee benefits', the University therefore accounts for the scheme as if it were a wholly defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure represents the contributions payable to the scheme.

The institution entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan) which required payments until 31 December 2023. However, the deficit recovery plan was no longer required under the 2023 valuation as the scheme was in surplus on a technical provision basis. The University has been no longer required to make deficit recovery payments from 1 January 2024 and accordingly released the outstanding provision held on the balance sheet. In the event of a future agreed deficit recovery plan, the University will provide for its future obligations under that plan. Any movements in the valuation of the deficit recovery provision would be recognised in the income statement each year.

A small number of subsidiary company employees are members

of other defined contribution schemes. Contributions are charged in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure in the year in which they become payable.

#### Defined contribution plan

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the organisation 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 consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure in the periods during which services are rendered by employees and as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

#### Defined benefit plan

A defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan. The Group's net obligation in respect of defined benefit pension plans and other post-employment benefits are calculated separately for each plan by estimating the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value, and the fair value of any plan assets (at bid price) and any unrecognised past service costs are deducted. The liability discount rate is the yield at the balance sheet date on AA credit rated bonds denominated in the currency of, and having maturity dates approximating to the terms of the Group's obligations. The calculation is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method. When the calculation results in a benefit to the Group, the recognised asset is limited to the total of any unrecognised past service costs and the present value of benefits available in the form of any future refunds from the plan, reductions in future contributions to the plan or on settlement of the plan and takes into account the adverse effect of any minimum funding requirements. Actuarial gains and losses (remeasurements) are recognised in other comprehensive income.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 1. Statement of Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Employment benefits

Short-term employment benefits such as salaries and compensated absences are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employees render service to the University. Any unused benefits, such as holiday entitlements earned but not taken at the balance sheet date, are accrued and measured as the additional amount the University expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlements.

#### Finance leases

Leases in which the University 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 are stated 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, less accumulated depreciation and less accumulated impairment losses.

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.

#### 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.

#### 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 balance sheet date are translated to the functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure. 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.

#### Intangible assets

Intangible assets represent the costs of significant software acquisitions and their development for use in the long-term. Only costs relating to the development and implementation phases are capitalised. Research phases and training costs involved are written off as incurred. All other intangible assets are capitalised.

Costs are amortised over their useful economic life, being between 4 and 10 years.

#### Land and buildings

Land and buildings are stated at deemed cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Land and buildings owned by the University were independently valued by Gerald Eve LLP, an independent firm of chartered surveyors on 1 August 2014. The land and building assets that had been revalued to fair value prior to the date of transition to the current SORP, are measured on the basis of deemed cost, being the revalued amount at the date of that revaluation.

Property additions since 1 August 2014 including extensions to buildings and building under construction are shown at cost less any accumulated depreciation.

The cost of renovating, upgrading or converting buildings is capitalised where the subsequent expenditure prolongs the useful life or enhances the economic benefits of the building and is also shown at cost less accumulated depreciation.

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:

Major plant and infrastructure	10 to 15 years
System built properties	15 to 25 years
General buildings	50 to 80 years
Historic and legacy properties	100 years

Leasehold land and buildings are 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.

Major repairs and refurbishments are capitalised and depreciated over 10 to 20 years where they substantially add to the total area of the building, prolong its useful life or enhance the economic benefits of the building.

All land and buildings, including those constructed or acquired with the aid of specific grants, are included in the balance sheet with the exception of the New College Divinity complex on the Mound, which is regarded as inalienable, as it is owned by the Church of Scotland but can be used by the University so long as it is occupied by the School of Divinity; and two farms which form part of agricultural tenancies are operating leases.

#### Equipment

Capitalised equipment is stated at cost and depreciated on a straight line basis over a four year period from the year in which the equipment is operational, or the building is commissioned.

Donated equipment is capitalised at depreciated replacement cost at the date of receipt and is depreciated over a four year period.

#### Heritage assets

The University holds, preserves and makes available a number of collections, exhibits, artefacts and other assets of historical, artistic or scientific importance.

Heritage assets acquired before 1 August 1999 without reliable estimates of cost or value on a cost-benefit basis have not been capitalised. Acquisitions since 1 August 1999 have been capitalised at cost, or, in the case of donated assets, at expert valuation on receipt. Heritage assets are not depreciated since their long economic life and high residual value mean that any depreciation would not be material.

The University receives a large number of donated assets in addition to heritage assets bought by the University's Centre for Research Collections. Donated

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 1. Statement of Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Heritage assets (continued)

assets are not valued unless they are of special interest or expected to be of a material value. The cost of valuing items received in such high volumes would exceed the relative benefit to readers of the Annual Report and Accounts. Donated assets that are capitalised are reported in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure at valuation.

#### Impairments

At each reporting date a review of fixed assets is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may not be recoverable. Impairment losses are recognised immediately in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure.

#### Investments

Assets held in the University of Edinburgh Investment and Endowment Fund continue to be administered by external fund managers.

Non-current investments are initially recognised on the balance sheet at cost and then measured at fair value at each balance sheet date. Investments in subsidiary companies are shown at cost less any impairment.

Investment in associates, if material, is shown in the consolidated balance sheet at the share of net assets.

Current asset investments include temporary and money market deposits and are included at cost.

#### Stock

Stocks for resale and other stocks are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where necessary, provision is made for obsolete, slow-moving and defective stocks.

#### 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 equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Creditor Payment Policy

The University makes its payments to creditors, provided they are not in dispute, in accordance with terms of the contract. The University has no matters to disclose under the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998.

Information for suppliers: [ed.ac.uk/procurement/informationforsuppliers](https://www.ed.ac.uk/procurement/informationforsuppliers).

#### Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method, less any bad or doubtful debt impairment. An allowance for impairment of trade and other receivables is established if the collection of a receivable becomes doubtful.

Such receivables become doubtful when there is objective evidence that the University will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor and delinquency in payments are considered indicators that the receivable is impaired. An impairment loss is recognised in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure, as are subsequent recoveries of previous impairments.

#### Investment properties

Investment properties are initially included in the balance sheet at their fair value on the basis of an annual independent valuation. Mixed-use investment properties are separated between investment properties and property, plant and equipment. Investment properties are subsequently recognised at fair value at each balance sheet date and any changes in the fair value of investment properties are recognised immediately within the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure.

#### Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are recognised as expenditure in the period in which they are incurred.

### Financial instruments

University financial assets and liabilities all meet the criteria for basic financial instruments prescribed within FRS 102 Section 11.8. They are subsequently measured as follows:

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price (but excludes any transaction costs, where the investment is subsequently measured at fair value through the statement of comprehensive income). Subsequently, they are measured at fair value if the investment is publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably with the changes in fair value recognised in the statement of comprehensive income. All other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Short-term debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income in other operating expenses.

Debt instruments, including loan notes, are basic financial instruments and are initially recorded at the transaction price, net of transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments that are receivable or payable within one year are not discounted.

#### Public benefit concessionary loans

Where loans are received at below the prevailing market rate of interest, not repayable on demand and made for the purpose of furthering the objectives of the University, they are classified as concessionary loans.

Concessionary loans are initially measured at the amount received and recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position and adjusted at the period end to reflect any accrued interest payable. Where a loan is interest free, no interest is charged in subsequent years.

#### Taxation status

The University is an exempt charity within the meaning of the Trustee



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 1. Statement of Principal Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Taxation status (continued)

Investment and Charities (Scotland) Act 2005 and, as such, is a charity within the meaning of Section 506 (1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

The University is recognised as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs and is recorded on the index of charities maintained by the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator.

It is therefore a charity within the meaning of paragraph 1 of schedule 6 to the Finance Act 2010 and accordingly, the University 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 University receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax (VAT).

The University's subsidiary companies, except those with charitable status, are not exempt from taxation. The charge for taxation is based on the profit or loss for the year after charging the cost of any Gift Aid payment payable to the University. The charge for taxation also takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Charitable subsidiaries are exempt from taxation under the same legislation as the University.

#### Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets

Provisions are recognised in the financial statements when:

1. The University has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event;
2. It is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
3. 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 discount rate that reflects risks specific to the liability.

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the University 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 University. 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 when an event has taken place that gives the University a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the University.

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet but are disclosed in the notes.

#### Exceptional items

Material items derive from events or transactions that fall within the ordinary activities of the University and which individually or, if of a similar type, in aggregate, need to be disclosed by virtue of their size or incidence.

### 2. Estimates and Judgements

The University prepares its consolidated financial statements in accordance with FRS 102 and the application of which often requires certain estimates and judgements to be made by management when formulating the financial position, financial performance and cash flows.

In determining and applying accounting policies, judgement is often required where the choice of specific policy, accounting estimates or assumptions could materially affect the reported results or net asset position.

Management considers that certain accounting estimates and assumptions relating to revenue, debtors, fixed assets, heritage assets and provisions are its critical accounting estimates.

### (i) Critical accounting judgements

FRS 102 requires that accounting judgements that are considered to be critical by those charged with governance are explained in more detail as to why the judgement has been applied.

#### Agency arrangements

Funds the University receives and disburses as the paying agent on behalf of a funding body or other body, where the University has the primary responsibility for providing the goods or services and bears the customer's credit risk for the amount receivable from the customer and subsequent disbursement of the funds, are included within the statement of comprehensive income.

#### Impairment

Judgement is applied when assessing the potential impairment of University assets. For Property, Plant and Equipment the University considers the potential for demolition or disposal, the impact major refurbishments would have on the overall carrying value of existing assets and the likelihood of capital projects proceeding beyond the feasibility stage. For Software the University considers the potential for obsolescence, disposal or changes in operations that would impact on the overall carrying value of assets.

#### Classification of financial liabilities

All of the University's financial liabilities have been classified as basic financial instruments. In respect of the private placement debt, judgement has been applied in determining the classification. As part of the agreement, the holders of the debt, who are based in the US, have entered into cross-currency swaps to ensure that they are not adversely impacted by foreign exchange rate movements between USD and GBP, should the University repay the debt early. We consider any resultant financial impact for the University to represent reasonable compensation for early repayment and as such have classified the debt as basic. As a result, the financial liability is reflected in the financial statements at amortised cost.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 2. Estimates and Judgements

(continued)

#### Multi-employer pension schemes

FRS 102 makes the distinction between a group plan and a multi-employer scheme. A group plan consists of a collection of entities under common control typically with a sponsoring employer. A multi-employer scheme is a scheme for entities not under common control and represents (typically) an industry-wide scheme such as USS. The accounting for a multi-employer scheme where the employer has entered into an agreement with the scheme that determines how the employer will fund a deficit results in the recognition of a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit) and the resulting expense in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure in accordance with FRS 102 Section 28.

The University has judged that the schemes provided by the Universities

Superannuation Scheme (USS), Medical Research Council (MRCPS) and the Scottish Teacher Superannuation Scheme (STSS) meet the definition of a multi-employer scheme. The University has recognised the discounted fair value of the contractual contributions under the funding plan in existence at the date of approving the financial statements.

#### (ii) Key account estimates and assumptions

The University makes estimates and assumptions concerning its assets and liabilities. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are addressed below.

#### Pension provisions – key actuarial assumptions

The key actuarial assumptions used in the valuation of the EUSBS, SPF and LPF pension schemes including discount rates, salary and pension increases, and mortality rates are reported in note 33.

Based on the USS 2023 valuation, the scheme is in surplus and therefore no deficit recovery payment is required. The 2023 valuation was the seventh valuation for USS under the scheme-specific funding regime introduced by the Pensions Act 2004, which requires schemes to adopt a statutory funding objective, which is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover their technical provisions.

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Group depreciation and amortisation charges are calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful economic lives of the related assets. The remaining useful economic lives of assets are periodically reviewed based on actual experience and expected future utilisation. Where management identifies a change in the life of an asset, it is treated as a change in accounting estimate and the accelerated depreciation is accounted for in the period of change and future periods.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 3. Tuition fees and education contracts

	Consolidated and Institution	
	2024 £m	2023 £m
Home domicile fees	27.0	26.5
Rest of UK domicile fees	81.9	84.9
EU domicile fees	25.4	21.6
Non-EU fees	363.3	353.4
Research training support grants	23.3	21.7
Short course and other fees and support grants (non-credit bearing)	6.3	5.6
	<b>527.2</b>	513.7

### Tuition fees and education contracts

Student numbers reduced by 0.5 per cent in the year to 49,485, but fee income growth was greater at 2.6 per cent due to changes in student mix. Undergraduate numbers increased by 0.5 per cent, with increases in the number of Home and Non-EU Overseas students. Postgraduate Taught numbers decreased by 3.9 per cent with falls across all domiciles apart from Home. Postgraduate Research numbers grew by 1.6 per cent, growth in Non-EU Overseas students offsetting falls across all other domiciles.

### 4. Funding body grants

	Consolidated and Institution	
	2024 £m	2023 £m
Recurrent grants		
Teaching	76.2	74.5
Research and knowledge exchange	102.4	104.9
Specific grants		
Strategic funding: including UK Research Partnership Investment Fund (UKRPIF)	12.6	14.1
Capital grants received in the year	17.2	16.1
Capital maintenance grants	0.3	1.3
	<b>208.7</b>	210.9

### Funding body grants

Funding from recurrent grants decreased overall by £0.8 million. A small teaching increase offset by a drop in research. Funding on specific grants related to strategic funding fell by £1.5 million while capital grants were broadly similar to last year.

### 5. Research income

	Consolidated and Institution			2023 Total £m
	2024		Total £m	
	Capital £m	Revenue £m		
<b>Research grants and contracts</b>				
Research councils	12.1	140.9	153.0	139.1
UK based charities	1.1	69.1	70.2	65.2
UK central government bodies, local and health authorities	14.6	36.1	50.7	61.3
UK industry, commerce and public corporations	0.1	10.0	10.1	6.0
EU government bodies	-	20.6	20.6	21.1
EU other	-	9.8	9.8	6.0
Other overseas	0.3	45.8	46.1	25.1
Other sources	4.2	0.5	4.7	15.7
	32.4	332.8	365.2	339.5

### Research income

Included within our research income is £203.7 million (2023: £200.4 million) of income from UK Government sources. There are no significant unfulfilled conditions or contingencies relating to government income recognised. The University has not benefited from any other government revenue grants outside of that disclosed in notes 4 and 5. Within the income from UK Government sources is £14.5 million of research capital funding relating to the City Region Deal (2023: £30.0 million).

Included within other overseas income is a £20 million Simons Foundation gift to fund future research activity.

The figures for research income include the University's share of the research activity of the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) of £2.5 million. SUERC is a jointly controlled entity with the University of Glasgow.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 6. Other income

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Residences and catering	98.3	79.3	93.3	73.9
Other revenue grants	12.7	14.0	14.8	15.8
Other services	66.0	42.5	59.3	34.1
Health authorities	12.8	12.8	11.7	11.7
Other income	48.4	48.4	43.1	43.1
	<b>238.2</b>	<b>197.0</b>	222.2	178.6

### Other income

Residences and catering income is mainly from student accommodation rental.

Other grants are those that are not from the Scottish Funding Council.

Other services income includes professional, consultancy and computer services.

Other income includes trading, gas and electricity recharges, conferences and rental income from the Edinburgh Festival.

Health authority income covers salaries for health and hospital funded posts.

### 7. Investment income

	Note	2024		2023	
		Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Investment income on endowments	22	20.5	20.5	16.5	16.5
Investment income on restricted reserves		1.3	1.3	-	-
Other interest receivable		42.6	40.9	26.8	25.7
		<b>64.4</b>	<b>62.7</b>	43.3	42.2

### Investment income

Income from the Endowment and Investment Fund (EIF) was £20.5 million. Note 16 provides further comment on EIF performance in the year.

Other interest received increased to £42.6 million, driven by higher interest rates and a larger portfolio of treasury investments, particularly in money market funds.

### 8. Donations and endowments

	Note	2024		2023	
		Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
New endowments	22	5.8	5.8	45.8	45.8
Donations with restrictions		17.5	17.5	8.4	8.4
Unrestricted donations		6.8	1.7	0.9	1.5
		<b>30.1</b>	<b>25.0</b>	55.1	55.7

### Donations and endowments

Most donations are restricted and are mainly for scholarships.

Income from new endowments has fallen. Prior year included £39.9 million funding for Phase Two of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 9. Staff costs

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Salaries	561.1	536.4	498.9	475.5
Social security costs	61.3	59.8	53.8	51.9
Pension costs (note 33)	133.3	130.9	144.9	142.7
Other unfunded pension costs	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Severance costs	0.4	0.4	8.3	8.3
<b>Staff costs excl USS increase in provision</b>	<b>755.9</b>	<b>727.3</b>	705.8	678.3
Exceptional item: Movement on USS pension provision	(352.4)	(352.4)	(52.8)	(52.8)
	<b>403.5</b>	<b>374.9</b>	653.0	625.5
<b>Analysis of the above costs by activity:</b>				
Academic /teaching departments	434.6	434.6	397.7	397.7
Research grants and contracts	137.3	137.3	126.2	126.2
Library, computer and other academic support services	42.2	42.2	38.1	38.1
Administration and central services	77.9	77.9	72.5	72.5
Premises	30.5	30.5	28.1	28.1
Other including income- generating operations	17.6	-	18.7	-
Residences and catering operations	22.2	11.2	19.1	10.3
Unfunded pensions	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Severance costs	0.4	0.4	8.3	8.3
Pension service costs in excess of scheme contributions payable and USS provision movement (note 33)	(359.0)	(359.0)	(55.6)	(55.6)
	<b>403.5</b>	<b>374.9</b>	653.0	625.5

### Staff numbers (expressed as average full time equivalents during the year) were as follows:

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated Number	Institution Number	Consolidated Number	Institution Number
Academic / teaching departments	6,726	6,726	6,252	6,252
Research grants and contracts	2,242	2,242	2,189	2,189
Library, computer and other academic support services	685	685	730	730
Administration and central services	1,673	1,673	1,376	1,376
Premises	809	809	734	734
Other including income- generating operations	343	-	329	-
Residences and catering operations	624	624	534	534
	<b>13,102</b>	<b>12,759</b>	12,144	11,815
Staff on open-ended contracts	9,803	9,490	8,851	8,553
Staff on fixed-term contracts	2,880	2,850	2,902	2,871
Staff on guaranteed hours contracts	419	419	391	391
	<b>13,102</b>	<b>12,759</b>	12,144	11,815

### Staff costs

Salary costs<sup>1</sup>, excluding pension and NI on-costs, grew by 12.4 per cent mainly made up of: a volume increase of 7.9 per cent during the year; and an average pay inflation increase of 4.0 per cent<sup>2</sup>.

Pension costs fell by 8 per cent. Normally pension costs increase in line with salary costs, this year the total pension cost fell due to the change in the USS pension employers rate, from 21.6 to 14.5 per cent from 1 Jan 2024 and related service costs.

<sup>1</sup> Excluding movement on USS pension provision.

<sup>2</sup> The annual pay uplift was 5 per cent, however as 2 per cent of this uplift was brought forward to February 2023, the average increase from 2022/23 was 4 per cent.

### Staff numbers

Average staff numbers across the University Group increased by 958 full time equivalents in 2023/24. This has contributed to the increase in our staff costs.

Increased staff numbers were seen across most activity types with 80 per cent of the total increase coming in academic/teaching departments to support our core teaching mission and in administration and central services that support University operations.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 9. Staff costs (continued)

Staff numbers (expressed as an average employee count) were as follows:

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated Number	Institution Number	Consolidated Number	Institution Number
Staff on open-ended contracts	11,495	11,162	10,642	10,327
Staff on fixed-term contracts	3,386	3,351	3,507	3,466
Staff on guaranteed hours contracts	4,043	4,042	3,751	3,751
	<b>18,924</b>	<b>18,555</b>	17,900	17,544
Percentage of staff on fixed-term contracts	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	19.6%	19.8%

#### Emoluments of the Principal - Professor Mathieson

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Remuneration	362	348
Payment in lieu of employer's pension contribution	40	37
Sub-total excluding life cover and benefits in kind	402	385
Employer's life cover	10	22
Benefits in kind	10	11
	<b>422</b>	418

#### Median pay

	2024 £	2023 £
Principal's remuneration	421,667	417,666
Median total remuneration	41,732	40,745
Ratio	10.10	10.25

#### Emoluments of the Principal

The Principal occupies a house that is provided to him by the University on a representative basis, that is, as part of his role as University Principal and is reported as a benefit in kind. As well as being used as a family home, a number of rooms within the Principal's residence are regularly used to host University events involving staff, students, alumni, and supporters.

Professor Mathieson opted out of the Pension scheme in March 2018. Additional payments equivalent to the pension contributions foregone are included within emoluments.

The Principal's taxable benefits in kind consisted of provision of living accommodation and personal costs connected with the provision of living accommodation.

#### Median pay

The median remuneration of the University's staff against the full remuneration of the Principal.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 9. Staff costs (continued)

#### Key management personnel

	2024 £m	2023 £m
Key management personnel compensation	2.4	2.4

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Number of posts (expressed as full time equivalents during the year) included in key management personnel	11.0	11.0

#### Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Institution.

Key management personnel compensation includes remuneration and all employee benefits including employer pension contributions.

Positions held by members of the Key management personnel:

- Vice-Principal and Chief Information Officer and Librarian
- Vice-Principal of Corporate Services
- Director of Finance
- Principal and Vice-Chancellor
- Vice-Principal Students
- Vice-Principal and University Secretary
- Vice-Principal and Head of College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
- Vice-Principal and Head of College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine
- Vice-Principal and Head of College of Science and Engineering
- Vice-Principal Research & Enterprise
- Provost

The key management personnel are comprised of the members of the Senior Leadership Team; details of which are available at: [Senior Leadership Team](#)

#### Senior post holders

Remuneration of higher paid staff includes NHS merit awards, but exclude employer pension contributions and termination payments.

Staff are included in the range that reflects their actual remuneration for that year.

41 per cent (2023: 43 per cent) of senior post holders are clinical academics.

#### Senior post holders

	2024			2023
	Clinical number	Non-clinical number	Total number	Total number
£100,000–£109,999	13	72	85	77
£110,000–£119,999	14	36	50	39
£120,000–£129,999	10	35	45	48
£130,000–£139,999	12	14	26	27
£140,000–£149,999	17	25	42	28
£150,000–£159,999	11	10	21	31
£160,000–£169,999	9	10	19	15
£170,000–£179,999	13	7	20	20
£180,000–£189,999	13	9	22	16
£190,000–£199,999	15	5	20	11
£200,000–£209,999	9	3	12	8
£210,000–£219,999	4	1	5	9
£220,000–£229,999	5	1	6	1
£230,000–£239,999	1	-	1	3
£240,000–£249,999	2	-	2	2
£250,000–£259,999	2	-	2	3
£260,000–£269,999	3	-	3	2
£270,000–£279,999	1	-	1	-
£280,000–£289,999	-	-	-	-
£290,000–£299,999	-	-	-	-
£300,000–£309,999	-	-	-	-
£310,000–£319,999	-	-	-	-
£320,000–£329,999	1	-	1	1
£330,000–£339,999	1	-	1	1
£340,000–£349,999	-	-	-	-
£350,000–£359,999	-	-	-	-
£360,000–£369,999	-	-	-	-
£370,000–£379,999	-	-	-	-
£380,000–£389,999	-	-	-	1
£390,000–£399,999	-	-	-	-
£400,000–£410,000	-	1	1	-
	156	229	385	343

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 9. Staff costs (continued)

#### Compensation for loss of office

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Compensation payable to senior post holders	-	61
Other compensation paid in excess of £100,000	128	-
	128	61

#### Compensation for loss of office

There was no compensation paid to key management personnel for the year (2023: nil).

There was no compensation paid to senior post holders during the year (2023: £61,000). Other compensation paid in excess of £100,000 related to payment to one individual.

Severance arrangements for senior post holders are overseen by the University's Remuneration Committee and all compensation is paid in line with the severance guidance approved by the University Court.

### 10. Other operating expenses

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Academic and related expenditure	102.9	102.9	94.4	94.4
Scholarships and stipends	50.2	50.2	48.2	48.2
Research grants and contracts	120.3	120.3	102.8	102.8
Library, computer and other academic support services	22.3	22.3	22.6	22.6
Administration and central services	27.2	35.1	33.4	32.6
Refurbishment and maintenance	33.4	33.4	31.2	30.7
Utilities costs	42.5	48.3	31.5	32.3
Other premises costs	17.6	17.6	20.0	20.0
Other including income generating operations	58.9	50.4	23.6	18.0
Residences and catering operations	64.9	47.9	54.0	42.0
	540.2	528.4	461.7	443.6
<b>Other operating expenses include:</b>				
Agency staff costs	20.7	20.0	13.5	12.9
Operating lease rentals:				
Land and buildings	30.4	32.4	27.6	29.5
Other	-	-	0.1	0.1
Fees charged by external auditors:				
In respect of audit services	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5
In respect of non-audit services*	-	-	0.1	0.1

#### Other operating expenses

2023/24 saw cost increases to varying degrees across different areas and activities within the University.

Our cost base has been greatly impacted by a number of macroeconomic factors, including inflation and higher utility costs. Additionally, costs increased due to increased research and residences and catering operations activity.

\*The consolidated audit fees for 2024 are £437,500 (2023: £594,870) and the non-audit service fees are £10,000 (2023: £60,000) which is in line with our non-audit services policy.

The University has an in-house internal audit service which is also supported with resource and specialist input as required from an external firm. During the financial year, no fees for internal audit services were incurred (2023: nil)

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 11. Interest and other finance costs

Note	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Loan interest	14.3	14.3	14.1	14.1
Net charge on pension scheme	7.3	7.3	13.3	13.3
	21.6	21.6	27.4	27.4

### Interest and other finance costs

Interest costs have increased to £14.3 million for 2023/24 (2022/23: £14.1 million). The slight increase can be attributed to the ongoing capital repayment of loans held with the Royal Bank of Scotland and four new long-term loans from the Scottish Funding Council.

### 12. Taxation

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
<b>Recognised in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure</b>				
<b>Current tax:</b>				
UK Corporation tax charge on subsidiaries' profits	(0.8)	-	-	-
	(0.8)	-	-	-

### 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 balance sheet date.

UK Corporation tax is 19 per cent for profits under £50,000 and 25 per cent for profits over £250,000, with marginal relief between those sums. (2023: 19 per cent for all amounts).

### 13. Intangible assets

Software	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
As at 1 August 2023	36.0	35.9
Additions in the year	1.0	1.1
As at 31 July 2024	37.0	37.0
<b>Accumulated amortisation</b>		
As at 1 August 2023	7.4	7.4
Charge for the year	3.2	3.2
As at 31 July 2024	10.6	10.6
<b>Net book value</b>		
As at 31 July 2024	26.4	26.4
As at 31 July 2023	28.6	28.5

### Intangible assets

Consolidated

As at 31 July 2024, intangible assets included £1.6 million (2023: £0.1 million) in respect of assets under construction.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 14. Fixed assets

#### Consolidated

	Land and buildings £m	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £m	Total £m	Heritage assets £m	Total including heritage assets £m
<b>Cost or valuation</b>					
As at 1 August 2023	2,276.4	352.6	<b>2,629.0</b>	216.8	<b>2,845.8</b>
Additions	121.8	62.9	<b>184.7</b>	0.7	<b>185.4</b>
Disposals	(0.4)	(26.4)	<b>(26.8)</b>	-	<b>(26.8)</b>
As at 31 July 2024	2,397.8	389.1	<b>2,786.9</b>	217.5	<b>3,004.4</b>
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>					
As at 1 August 2023	306.4	267.5	<b>573.9</b>	-	<b>573.9</b>
Charge for the year	43.6	44.2	<b>87.8</b>	-	<b>87.8</b>
Disposals	-	(26.1)	<b>(26.1)</b>	-	<b>(26.1)</b>
As at 31 July 2024	350.0	285.6	<b>635.6</b>	-	<b>635.6</b>
<b>Net book value</b>					
As at 31 July 2024	2,047.8	103.5	<b>2,151.3</b>	217.5	<b>2,368.8</b>
As at 31 July 2023	1,970.0	85.1	<b>2,055.1</b>	216.8	<b>2,271.9</b>

#### Institution

	Land and buildings £m	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £m	Total £m	Heritage assets £m	Total including heritage assets £m
<b>Cost or valuation</b>					
As at 1 August 2023	2,266.5	335.0	<b>2,601.5</b>	216.8	<b>2,818.3</b>
Additions	122.9	55.1	<b>178.0</b>	0.7	<b>178.7</b>
Disposals	(0.4)	(26.4)	<b>(26.8)</b>	-	<b>(26.8)</b>
As at 31 July 2024	2,389.0	363.7	<b>2,752.7</b>	217.5	<b>2,970.2</b>
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>					
As at 1 August 2023	301.6	253.3	<b>554.9</b>	-	<b>554.9</b>
Charge for the year	42.6	42.8	<b>85.4</b>	-	<b>85.4</b>
Disposals	-	(26.1)	<b>(26.1)</b>	-	<b>(26.1)</b>
As at 31 July 2024	344.2	270.0	<b>614.2</b>	-	<b>614.2</b>
<b>Net book value</b>					
As at 31 July 2024	2,044.8	93.7	<b>2,138.5</b>	217.5	<b>2,356.0</b>
As at 31 July 2023	1,964.9	81.7	<b>2,046.6</b>	216.8	<b>2,263.4</b>

#### Tangible assets

##### Consolidated

As at 31 July 2024, freehold land and buildings included £111.9 million (2023: £108.6 million) in respect of freehold land and is not depreciated.

All land and buildings are held on a freehold basis with the exception of the new medical school at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. This is constructed on land held under a long leasehold of 130 years.

Losses on disposal of land and building fixed assets amounted to £26,000 (2023: £171,000 gain).

Certain land and buildings have been partly financed from Exchequer funds. Funding body grants of £17.5 million (2023: £17.4 million) recognised as income in the year relate to additional exchequer funding of land and buildings. Should any of these assets be sold the University may be liable, under the terms of the Financial Memorandum with the Scottish Funding Council, to surrender part of the proceeds.

#### Tangible assets

##### Institution

As at 31 July 2024, freehold land and buildings included £111.7 million (2023: £108.4 million) in respect of freehold land and is not depreciated.

As at 31 July 2024, land and buildings included £280.8 million (2023: £263.1 million) in respect of buildings under construction.

The net book value of tangible fixed assets includes an amount of £2.4 million (2023: £2.4 million) of buildings, fixtures and equipment held under finance leases. The depreciation charge on these assets for the year was £176,000 (2023: £187,000).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 15. Heritage assets

Collections	Method of valuation	Valuation undertaken by	Information on qualifications of collection valuers can be found at
Rare Books, Archives and Manuscripts	External	Bernard Quaritch Ltd	<a href="http://quaritch.com">quaritch.com</a>
		McNaughtan's	<a href="http://mcnaughtans.co.uk">mcnaughtans.co.uk</a>
Musical Instrument Museums Edinburgh	External	Sothebys	<a href="http://sothebys.com">sothebys.com</a>
Art Collection	External	Sothebys and Paolozzi Foundation	<a href="http://sothebys.com">sothebys.com</a> and <a href="http://paolozzifoundation.org">paolozzifoundation.org</a>
Museum Heritage Collection	Internal	Dr John Scally	<a href="#">Heritage Collections</a>
Cockburn Museum of Geology	Internal	Dr John Scally	<a href="#">Heritage Collections</a>
Natural History Collections	Internal	Prof Mark Blaxter and Prof Graham Stone	
Anatomical Collections	Internal	Malcom McCallum	
School of Chemistry	Internal	Dr John Scally	
Classics Teaching Collection	Internal	Prof Ben Harte and Dr Sue Rigby	
Polish School of Medicine Historical Collections	Internal	Dr Maria Dlugolecka-Graham	

The method of valuation used is market approach. Heritage assets are largely held at valuation with only an immaterial value held at cost.

### Additions and disposals

Acquisitions for the current and previous four years were as follows:

	2024 £m	2023 £m	2022 £m	2021 £m	2020 £m
Acquisitions purchased with specific donations	-	-	0.5	0.4	1.0
Acquisitions purchased with University funds	0.7	1.0	-	-	0.2
Total cost of acquisitions purchased	0.7	1.0	0.5	0.4	1.2
Value of acquisitions by donation	-	-	-	-	-
Total acquisitions capitalised	0.7	1.0	0.5	0.4	1.2

### Main collections

The University holds and conserves collections of heritage assets which are capitalised. Details of the collections held can be found at: [Heritage Collections](#)

### University policy on acquisitions, preservation, management and disposal

The University of Edinburgh Collections Management Policy is available at: [Collection Policies](#)

### Heritage assets capitalised

Heritage assets acquired before 1 August 1999 without reliable estimates of cost or value on a cost-benefit basis have not been capitalised. Acquisitions since 1 August 1999 have been capitalised at cost, or, in the case of donated assets, at expert valuation on receipt.

The University's two major collections (the Library Special Collection of Rare Books, Manuscripts and Archives and the Fine Art Collections) were externally valued in 2015. A valuation of Special Collection items held in remote storage was undertaken in 2016. In light of the recent external valuations an uplift was not applied to the collections in the current year.

The remaining collections are assessed internally by the University's Centre for Research Collections. Any movement in value is applied if commensurate with market activity, or material benefit to the readers of the Annual Report and Accounts.

### Additions and disposals

The University receives a large number of donated assets in addition to heritage assets bought by the University's Centre for Research Collections. Donated assets are not valued unless they are of special interest as the cost of doing so is not commensurate with the benefits to readers of the Annual Report and Accounts. Donated assets that are capitalised are reported in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure at valuation.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 16. Non-current investments

#### Consolidated

	University of Edinburgh Endowment and Investment Fund £m	Other non-current investments £m	<b>Total £m</b>
<b>As at 1 August 2023</b>	497.9	178.9	<b>676.8</b>
Additions	46.2	340.4	<b>386.6</b>
Disposals	(39.2)	(83.7)	<b>(122.9)</b>
Fair value gain	14.5	14.5	<b>29.0</b>
<b>As at 31 July 2024</b>	519.4	450.1	<b>969.5</b>
<b>Non-current investments consist of:</b>			
The University of Edinburgh Endowment and Investment Fund	519.4	-	<b>519.4</b>
Other	-	436.8	<b>436.8</b>
Unlisted investments	-	13.3	<b>13.3</b>
	519.4	450.1	<b>969.5</b>

#### Institution

	Subsidiary companies £m	Institution of Edinburgh Endowment and Investment Fund £m	Other non-current investments £m	<b>Total £m</b>
<b>As at 1 August 2023</b>	14.5	497.9	166.5	<b>678.9</b>
Additions	0.4	46.2	341.7	<b>388.3</b>
Disposals	(0.8)	(39.2)	(83.7)	<b>(123.7)</b>
Fair value gain	-	14.5	12.3	<b>26.8</b>
<b>As at 31 July 2024</b>	14.1	519.4	436.8	<b>970.3</b>

#### Non-current investments

Funds are invested in the University of Edinburgh Endowment and Investment Fund.

The Investment Committee is responsible for the oversight and strategic direction of investments. Its members are appointed by the University of Edinburgh Court, and are drawn from both Court members and external investment professionals.

Mercers are consultants to the Investment Committee and the Secretary is the University's Director - Finance Specialist Services.

Each year an Endowment Fund Report is published. This gives, amongst other matters, details of the Investment Committee and its remit, the Fund managers and statistics relating to the investments and endowment funds.

The Endowment and Investment Fund investment is 100 per cent endowment funds.

As well as diversifying risk by investing in different types of asset there are nine fund managers.

The unit price has increased 3.5 per cent from £47.68 to £49.33 giving a fair value gain of £14.5 million.

Other non-current investment disposals largely related to £75 million treasury investments with HSBC, ABRDN and JP Morgan.

The loans to subsidiary companies are interest bearing with the exception of the loans to provide venture capital funding to Old College Capital LLP and Old College Capital Strategic Investments.

Interest is charged at 4.82 per cent on the Loan to UoE Estates Services Company Ltd.

Unlisted investments are initially recorded at cost and, where the University believes that an independent fair value can be determined by reviewing the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset, then such investments are recorded in the balance sheet at fair value

Otherwise, such investments are held in the balance sheet at cost less any impairment.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

## 16. Non-current investments (continued)

Institution	Subsidiary companies £m	University of Edinburgh Endowment and Investment Fund £m	Other non-current investments £m	<b>Total £m</b>
<b>Non-current investments consist of:</b>				
<b>The University of Edinburgh Endowment and Investment Fund</b>				
Equities	-	232.5	-	<b>232.5</b>
Fixed interest stocks	-	20.4	-	<b>20.4</b>
Property	-	85.7	-	<b>85.7</b>
Multi asset type	-	150.8	-	<b>150.8</b>
Venture capital	-	26.9	-	<b>26.9</b>
Bank deposits held at fund managers	-	1.6	-	<b>1.6</b>
Capital cash balances owed to the Institution	-	1.5	-	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Other investments</b>				
<b>Treasury investments</b>				
Aegon Asset Management	-	-	107.1	<b>107.1</b>
MI TwentyFour Asset Management	-	-	45.3	<b>45.3</b>
Old College Capital LLP	-	-	0.8	<b>0.8</b>
Aberdeen Liability Aware Credit Nominal	-	-	23.2	<b>23.2</b>
Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund	-	-	25.0	<b>25.0</b>
Federated MMF LNAV	-	-	50.0	<b>50.0</b>
JP Morgan MMF	-	-	25.0	<b>25.0</b>
Kingswood Wealth	-	-	68.7	<b>68.7</b>
HSBC MMF	-	-	25.0	<b>25.0</b>
Royal London Asset Management General	-	-	42.7	<b>42.7</b>
<b>Social investments</b>				
Big Issue	-	-	1.2	<b>1.2</b>
Prosper Social Investment	-	-	0.1	<b>0.1</b>
Social Investment Scotland	-	-	0.9	<b>0.9</b>
Social and Sustainable Housing LP	-	-	1.0	<b>1.0</b>
Giant Ventures	-	-	0.2	<b>0.2</b>
ADA Ventures	-	-	0.4	<b>0.4</b>
Lloyds Green Deposit Sustainability	-	-	2.3	<b>2.3</b>
Waterwhelm	-	-	0.1	<b>0.1</b>
Growth Impact LP	-	-	0.1	<b>0.1</b>
Fair by Design Ventures LLP	-	-	0.2	<b>0.2</b>
Mercer LGIM	-	-	1.6	<b>1.6</b>
<b>Spinout companies</b>				
pure LiFi	-	-	0.9	<b>0.9</b>
Sofant Technologies	-	-	0.6	<b>0.6</b>
Biocaptiva Ltd	-	-	1.2	<b>1.2</b>
Resolution Therapeutics Ltd	-	-	0.6	<b>0.6</b>
Wobble Company Ltd	-	-	1.4	<b>1.4</b>
Rhizocore	-	-	0.8	<b>0.8</b>
Roslin Technologies Ltd	-	-	5.4	<b>5.4</b>
Invizius	-	-	0.4	<b>0.4</b>
Actinogen Medical	-	-	0.6	<b>0.6</b>
Trogenix	-	-	0.7	<b>0.7</b>
Other investments	-	-	3.4	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Investment in subsidiary companies</b>				
Edinburgh University Press Ltd	0.3	-	-	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Loans to subsidiary companies</b>				
UoE Estates Services Company Limited	9.8	-	-	<b>9.8</b>
Old College Capital LLP	4.0	-	-	<b>4.0</b>
	14.1	519.4	436.8	<b>970.3</b>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

## 17. Trade and other receivables

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>				
Research grants receivables	<b>175.2</b>	<b>175.2</b>	165.5	165.5
Other trade receivables	<b>76.4</b>	<b>32.2</b>	43.7	10.9
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>49.3</b>	<b>44.5</b>	41.6	39.0
Amounts due from subsidiary companies	-	<b>29.1</b>	-	18.5
	<b>300.9</b>	<b>281.0</b>	250.8	233.9
<b>Amounts falling due after one year:</b>				
Other trade receivables	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	0.6	0.6
Endowments receivable	-	<b>28.4</b>	-	29.8
	<b>2.0</b>	<b>30.4</b>	0.6	30.4
	<b>302.9</b>	<b>311.4</b>	251.4	264.3

**Trade and other receivables**

Research grants receivables are shown net of allowance for doubtful debts of £15.6 million (2023: £4.9 million).

Other trade receivables are shown net of allowance for doubtful debts of £4.6 million (2023: £4.8 million). Contributing to the increase in the year is £16 million additional amounts due relating to endowment income.

Majority of the amounts due from subsidiary companies balance as at 31 July 2024 relates to UoE Accommodation Limited and Development Trust.

## 18. Current investments

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Short-term deposits	<b>139.0</b>	<b>139.0</b>	289.3	289.3

**Current investments**

The University's Treasury Management policy grants the Director of Finance delegated authority to deposit or invest funds with approved organisations to approved limits. As at 31 July 2024 the short-term deposits had interest rates ranging from 5.2 per cent to 5.45 per cent and are fixed for between 3 and 13 months. All short-term deposits have a maturity date less than 12 months from 31 July 2024.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 19. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Unsecured loans	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8
Obligations under finance leases	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Trade payables	42.8	33.0	40.6	33.0
Social security and other taxation payable	17.1	15.9	13.0	12.9
Other creditors	9.0	9.0	11.9	12.0
Concessionary loans	2.2	2.2	1.7	1.7
Accruals and deferred income (see below)	368.8	355.9	354.0	341.4
Amounts due to subsidiary companies	-	46.1	-	48.2
	<b>448.8</b>	<b>471.0</b>	430.1	458.1

#### Trade payables

The ratio of trade payables to operational expenses is 8.1 per cent (2023: 8.8 per cent)

### Accruals and deferred income

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Accruals	85.2	85.2	100.6	100.6
Donations and other restricted income deferred	47.6	47.6	55.6	55.6
Research grants received on account	207.4	207.4	174.1	174.1
Estates capital grants deferred	1.5	1.5	(1.9)	(1.9)
Other income deferred	27.1	14.2	25.6	13.0
	<b>368.8</b>	<b>355.9</b>	354.0	341.4

#### Accruals and deferred income

In addition to accruals of expenditure, research and other restricted income has been deferred until specific performance-related conditions have been met.

### 20. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024		2023	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Obligations under finance leases	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Unsecured loans	521.2	521.2	530.1	530.1
Concessionary loans	16.8	16.8	5.7	5.7
	<b>538.2</b>	<b>538.2</b>	536.0	536.0

#### Unsecured loans

Outstanding unsecured loans have decreased to £530.0 million as at 31 July 2024. The decrease can be attributed to the ongoing capital repayment of loans held with the Royal Bank of Scotland and the European Investment Bank.

No new unsecured loans have been agreed during the financial year.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

## 20. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year (continued)

Borrowings		2024		2023	
		Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
	Note				
<b>Obligations under finance leases are due as follows:</b>					
Due within one year	19	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Due between two and five years		0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
		0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

		2024		2023	
		Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
<b>Unsecured bank loans are repayable as follows:</b>					
Due within one year	19	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8
Due between two and five years		32.6	32.6	33.4	33.4
Due in five years or more		488.6	488.6	496.7	496.7
		530.0	530.0	538.9	538.9

## Unsecured bank loans outstanding as at 31 July 2024 were as follows:

	Interest rate%	Repayable	Borrower	Amount £m
C.M. Life Insurance Company	3.38	2041	University	2.0
C.M. Life Insurance Company	3.46	2046	University	0.2
European Investment Bank	2.11	2021-2046	University	57.7
European Investment Bank	2.19	2022-2047	University	60.4
European Investment Bank	2.27	2023-2048	University	62.1
Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company	3.38	2041	University	1.0
Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company	3.46	2046	University	0.1
Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company	3.38	2041	University	22.0
Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company	3.46	2046	University	9.7
The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company	3.20	2036	University	40.0
The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company	3.38	2041	University	15.0
The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company	3.46	2046	University	10.0
The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company	2.62	2038	University	110.0
The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company	2.68	2043	University	75.0
The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company	2.69	2048	University	65.0
The Royal Bank of Scotland plc	0.2% above base	2005-2025	University	0.8
FRS 102 amortisation adjustment				(1.0)
				530.0

## Public benefit concessionary loans

The University received four new concessionary loans from the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) as part of the University Financial Transactions Programme (UFTP) within the financial year 2023/24. The UFTP aims to advance the sustainability of university estates and net zero plans. The loans were received for the following projects and amounts: Easter Bush Campus – District Heat Power & Cooling Network Expansion (£8.2 million), Accelerated Lighting Efficiency Improvement Programme (£3.4 million), Energy Efficiency Improvement Works – Teviot Row (£1.0 million) and Solar PV Programme (£0.7 million). All the loans are payable at the rate of 1 per cent per annum with a repayment period of 25 years, except for the Solar PV Programme loan which has a repayment period of 12 years.

Previously received loans from Scottish Funding Council include the £5.2 million loan in 2018 from Salix Finance Limited in partnership with the SFC, and the £9.1 million loan received in 2019 used to support Phase 1 of the Student Centre project. The repayments for the two loans are due in July 2026 and March 2029 respectively.

## Loans outstanding

The University has £530.0 million of unsecured loans as at 31 July 2024. As per the unsecured loans outstanding table, these loans have been provided by a variety of financial institutions, with repayment terms of between 20 and 30 years and interest rates between 2.11 per cent and 3.46 per cent.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 21. Provisions for liabilities

#### Consolidated and institution

	Obligation to fund deficit on USS pension £m	Pension enhancement on termination £m	Unfunded pension provision £m	Funded pension scheme provision £m	Total £m
<b>As at 1 August 2023</b>	344.5	3.5	0.5	4.3	<b>352.8</b>
Utilised in year	(11.2)	(0.6)	0.1	(14.5)	<b>(26.2)</b>
(Releases)/additions in year	(341.2)	-	-	8.0	<b>(333.2)</b>
Additional contributions paid by the institution	-	-	-	(1.5)	<b>(1.5)</b>
Interest in year	7.9	0.1	-	(0.7)	<b>7.3</b>
Actuarial loss in respect of pension schemes	-	0.2	-	12.7	<b>12.9</b>
<b>As at 31 July 2024</b>	-	3.2	0.6	8.3	<b>12.1</b>
<b>Other provisions</b>				Decommissioning provision £m	<b>Total £m</b>
<b>As at 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024</b>				0.6	<b>0.6</b>
<b>Total provisions</b>					<b>12.7</b>

#### Decommissioning provision

The provision is held under the Radioactive Substances Act 1993 and the HASS (Scotland) Directions 2005 to provide for the safe management of hazardous material when they become disused.

#### Pension and other provisions

In compliance with FRS 102, Section 21: Provisions and contingencies, the provisions relate only to contractual and legal obligations of the University. Provisions relating to retirement benefits and details including assumptions used are included in note 33.

#### USS deficit

Based on the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) 2023 valuation, the scheme is now in surplus and therefore as at 31 July 2024 there is no obligation to fund a past deficit.

#### Pension enhancement and unfunded pensions

The University has a liability for the enhancement of pensions payable to some former members of staff who have taken early retirement and for the supplementation of Federated Superannuation Scheme for Universities (FSSU) and state pensions granted to certain former members of the University staff. These liabilities are unfunded but are assessed on the same basis as the liabilities within each defined benefit pension scheme.

#### Funded pension schemes

The provision represents the net liability in respect of the surplus/deficit on the Staff Benefit Scheme, Strathclyde Pension Fund and Lothian Pension Fund assessed under FRS 102. Note 33 provides further detail.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 22. Endowment reserves

#### Consolidated and institution

	Permanent unrestricted endowments £m	Permanent restricted endowments £m	Expendable restricted endowments £m	<b>2024 Total £m</b>	2023 Total £m
Capital	7.2	137.9	345.0	<b>490.1</b>	467.2
Accumulated income	0.2	17.5	52.0	<b>69.7</b>	73.8
<b>As at 1 August 2023</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>155.4</b>	<b>397.0</b>	<b>559.8</b>	541.0
New endowments	-	-	5.8	<b>5.8</b>	45.8
Investment income	0.3	4.9	15.3	<b>20.5</b>	16.6
Expenditure	-	(3.5)	(16.7)	<b>(20.2)</b>	(16.8)
Increase/(decrease) in market value of investments	0.2	4.1	10.2	<b>14.5</b>	(26.8)
	0.5	5.5	14.6	<b>20.6</b>	18.8
<b>As at 31 July 2024</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>160.9</b>	<b>411.6</b>	<b>580.4</b>	559.8
<b>Represented by:</b>					
Capital	7.4	141.6	359.6	<b>508.6</b>	490.1
Accumulated income	0.5	19.3	52.0	<b>71.8</b>	69.7
	7.9	160.9	411.6	<b>580.4</b>	559.8
<b>Analysis by type of purpose:</b>					
Chairs and lectureships	-	10.8	45.6	<b>56.4</b>	68.7
Prizes and scholarships	-	38.2	98.6	<b>136.8</b>	94.6
Other	7.9	111.9	267.4	<b>387.2</b>	396.5
	7.9	160.9	411.6	<b>580.4</b>	559.8
<b>Non-current asset investments:</b>					
Equities	3.4	72.5	156.6	<b>232.5</b>	212.6
Fixed interest stocks	0.3	6.4	13.7	<b>20.4</b>	21.7
Property	1.2	26.7	57.7	<b>85.6</b>	91.0
Multi asset	2.2	47.1	101.6	<b>150.9</b>	145.5
Venture capital	0.4	8.4	18.1	<b>26.9</b>	23.2
Bank deposits held at fund managers	-	0.5	1.1	<b>1.6</b>	0.7
Bank deposits held by the Institution	-	0.5	1.0	<b>1.5</b>	3.2
Non-current asset investments	7.5	162.1	349.8	<b>519.4</b>	497.9
Fixed term deposit	-	-	30.8	<b>30.8</b>	35.6
Capital debtor	-	-	28.4	<b>28.4</b>	29.8
Cash balances owed to institution	0.4	(1.2)	6.2	<b>5.4</b>	5.0
Current asset - working capital	-	-	(3.6)	<b>(3.6)</b>	(8.5)
Total endowment assets	7.9	160.9	411.6	<b>580.4</b>	559.8

#### Endowment reserves

Consolidated and institution.

The University's Endowment Fund is invested in the University of Edinburgh Endowment and Investment Fund (see note 16) which is invested with a number of fund managers and in different asset types to diversify risk.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

**23. Restricted reserves**

Reserves with restrictions are as follows:

Consolidated	Capital grants £m	Donations and revenue grants £m	<b>2024 Total £m</b>	2023 Total £m
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2023</b>	8.7	54.4	<b>63.1</b>	67.5
New donations and grants receivable	19.9	125.5	<b>145.4</b>	85.5
Capital grants utilised	(28.6)	-	<b>(28.6)</b>	(19.2)
Expenditure	-	(81.0)	<b>(81.0)</b>	(70.7)
<b>Total restricted comprehensive (expenditure)/income for the year</b>	(8.7)	44.5	<b>35.8</b>	(4.4)
<b>Balance as at 31 July 2024</b>	-	98.9	<b>98.9</b>	63.1
<b>Closing reserves comprise the following funds:</b>				
Donations			<b>49.5</b>	35.2
Capital grants			-	8.7
Other grants			<b>25.8</b>	4.7
Funds held at Institution of Edinburgh Development Trust			<b>23.6</b>	14.5
			<b>98.9</b>	63.1

**Institution**

	Capital grants £m	Donations and revenue grants £m	<b>2024 Total £m</b>	2023 Total £m
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2023</b>	0.8	39.9	<b>40.7</b>	42.3
New donations and grants receivable	19.9	79.6	<b>99.5</b>	63.8
Capital grants utilised	(20.7)	-	<b>(20.7)</b>	(19.2)
Expenditure	-	(44.2)	<b>(44.2)</b>	(46.2)
<b>Total restricted comprehensive (expenditure)/income for the year</b>	(0.8)	35.4	<b>34.6</b>	(1.6)
<b>Balance as at 31 July 2024</b>	-	75.3	<b>75.3</b>	40.7

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

**24. Revaluation reserve**

Consolidated and institution	Heritage assets £m	<b>2024 Total £m</b>	2023 Total £m
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024</b>	208.4	<b>208.4</b>	208.4

**25. Cash and cash equivalents**

Consolidated	<b>2024 £m</b>	2023 £m
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2023</b>	<b>455.7</b>	279.3
Net change in cash and cash equivalent balances	<b>(215.6)</b>	176.4
<b>Balance as at 31 July 2024</b>	<b>240.1</b>	455.7

Institution	<b>2024 £m</b>	2023 £m
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2023</b>	<b>434.9</b>	259.3
Net change in cash and cash equivalent balances	<b>(217.2)</b>	175.6
<b>Balance as at 31 July 2024</b>	<b>217.7</b>	434.9

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 26. Consolidated reconciliation of net debt

	Net debt 1 August 2023 £m	Cash flows £m	New loans £m	Repayment of loans £m	Other non-cash changes £m	<b>Net debt 31 July 2024 £m</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	455.7	(215.6)	-	-	-	<b>240.1</b>
Unsecured loans falling due within one year	(8.8)	-	-	11.2	(8.8)	<b>(6.4)</b>
Unsecured loans falling due after more than one year	(530.0)	-	-	-	8.8	<b>(521.2)</b>
Concessionary loans falling due within one year	(1.7)	-	-	1.7	(2.2)	<b>(2.2)</b>
Concessionary loans falling due after more than one year	(5.8)	-	(13.3)	-	2.3	<b>(16.8)</b>
Finance lease obligations due within one year	(0.1)	-	-	-	-	<b>(0.1)</b>
Finance lease obligations due after more than one year	(0.2)	-	-	-	-	<b>(0.2)</b>
	(546.6)	-	(13.3)	12.9	0.1	<b>(546.9)</b>
<b>Total net debt</b>	(90.9)	(215.6)	(13.3)	12.9	0.1	<b>(306.8)</b>

### 27. Capital and other commitments

	2024		2023	
	<b>Consolidated £m</b>	<b>Institution £m</b>	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
Commitments contracted for as at 31 July 2024	<b>133.5</b>	<b>133.5</b>	66.2	66.2

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 28. Contingent liabilities

#### Pension schemes

In June 2023, the UK High Court judged that amendments made to the Virgin Media pension scheme were invalid because the scheme's actuary did not provide the associated Section 37 certificate. The High Court's decision has wide ranging implications, affecting other schemes that were contracted-out on a salary-related basis and made amendments between April 1997 and April 2016. The University of Edinburgh Staff Benefits Scheme, Lothian Pension Fund scheme and Strathclyde Pension Fund schemes were contracted out during this period and amendments were made during the relevant period. As such the ruling could have implications for the University. Following the Court of Appeal upholding the 2023 High Court ruling on 25 July 2024, the Trustees of the affected pension schemes initiated the process of investigation any potential impact for the Fund.

As the detailed investigations are in progress, the University considers that the amount of any potential impact on the defined benefit obligations for these schemes cannot be confirmed and/or measured with sufficient reliability. We are therefore disclosing this issue as a contingent liability as at 31 July 2024 and will review again in 2025 based on the findings of the detailed investigations.

#### Subsidiary companies

The University has given written undertakings to support its subsidiary companies for at least twelve months from the date of approval of their financial statements.

### 29. Lease obligations

Total rentals payable under operating leases:

	2024			2023
	Land and buildings £m	Other leases £m	Total £m	Total £m
<b>Payable during the year</b>	32.4	-	<b>32.4</b>	29.6
<b>Future minimum lease payments due:</b>				
Due within one year	21.6	0.1	<b>21.7</b>	16.3
Due between two and five years	64.1	-	<b>64.1</b>	61.9
Due in five years or more	113.7	-	<b>113.7</b>	129.8
<b>Total lease payments due</b>	199.4	0.1	<b>199.5</b>	208.0

### 30. Events after the reporting period

In the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report, there were no items, transactions or events of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Court, to affect significantly the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group in subsequent financial years.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 31. Subsidiary undertakings

Subsidiary undertakings comprise companies, charities and partnerships registered in Scotland as follows:

Subsidiary	% holding	Principal activities and other organisational information
Edinburgh Innovations Limited	100%	Commercialisation of the world-class research and academic expertise at the University of Edinburgh to potential funders, collaborators, licensees or investors.
Old College Capital Holdings Limited (previously known as: Edinburgh Technology Fund Limited)	100%	Management of investment funds providing seed corn venture capital for early stage high-technology developments and the management of its portfolio of investments made using its funds.
UoE Accommodation Limited	100%	Non-student lettings and the provision of nursery childcare services for the University of Edinburgh.
UoE HPCX Limited	100%	Provision of high-performance computing services.
UoE Estates Services Company Limited	100%	Provision of utility services to the University.
Old College Capital LP, SI and GP	100%	Old College Capital GP Limited acts as a general partner in two Scottish Limited Partnerships. The first is Old College Capital LP which makes early and mid-stage investments into selected companies that emerge from the University and the second is Old College Capital SI LP, which invests in Epidarex, a venture capital fund. In addition, for both these Limited Partnerships, the University is the limited partner.
Research into Results Limited	100%	The company is currently dormant. Some of the company's cash reserves are being used to fund research projects within the University.
Edinburgh University Press Limited	100%	A charity registered in Scotland, registered charity number SC035813, incorporated as a limited company. The principal activity of Edinburgh University Press Limited is the publication of educational books and journals.
EUSBS Trustees Limited	100%	EUSBS Trustees Limited acts as a single corporate trustee for the University of Edinburgh Staff Benefits Scheme. Currently dormant.
Fintech Scotland Limited	100%	A company limited by guarantee, currently dormant. As a strategic enabler, the company establishes collaboration within the Fintech ecosystem.
The University of Edinburgh Development Trust		A charity registered in Scotland, registered charity number SC004307. The Trust is classed as a "quasi-subsidiary" of the University under the guidelines of FRS 102: Section 2 Concepts and Pervasive Principles. The primary purpose of the Trust is to act as a fundraiser of funds for the benefit of the University.
The Andrew Grant Bequest		A charity registered in Scotland, Registered Charity No SC001097. The charity is classed as a "quasi-subsidiary" of the University under the guidelines of FRS 102: Section 2 Concepts and Pervasive Principles. The primary purpose of the charity is to manage the monies in The Andrew Grant Bequest in accordance with the terms of the original benefaction from Andrew Grant.
Smart Data Foundry	100%	Provision of data-driven insights for research purposes, data-driven solutions for the public sector and supply of synthetic data.

Other subsidiary undertakings are as follows:

Subsidiary	% holding	Principal activities and other organisational information
University of Edinburgh Deaconess Limited	100%	A company registered in England. The main activities are that of investing in and operating student accommodation property, and in particular, Deaconess House.
Hong Kong Centre for Carbon Innovation Limited	100%	A company registered in Hong Kong. The company was set up to establish itself as a hub for education, research and development, and application of world-class low carbon solutions with strong partnerships among the UK, Hong Kong and China. The company was dissolved in January 2024.
The Hong Kong Foundation for The University of Edinburgh Limited	100%	The Hong Kong Charitable Foundation was established to facilitate donations being made to the University from Hong Kong residents.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 31. Subsidiary undertakings (continued)

#### Overseas offices

The University operates overseas offices of which several are incorporated including the North American Office - University of Edinburgh incorporated, registered in the United States which supports the University's activity in North America.

Associated undertakings include the following:

Associated undertaking	Principal activities and other organisational information
Research Data Scotland	Research Data Scotland is a joint venture between the Scottish Government, Public Health Scotland and the University of Edinburgh and is a registered Scottish charity. The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The company's mission is to improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing in Scotland by enabling access to and linkage of data about people, places and businesses for research in the public good.
Edinburgh International Investments Limited	The Shenzhen initiative is a partnership between the University and the China-based Good Fellow Healthcare Holdings Limited. The collaboration will develop medical and scientific knowledge over the next three years.
The Alan Turing Institute	The Alan Turing Institute was created as the national institute for data science in 2015. In 2017, as a result of a government recommendation, artificial intelligence was added to the remit. The University was one of the five founding universities in 2015. An additional eight new universities joined the Institute in 2018.
Rosalind Franklin Institute	The University is a member of the Rosalind Franklin Institute along with nine other UK universities, Diamond Light Source and the research council UKRI-STFC. The national institute, funded by the UK government through UK Research and Innovation, is dedicated to bringing about transformative changes in life science through interdisciplinary research and technology development.
Roslin Cells Limited	The University nominates one member of Roslin Cells Limited, a company limited by guarantees of £1 from each of the two members. No share of the accounts of that body is consolidated on the ground of materiality. The company was dissolved in December 2023.
Roslin Technologies Limited	Roslin Technologies Limited is a joint venture between the University of Edinburgh and two investment and business development partners. The Company's principal activity is to commercialise the intellectual property, capabilities and knowhow of The Roslin Institute and The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies.
Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC)	SUERC is a jointly controlled entity with the University of Glasgow. SUERC was established to provide to the Universities of the Scottish Consortium collaborative access to expensive equipment and specialist expertise. The main areas of strength are in geochemistry, radiochemistry and isotope bio geosciences.
EBQ3 Limited	EBQ3 Limited is a dormant company, jointly controlled with The City of Edinburgh Council and NHS Lothian. EBQ3 Limited was established to translate ground breaking research and discoveries into new treatment and cures, as well as delivering significant social, cultural and economic benefits to Edinburgh, Scotland and the UK, and life-enhancing health advances to the world.

In addition to the above associated undertakings, the Group and University nominate members of other companies limited by guarantee. The University has also acquired equity positions in the issued capital of several start-up / spinout companies limited by shares, largely acquired as part of intellectual property licence agreements. These shareholdings have been valued in accordance with FRS 102 and the International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines using the last round price where possible as a starting point for estimating fair value. The value of the University investment in these companies can be found in note 16. Any investment with a value greater than £500,000 is listed separately.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 32. Connected charitable institutions

#### Consolidated

	Total net assets opening balance £m	Income £m	Expenditure £m	Change in market value £m	Total net assets closing balance £m
University of Edinburgh Development Trust (Scottish Charity No. SC004307)	22.2	40.6	(38.3)	-	<b>24.5</b>
Edinburgh University Press Limited (Scottish Charity No. SC035813)	2.7	4.8	(4.9)	-	<b>2.6</b>
The Andrew Grant Bequest (Scottish Charity No. SC001097)	6.0	0.2	(0.2)	0.2	<b>6.2</b>
	<b>30.9</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>(43.4)</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>33.3</b>

#### Connected charitable institutions

A number of charitable institutions are administered by or on behalf of the University and have been established for its general or special purposes. Three of the connected institutions are included as a subsidiary undertaking in these consolidated financial statements; the others are not included in the consolidation since the University does not have control over their activities.

The University Court is also the sole Corporate Trustee of Andrew Grant Bequest which is included in the Group accounts of the University.

\*Note the Edinburgh University Students' Association figures are as at 31 March 2024, which is in line with their reporting year end.

#### Not consolidated

	Total net assets opening balance £m	Income £m	Expenditure £m	Change in market value £m	Total net assets closing balance £m
Edinburgh University Students' Association* (Scottish Charity No. SC015800)	(2.5)	11.0	(9.1)	-	<b>(0.6)</b>
Edinburgh University Sports Union (Scottish Charity No. SC009248)	0.2	1.1	(1.0)	-	<b>0.2</b>
	<b>(2.3)</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>(10.2)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(0.4)</b>

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 33. Pension schemes

#### University pension schemes

The University participates in three active pension schemes: the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), the University of Edinburgh Staff Benefits Scheme (EUSBS) and the National Employee Savings Trust (NEST), and operates salary sacrifice for active staff members of these schemes. The University also participates in other legacy pension schemes on behalf of both retired and active members. These legacy schemes are closed to new University employees but some former employees of Moray House Institute of Education, Edinburgh College of Art and the Medical Research Council Human Genetics Unit remain members of the Scottish Teachers Superannuation Scheme (STSS), the Strathclyde Pension Fund (SPF), the Lothian Pension Fund (LPF) and the Medical Research Council Pension Scheme (MRCPS). The University also participates in a Scottish Widows Group Personal Pension (GPP) for staff in certain sections of EI that were transferred to the University. The Federated Superannuation Scheme for Universities (FSSU) covers a small number of academic staff who did not transfer to USS when it was introduced in 1975.

USS, STSS, MRCPS and NHSSS are multi-employer schemes and, given the mutual nature of the schemes, it is not possible to identify the University's share of the assets and liabilities for these schemes. Consequently, the University cannot apply defined benefit accounting and, according to section 28 FRS 102, the schemes are accounted for as defined contribution schemes. Costs charged to the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and expenditure (the Consolidated Statement) shown below reflect the contributions in year. No share of any deficit or surplus in the STSS, MRCPS and NHSSS schemes is included in these financial statements.

The EUSBS, SPF and LPF schemes are accounted for under FRS 102, section 28 and the funded pension costs charged to the Consolidated Statement shown below reflect the service cost calculated under FRS 102. The FRS 102 disclosures of the University pension assets, liabilities and costs are included at the end of this note.

#### Overall scheme participation and pension costs

	Employer contribution rate as at 31 July 2024	Employee contribution rate as at 31 July 2024	Active members as at 31 July 2024 Number	Pension costs year to 31 July 2024 £'000	Active members as at 31 July 2023 Number	Pension costs year to 31 July 2023 £'000
<b>Defined contribution plan</b>						
USS	14.5% <sup>1</sup>	6.1%	10,772	115,557	9,845	124,961
STSS	26.0%	7.3% to 12.1%	44	515	48	515
MRCPS	16.9%	5.2% to 6.5%	25	244	28	250
NEST	3%	5%	2,193	3,426	2,213	3,040
GPP	14%	4.5%	3	55	3	55
Other: NHS and subsidiaries	22.5%	5.7% to 13.7%	114	4,015	111	3,600
Sub-total: members and costs			13,151	123,812	12,248	132,421
<b>Defined benefit plan</b>						
EUSBS	25.8%	9.1%	1,638	9,300	1,638	12,200
SPF	6.5%	5.5% to 11.2%	14	62	17	100
LPF	23.4% <sup>2</sup>	5.5% to 11.2%	12	126	12	179
Sub-total: members and service cost per FRS 102 disclosures below			1,664	9,488	1,667	12,479
Total: members and cost			14,815	133,300	13,915	144,900

1. Included a deficit recovery plan contribution of 6.2 per cent to 31 December 2023. From 1 January 2024 no deficit recovery contribution payment required.
2. An additional LPF employer's contribution of £656,000 (2023: £656,000) was paid up to 31 March 2024. From 1 April 2024 no additional contribution payment required.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 33. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Key actuarial assumptions

	Discount rate	Salary increase rate	Pensions increase rate	Current pensioners mortality rate <sup>1</sup>		Non-pensioners mortality rate	
				Males	Females	Males	Females
<b>Valuations under FRS 102 as at 31 July 2024</b>							
EUSBS	4.95%	3.65% <sup>2</sup>	2.65% <sup>3</sup>	20.1	23.6	21.5	25.4
LPF	4.95%	3.45%	2.75%	20.4	23.6	20.6	25.0
SPF	4.95%	3.45%	2.75%	20.4	23.6	21.2	24.8

1. Mortality rates are based on assumed life expectancy at the retirement age.
2. Salary increases are assumed to be 3.65 per cent based on CPI plus 1 per cent.
3. Benefits after 31 December 2016.

#### The Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS)

The institution participates in the USS. The scheme is a hybrid pension scheme, providing defined benefits (for all members), as well as defined contribution benefits. The assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. Due to the mutual nature of the scheme, the assets are not attributed to individual institutions and a scheme-wide contribution rate is set. The institution is therefore exposed to actuarial risks associated with other institutions' employees and is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. As required by Section 28 of FRS 102 "Employee benefits", the institution therefore accounts for the scheme as if it were a wholly defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the Consolidated Statement represents the contributions payable to the scheme. Since the institution has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan) that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit, the institution recognises a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit) and therefore an expense is recognised. Since the scheme is in surplus, the University is no longer required to make deficit recovery contributions from 1 January 2024.

FRS 102 makes the distinction between a group plan and a multi-employer scheme. A group plan consists of a collection of entities under common control, typically with a sponsoring employer. A multi-employer scheme is a scheme for entities not under common control and represents (typically) an industry-wide scheme such as the USS. The accounting for a multi-employer scheme where the employer has entered into an agreement with the scheme that determines how the employer will fund a deficit results in the recognition of a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit). The resulting expense is recorded in the Consolidated Statement in accordance with section 28 of FRS 102. Court is satisfied that the scheme provided by the USS meets the definition of a multi-employer scheme and has therefore recognised the discounted fair value of the contractual contributions under the funding plan in existence at the date of approving the financial statements.

The total current service cost charged to the Consolidated Statement is £115.6 million (2023: £125 million) as shown in the overall scheme participation and pension costs table.

The latest available completed actuarial valuation of the Retirement Income Builder section of the Scheme 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 USS 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.

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 per cent.

The key financial assumptions used in the 2023 valuation are described below. More detail is set out in the [Statement of Funding Principles](#).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 33. Pension schemes (continued)

Pension increases (CPI)	Term dependent rates in line with the difference between the Fixed Interest and Index Linked yield curves less: 1.0% per annum to 2030, reducing linearly by 0.1% per annum 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 % per annum Post-retirement: 0.9 % per annum

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% per annum for males and 1.6% per annum 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

A deficit recovery plan was put in place as part of the 2020 valuation, which requires payment of 6.2 per cent of salaries over the period 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2024 at which point the rate will increase to 6.3 per cent. No deficit recovery plan was required under the 2023 valuation because the scheme was in surplus on a technical provisions basis.

The University was no longer required to make deficit recovery contributions from 1 January 2024 and accordingly released the £344.5 million outstanding provision.

	2024	2023
Discount rate	Not required	5.52%
Pensionable salary growth	Not required	4.25%

Pensionable salary growth is a combination of forecast salary inflation and headcount changes.

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 33. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Scottish Teachers Superannuation Scheme (STSS)

The STSS provides final salary benefits to former members of the Moray House School of Education and is a multi-employer defined benefits scheme. The University is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme. Accordingly, the University has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for a defined contribution scheme. The last four-yearly valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2020 and a shortfall of £2.9 billion was identified in the notional fund. This valuation informed an increase in the employer contribution rate from 17.2 per cent to 23.0 per cent of pensionable pay from September 2019 and an anticipated yield of 9.6 per cent employees' contribution.

As the scheme is unfunded, no surplus or shortfall can be identified. The scheme is financed by payments from employers and from those current employees who are members of the scheme and paying contributions at progressively higher marginal rates based on pensionable pay, as specified in the regulations. The rate of employer contribution is set with reference to a funding valuation undertaken by the scheme actuary.

#### Medical Research Council Pension Scheme (MRCPS)

As a result of the merger with the Human Genetics Unit, the University obtained membership of the MRCPS with effect from 1 October 2011. The MRCPS is a final salary, defined benefit pension scheme. Under the terms of the merger the MRCPS is responsible for past service liabilities prior to the merger and the University is responsible for the future service from the merger date.

The University is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme. Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the MRCPS is a multi-employer scheme. Accordingly, the University has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions as if it were a defined contribution scheme.

The required MRCPS contribution rate is assessed every three years in accordance with advice of the Government Actuary. Triennial valuations are conducted under the Pensions Act 2004 on a scheme specific funding basis using the project unit method. The latest actuarial assessment of the MRCPS was at 31 December 2022. At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the MRCPS was £1.92 billion (2019: £1.76 billion) and the value of the scheme's technical provisions was £1.31 billion indicating a surplus of £607 million. The assets were therefore sufficient to cover 146 per cent of the benefits that accrued to members after allowing for expected future increases in earnings. As a result of the 2022 valuation, the trustees determined it would be appropriate to continue making employer contributions at a rate of 16.9 per cent of pensionable salary.

#### National Employee Savings Trust (NEST)

The University joined the NEST scheme in March 2013 to provide a low-cost alternative pension to EUSBS scheme

membership. NEST is administered by a Trustee and was established as a result of the 2008 Pensions Act, which introduced the requirement to automatically enrol workers into a workplace pension scheme if they:

- are aged between 22 and State Pension Age;
- earn more than £10,000 a year; and
- work in the UK.

NEST is a defined contribution scheme. Pension contribution rates will be set by the scheme's actuary at a level to meet the cost of pensions as they accrue.

#### Group Personal Pension (GPP)

As a result of the pre-award research project administration and legal teams of Edinburgh Innovations (EI) being transferred to the University, the University gained a number of staff in a Scottish Widows GPP. This is a defined contribution pension scheme.

#### National Health Service Superannuation Scheme (NHSSS)

As a result of the merger with the Human Genetics Unit, the University gained a number of staff in the NHSSS pension scheme. Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the NHSSS is a multi-employer scheme. The University is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme. Accordingly, the University has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted as if it were a defined contribution scheme. An actuarial assessment was carried out as at 31 March 2020. At that date the scheme had total liabilities of £43.6 billion and notional assets of £39.7 billion giving a notional past service deficit of £3.9 billion.

#### The Federated Superannuation Scheme for Universities (FSSU)

FSSU was a defined benefit scheme and covered a very small number of academic staff who did not transfer to USS when it was introduced in 1975. Pension provision was by means of assurance policies, selected by the member from a panel and held in trust by the Trustees. Persons who retired under the scheme are entitled to additional benefits that may arise under the FSSU supplementation scheme. These additional benefits are unfunded and are paid direct to retired members by Court. Full provision has been made in the year for the actuarial valuation of the liabilities of this scheme.

There are no active members but the University has one retired member in receipt of FSSU supplementation retirement benefits.

#### Unfunded pensions

The University has a number of unfunded pensions which relate to the mergers with the Edinburgh College of Art and the Moray House School of Education and ex-gratia payments from the University. The value of these liabilities is £3.7 million (2023: £3.9 million). This comprises:

- Moray House School of Education and Edinburgh College of Art: £3.2 million (2023: £3.3 million).
- University of Edinburgh: £0.5 million (2023: £0.6 million).

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 33. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Edinburgh University Staff Benefits Scheme (EUSBS)

The assets and liabilities of the EUSBS scheme were:

	Value at 31 July 2024 £m	Value at 31 July 2023 £m	Value at 31 July 2022 £m
Market value of assets:			
Equities	94.6	96.1	151.3
Debt securities - corporate	12.5	-	-
Property	38.4	40.2	42.2
Liability driven investments	133.5	136.1	92.8
Private equity and diversified growth funds	122.8	120.9	190.4
Cash	8.5	2.0	7.7
Total market value of assets	410.3	395.4	484.4
Present value of scheme liabilities	(442.4)	(415.6)	(522.8)
Deficit in the scheme - net pension liability	(32.1)	(20.2)	(38.5)

#### Edinburgh University Staff Benefits Scheme (EUSBS)

The EUSBS is an externally-funded defined benefit scheme. The assets of EUSBS are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. The latest formal triennial actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2024 and has been rolled forward as the basis for the following valuation under FRS 102. As at 31 July 2024, the value of the assets in the scheme was £410.3 million (2023: £395.4 million) and the present value of the funded and unfunded benefits accrued was £442.4 million (2023: £415.6 million), leaving a shortfall of £32.1 million (2023: £20.2 million) included in the University pension liability. The University has signed a Recovery Plan in respect of the shortfall in funding. Deficit funding of £1.5 million was paid in April 2024. From April 2025 until April 2029 the amount payable will be £1.1 million increasing each year with CPI.

Further information is available at: [Staff Benefits Scheme details](#)

#### Lothian Pension Fund (LPF)

The University's share of assets in the LPF scheme were:

	Value at 31 July 2024 £m	Value at 31 July 2023 £m	Value at 31 July 2022 £m
Market value of assets:			
Equities	7.7	8.1	9.1
Bonds	12.4	12.1	12.9
Property	0.9	0.9	0.8
Cash	1.1	1.3	2.5
Total market value of assets	22.1	22.4	25.3
Present value of scheme liabilities			
Funded	(18.1)	(17.6)	(20.6)
Unfunded	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Surplus in the scheme - net pension asset	3.9	4.7	4.5
Effect of asset cap on surplus <sup>1</sup>	(0.5)	(4.7)	(4.5)
Surplus in the scheme - net pension asset	3.4	-	-

#### Lothian Pension Fund (LPF)

Former members of the Edinburgh College of Art are members of the LPF scheme, which is an externally-funded, multi-employer, defined benefits scheme from which pensions and other related benefits are paid. LPF is a pool into which employees' and employers' contributions and income from investments are paid, and from which previous and other related benefits are paid out, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Pension Scheme. The last full valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2023 and the results have been rolled forward as the basis for the following valuation under FRS 102. As at 31 July 2024, the value of the University's assets in the LPF scheme was £22.1 million (2023: £22.4 million) and the present value of the funded and unfunded benefits accrued was £18.2 million (2023: £17.7 million), leaving a surplus of £3.9 million (2023: £4.7 million). A cessation valuation for the scheme was £3.4 million as at 31 March 2024. We have determined that an asset cap of £0.5 million is appropriate for LPF and the variance between accounting surplus presented and cessation valuation.

Further information on the scheme is available at: [lpf.org.uk](http://lpf.org.uk)

1. An asset cap is applied to the scheme surplus to reduce the accounting surplus to the cessation valuation.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 33. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Strathclyde Pension Fund (SPF)

The University's share of assets in the SPF scheme were:

	<b>Value at 31 July 2024 £m</b>	Value at 31 July 2023 £m	Value at 31 July 2022 £m
Market value of assets:			
Equities	<b>27.9</b>	25.7	25.5
Bonds	<b>11.2</b>	11.4	11.5
Property	<b>4.0</b>	4.2	4.7
Cash	<b>1.9</b>	0.8	0.9
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>45.0</b>	42.1	42.6
Present value of scheme liabilities:			
Funded	<b>(22.0)</b>	(21.8)	(25.3)
Unfunded	<b>(0.2)</b>	(0.2)	(0.3)
<b>Surplus in the scheme - net pension asset</b>	<b>22.8</b>	20.1	17.0
Effect of asset cap on surplus <sup>1</sup>	<b>(2.4)</b>	(4.1)	(17.0)
<b>Surplus in the scheme - net pension asset</b>	<b>20.4</b>	16.0	-

1. An asset cap is applied to the scheme surplus to reduce the accounting surplus to the cessation valuation.

#### Strathclyde Pension Fund (SPF)

Former members of the Moray House School of Education are members of the SPF scheme, which is an externally-funded, multi-employer, defined benefits scheme from which pensions and other related benefits are paid. SPF was, under the State Pension rules up to 5 April 2016, contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P) scheme. From 6 April 2016, employees are no longer able to contract out of the S2P. SPF is a pool into which employees' and employers' contributions and income from investments are paid, and from which previous and other related benefits are paid out, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Pension Scheme. The last full valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2023 and the results have been rolled forward as the basis for the following valuation under FRS 102.

As at 31 July 2024, the value of the University's assets in the SPF scheme was £45.0 million (2023: £42.1 million) and the value of the funded and unfunded benefits accrued was £22.2 million (2023: £22.0 million), leaving a surplus of £22.8 million (2023: £20.1 million surplus). A cessation valuation for the scheme was £20.4 million as at 31 March 2024. We have determined that an asset cap of £2.4 million is appropriate for SPF and the variance between accounting surplus presented and cessation valuation.

Further information on the scheme is available at:  
[spfo.org.uk](http://spfo.org.uk)

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 33. Pension schemes (continued)

#### FRS 102 disclosures

The following amounts were measured in accordance with the requirements of FRS 102 in respect of EUSBS, SPF and LPF and have been recognised in these financial statements.

The unfunded liability associated with ex-gratia pensions is included for clarity.

	2024 £m	2023 £m
<b>Analysis of the amount shown in the balance sheet for EUSBS, LPF and SPF pensions:</b>		
Scheme assets (gross)	477.4	444.0
Surplus restriction	(2.9)	(8.8)
Scheme assets	474.5	435.2
Scheme liabilities	482.8	439.4
Deficit in the schemes – net pension liability recorded within pension provisions (note 21)	8.3	4.2
Unfunded <i>ex gratia</i> pension liability	3.8	4.0
<b>Total provision for net liability</b>	<b>12.1</b>	8.2
Current service costs	8.0	11.2
Administration costs	1.4	1.3
<b>Total operating charge</b>	<b>9.4</b>	12.5
<b>Analysis of the amount charged to interest payable</b>		
Interest costs	22.7	19.6
Expected return on assets	(23.4)	(19.2)
<b>Net charge to other interest and other finance costs</b>	<b>(0.7)</b>	0.3
<b>Analysis of other comprehensive income:</b>		
(Gain)/loss on assets	(1.7)	110.5
Actuarial remeasurement (gain)/loss due to experience	(1.8)	2.7
Actuarial remeasurement loss/(gain) due to changes in assumptions	16.2	(143.5)
<b>Total loss/(gain) to other comprehensive income before deduction for tax</b>	<b>12.7</b>	(30.3)

	2024 £m	2023 £m
<b>Analysis of movement in deficit</b>		
<b>Deficit at beginning of year</b>	<b>4.2</b>	38.6
Contributions or benefits paid by the Institution	(15.8)	(15.4)
Additional contributions paid by Institution*	(1.5)	(1.5)
Current service costs	8.0	11.2
Other finance charges	(0.7)	0.3
Administration costs	1.4	1.3
Loss recognised in other comprehensive income	12.7	(30.3)
<b>Deficit at end of year</b>	<b>8.3</b>	4.2

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 33. Pension schemes (continued)

#### Analysis of movement in the present value of liabilities

	2024 £m	2023 £m
<b>Present value of liabilities at the start of the year</b>	<b>439.4</b>	569.2
SPF surplus recognition transfer to asset	<b>16.0</b>	-
Current service costs	<b>8.0</b>	11.2
Administration costs	<b>1.4</b>	1.3
Interest costs	<b>22.7</b>	19.6
Actual member contributions	<b>0.2</b>	0.3
Actuarial loss/(gain) on liabilities	<b>18.6</b>	(140.8)
Actual benefit payments	<b>(23.5)</b>	(21.4)
<b>Present value of liabilities at the end of the year</b>	<b>482.8</b>	439.4

#### Analysis of movement in the fair value of scheme assets

	2024 £m	2023 £m
<b>Fair value of assets at the start of the year</b>	<b>435.2</b>	530.6
SPF surplus recognition transfer to asset	<b>16.0</b>	-
Expected return on assets	<b>23.4</b>	19.2
Actuarial gain/(loss) on assets	<b>5.9</b>	(110.5)
Actual scheme contributions paid by Institution*	<b>15.8</b>	15.4
Additional contributions paid by Institution**	<b>1.5</b>	1.5
Actual member contributions	<b>0.2</b>	0.3
Actual benefit payments	<b>(23.5)</b>	(21.4)
<b>Fair value of scheme assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>474.5</b>	435.2

\*Actual contributions in the financial year are £15.8 million (2023: £15.4 million) based on the same member take up in the Salary Sacrifice arrangement.

\*\*An additional £1.5 million (2023: £1.5 million) recurrent contribution was made to the EUSBS in the year as part of a deficit recovery plan while the scheme is in deficit.

#### Actual return on scheme assets

	2024 £m	2023 £m
Expected return on assets	<b>23.4</b>	19.2
Actuarial gain/(loss) on assets	<b>5.9</b>	(110.5)
	<b>29.3</b>	(91.3)

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Difference between actual and expected return on scheme assets:</b>					
Amount (£m)	<b>5.9</b>	(110.5)	(86.2)	75.9	6.2
% of assets at end of year	<b>1.2%</b>	(25.4%)	(16.2%)	12.4%	1.2%
<b>Experience (losses)/gains on scheme liabilities:</b>					
Amount (£m)	<b>(18.6)</b>	140.8	222.2	(54.2)	(59.9)
% of liabilities at end of year	<b>(3.9%)</b>	32.0%	39.0%	(7.0%)	(8.4%)

## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

## 34. Financial instruments

Note(s)	2024		2023 (Restated)	
	Consolidated £m	Institution £m	Consolidated £m	Institution £m
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>240.1</b>	<b>217.7</b>	455.7	434.9
<i>Measured at fair value through profit and loss</i>				
Non-current investments	<b>955.4</b>	<b>956.2</b>	662.3	664.4
<i>Measured at amortised cost</i>				
Non-current investments	<b>14.1</b>	<b>14.1</b>	14.5	14.5
Trade and other receivables	<b>284.0</b>	<b>263.4</b>	235.1	232.1
Investments in short-term deposits	<b>139.0</b>	<b>139.0</b>	289.3	289.3
Amounts due from subsidiary companies	-	<b>8.3</b>	-	18.5
	<b>1,632.6</b>	<b>1,598.7</b>	1,656.9	1,653.7
<b>Financial liabilities</b>				
<i>Measured at amortised cost</i>				
Unsecured and concessionary loans	<b>549.0</b>	<b>549.0</b>	546.3	546.3
Trade payables	<b>42.8</b>	<b>33.0</b>	40.6	33.0
Accruals	<b>85.2</b>	<b>85.2</b>	100.6	100.6
Other creditors	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	11.9	12.0
Finance lease liabilities	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	0.3	0.3
Amounts due to subsidiary companies	-	<b>46.1</b>	-	48.2
	<b>686.3</b>	<b>722.6</b>	699.7	740.4

## Financial instruments

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost convention (modified by the revaluation of heritage assets and investments), except for certain financial assets and liabilities which are carried at fair value or amortised cost as appropriate.

Fair value measurements are, to the extent possible, based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access. Where quoted prices are not available, the University to the extent possible, uses observable market data for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. All other fair value measurements are based on unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. Further details are provided in the accounting policies.

## 35. Student support payments

	HE childcare £'000	HE discretionary £'000	HE other £'000	2024 Total £'000	2023 Total £'000
<b>Balance as at 1 August 2023</b>	-	-	7	<b>7</b>	60
Allocation received in year	152	656	17	<b>825</b>	1,285
Funds returned	-	-	(7)	<b>(7)</b>	(60)
Expenditure	(187)	(636)	(3)	<b>(826)</b>	(1,279)
Interest received	-	1	-	<b>1</b>	1
Virements	35	(21)	(14)	-	-
<b>Balance as at 31 July 2024</b>	-	-	-	<b>-</b>	7

Student support payments  
Funds returned

Unspent funds from prior year returned as per Student Awards Agency Scotland guidance.



## Notes to the financial statements (continued)

### 36. Related party transactions

	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	<b>2024 Total £'000</b>	Balance due at 31 July 2024 £'000
ABRDN PLC	15	-	<b>15</b>	15
ADVANCE HE	-	(246)	<b>(246)</b>	(3)
APUC Ltd	-	(37)	<b>(37)</b>	-
Biocaptiva Limited	11	-	<b>11</b>	-
Edinburgh International Conference Centre Ltd	-	(1,059)	<b>(1,059)</b>	-
Edinburgh International Festival Society	364	(27)	<b>337</b>	-
Edinburgh University Students Association	678	(5,139)	<b>(4,452)</b>	(1,042)
EUSACO Ltd	-	(36)	<b>(36)</b>	-
George Watsons College	9	-	<b>9</b>	-
Roslin Cell Therapies Limited	427	-	<b>427</b>	-
Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh	341	(626)	<b>(285)</b>	-
Scottish Government	5,592	(506)	<b>5,086</b>	(78)
Sunamp Limited	147	-	<b>147</b>	147
University of Dundee	511	(1,362)	<b>(851)</b>	53
	8,104	(9,038)	<b>(934)</b>	(908)

#### Court members

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

The University has taken advantage of the exemption allowed by FRS 102 not to disclose transactions between wholly owned group companies. Related party transactions with University spinout companies have not been disclosed as they are not material.

No Court member has received any remuneration for their position from the group during the year (2023: nil). As per the Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Act 2016, the Senior Lay Member is entitled to request remuneration at a level considered by the Court to be reasonable (agreed as £15,000 per annum). The Senior Lay Member has waived any remuneration and requested that the sum be instead used for in support of the Access Edinburgh Scholarship programme.

The total expenses paid to or on behalf of nine Court members was £24,287 (2023: £15,398), consisting of travel, childcare and accommodation expenses incurred in fulfilling official duties. This has increased from the previous year as more Court meetings took place as in-person meetings.

# Five-year summary (unaudited)

<b>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR TO 31 JULY</b>	<b>2024 £m</b>	2023 £m	2022 £m	2021 £m	2020 £m
<b>Income</b>					
<b>Tuition fees and education contracts</b>					
Home and EU higher education students	<b>134.3</b>	133.0	131.8	135.1	123.7
Non-EU fees	<b>363.3</b>	353.4	335.5	272.5	244.8
Education grants	<b>29.6</b>	27.3	29.7	27.4	22.1
<b>Total tuition fees</b>	<b>527.2</b>	513.7	497.0	435.0	390.6
<b>Funding body grants</b>					
Recurrent teaching grant	<b>76.2</b>	74.5	72.2	68.5	66.4
Recurrent research grant	<b>102.4</b>	104.9	90.9	89.7	87.8
Specific grants	<b>30.1</b>	31.5	35.2	78.1	36.6
<b>Total funding body grants</b>	<b>208.7</b>	210.9	198.3	236.3	190.8
<b>Research grants and contracts</b>					
Research councils	<b>153.0</b>	139.1	132.8	124.4	113.2
UK based charities	<b>70.2</b>	65.2	74.6	66.1	62.6
UK central government bodies, local and health authorities	<b>50.7</b>	61.3	46.9	64.4	52.0
UK industry, commerce and public corporations	<b>10.1</b>	6.0	9.0	7.6	6.9
EU government bodies	<b>20.6</b>	21.1	28.4	31.3	35.0
EU other	<b>9.8</b>	6.0	4.5	3.9	3.8
Other overseas	<b>46.1</b>	25.1	31.9	23.7	20.8
Other sources	<b>4.7</b>	15.7	3.5	2.6	1.8
<b>Total research grants and contracts (excluding RDEC)</b>	<b>365.2</b>	339.5	331.6	324.0	296.1
<b>Other income</b>					
Residences, catering and conferences	<b>98.3</b>	93.3	73.8	44.7	68.2
Specific grants, donations and other designated income	<b>91.5</b>	85.8	102.5	86.7	86.9
General income	<b>48.4</b>	43.1	45.7	31.7	37.3
<b>Total other income</b>	<b>238.2</b>	222.2	222.0	163.1	192.4
<b>Investment income</b>					
Endowments and other investment income	<b>21.8</b>	16.5	12.2	9.8	11.5
Other interest receivable	<b>42.6</b>	26.8	7.7	3.4	6.1
<b>Total investment income</b>	<b>64.4</b>	43.3	19.9	13.2	17.6
<b>Total income before endowments and donations</b>	<b>1,403.7</b>	1,329.6	1,268.8	1,171.6	1,087.5
<b>Donations and endowments</b>					
New endowments	<b>5.8</b>	45.8	15.3	1.5	18.1
Donations with restrictions	<b>17.5</b>	8.4	12.3	12.7	17.6
Unrestricted donations	<b>6.8</b>	0.9	1.1	1.6	2.1
<b>Total donations and endowments</b>	<b>30.1</b>	55.1	28.7	15.8	37.8
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,433.8</b>	1,384.7	1,297.5	1,187.4	1,125.3

# Five-year summary (unaudited) (continued)

<b>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR TO 31 JULY</b>	<b>2024 £m</b>	2023 £m	2022 £m	2021 £m	2020 £m
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Staff costs</b>					
Salaries	<b>561.1</b>	498.9	455.4	451.0	434.1
Social security costs	<b>61.3</b>	53.8	50.3	46.4	45.3
Pension costs	<b>133.3</b>	144.9	140.2	133.6	126.9
Movement on USS provision	<b>(352.4)</b>	(52.8)	234.2	(14.5)	(144.0)
Other unfunded pension costs	<b>(0.2)</b>	(0.1)	(0.1)	0.1	0.1
Severance costs	<b>0.4</b>	8.3	1.6	0.7	6.6
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>403.5</b>	653.0	881.6	617.3	469.0
<b>Other operating expenses</b>					
Academic and related expenditure	<b>102.9</b>	94.4	79.1	61.0	73.4
Scholarships and stipends	<b>50.2</b>	48.2	45.4	44.2	41.8
Research grants and contracts	<b>120.3</b>	102.8	108.1	94.8	97.6
Library, computer and other academic support services	<b>22.3</b>	22.6	19.4	14.7	14.3
Administration and central services	<b>27.2</b>	33.4	29.5	20.1	23.7
Refurbishment and maintenance	<b>33.4</b>	31.2	28.4	21.5	28.2
Utilities costs	<b>42.5</b>	31.5	22.7	17.2	17.6
Other premises costs	<b>17.6</b>	20.0	14.2	21.3	13.9
Other including income generating operations	<b>58.9</b>	23.6	24.3	22.6	11.5
Residences and catering operations	<b>64.9</b>	54.0	45.0	38.7	40.6
<b>Total other operating expenses</b>	<b>540.2</b>	461.7	416.1	356.1	362.6
Depreciation and amortisation	<b>91.0</b>	85.4	61.2	63.0	60.9
Impairment of fixed assets	<b>-</b>	-	8.4	4.2	17.8
Interest and other finance costs	<b>21.6</b>	27.4	21.7	19.4	23.4
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>1,056.3</b>	1,227.5	1,389.0	1,060.0	933.7
Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	<b>377.5</b>	157.2	(91.5)	127.4	191.6
Tax and minority interest	<b>(0.8)</b>	-	-	(0.5)	(0.4)
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	<b>-</b>	0.1	-	7.0	0.5
Gain/(loss) on investments	<b>29.0</b>	(5.8)	(8.6)	80.6	11.5
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	<b>405.7</b>	151.5	(100.1)	214.5	203.2
Unrealised surplus/(deficit) on revaluation of heritage assets	<b>-</b>	-	-	0.2	(0.4)
Actuarial (loss)/gain in respect of pension schemes	<b>(12.9)</b>	30.2	136.6	21.6	(53.1)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>392.8</b>	181.7	36.5	236.3	149.7

## Five-year summary (unaudited) (continued)

<b>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 JULY</b>	<b>2024 £m</b>	2023 £m	2022 £m	2021 £m	2020 £m
Fixed assets	<b>2,177.7</b>	2,083.7	2,005.8	1,920.8	1,849.7
Heritage assets	<b>217.5</b>	216.8	215.8	215.3	214.7
	<b>2,395.2</b>	2,300.5	2,221.6	2,136.1	2,064.4
Investments	<b>969.5</b>	676.8	728.5	716.2	565.6
Current assets	<b>686.6</b>	1,001.0	900.3	892.6	877.6
Total assets	<b>4,051.3</b>	3,978.3	3,850.4	3,744.9	3,507.6
Less current liabilities	<b>(448.8)</b>	(430.1)	(398.3)	(392.3)	(353.6)
Total assets less current liabilities	<b>3,602.5</b>	3,548.2	3,452.1	3,352.6	3,154.0
Non-current liabilities	<b>(538.2)</b>	(536.0)	(546.9)	(589.4)	(598.2)
Pension provisions	<b>(12.1)</b>	(352.8)	(427.5)	(321.8)	(350.4)
Other provisions	<b>(0.6)</b>	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.8)	(1.1)
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>3,051.6</b>	2,658.8	2,477.1	2,440.6	2,204.3
<b>Represented by:</b>					
Restricted reserves	<b>679.3</b>	622.9	608.5	615.3	542.5
Unrestricted reserves	<b>2,372.3</b>	2,035.9	1,868.6	1,825.3	1,661.8
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>3,051.6</b>	2,658.8	2,477.1	2,440.6	2,204.3



## Five-year summary (unaudited) (continued)

		2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Liquidity measures</b>						
Liquidity ratio ([current assets - stock] / current liabilities)	x	<b>1.5</b>	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.5
<i>Extent to which current liabilities can be met from cash and liquid investments</i>						
Days ratio of cash to total expenditure (investments + cash at bank - overdraft) / (total expenditure - depreciation)*365	Days	<b>143</b>	238	182	269	291
<i>The number of days expenditure that could be sustained from available funds</i>						
<b>Solvency measures</b>						
Interest cover (earnings before interest and tax / interest payable) <sup>1</sup>	x	<b>18.9</b>	6.7	(3.2)	7.8	9.9
<i>Measures the ability to pay interest on outstanding debt</i>						
Interest cover (operating cash flow / interest payable)	x	<b>-0.9</b>	2.3	6.2	8.2	1.8
<i>Measures how easily the University can pay outstanding debt in cash terms</i>						
Gearing (creditors>1 year / [endowment + general reserves including pension reserve])	%	<b>20%</b>	22%	25%	27%	31%
<i>Measures the extent to which the University is funded by long-term debt</i>						
<b>Operating performance</b>						
Surplus before other gains and losses <sup>1</sup>	%	<b>26.3%</b>	11.4%	(7.1%)	10.7%	17.0%
<i>Measures the ability to deliver surpluses</i>						
ROCE (EBITDA/[total assets - pension provisions])	%	<b>2.7%</b>	4.9%	5.8%	3.7%	3.0%
<i>Measures the return that is being earned on capital invested</i>						
EBITDA for HE (FRS 102 surplus/(deficit) before other gains/losses + interest payable + depreciation + change to pension provisions within staff costs - capital grants received - new permanent endowments)	£m	<b>84</b>	148	168	102	77
<i>Measures operating performance before local decisions on accounting and finance policies are taken into account</i>						

1. Includes impact of exceptional staff costs (non-cash) relating to movement on USS pension provision in each year.

# Five-year summary (unaudited) (continued)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR TO 31 JULY	2024 % total	2023 % total	2023 % total	2021 % total	2020 % total
<b>Income</b>					
<b>Tuition fees and education contracts</b>					
Home and EU higher education students	9.4%	9.6%	10.2%	11.4%	11.0%
Non-EU fees	25.3%	25.5%	25.8%	22.9%	21.9%
Education grants	2.1%	2.0%	2.3%	2.3%	1.9%
<b>Tuition fees as % of total income</b>	<b>36.8%</b>	37.1%	38.3%	36.6%	34.8%
<b>Funding body grants</b>					
Recurrent teaching grant	5.3%	5.4%	5.6%	5.8%	5.9%
Recurrent research grant	7.1%	7.5%	7.0%	7.6%	7.8%
Specific grants	2.1%	2.3%	2.7%	6.6%	3.3%
<b>Funding body grants as % of total income</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	15.2%	15.3%	19.9%	17.0%
<b>Research grants and contracts</b>					
Research councils	10.7%	10.1%	10.2%	10.5%	10.1%
UK based charities	4.9%	4.8%	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%
UK central government bodies, local and health authorities	3.5%	4.4%	3.6%	5.4%	4.6%
UK industry, commerce and public corporations	0.7%	0.4%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%
EU government bodies	1.4%	1.5%	2.2%	2.6%	3.1%
EU other	0.7%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Other overseas	3.2%	1.8%	2.4%	2.0%	1.8%
Other sources	0.3%	1.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
<b>Research grants and contracts as % of total income</b>	<b>25.4%</b>	24.5%	25.6%	27.3%	26.3%
<b>Other income</b>					
Residences, catering and conferences	6.9%	6.7%	5.7%	3.8%	6.1%
Specific grants, donations and other designated income	6.4%	6.2%	7.9%	7.3%	7.7%
General income	3.4%	3.1%	3.5%	2.7%	3.2%
<b>Other income as % of total income</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	16.0%	17.1%	13.7%	17.0%
<b>Investment income</b>					
Endowments and other investment income	1.5%	1.2%	0.9%	0.8%	1.1%
Other interest receivable	3.0%	1.9%	0.6%	0.3%	0.5%
<b>Total investment income as % of total income</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	3.1%	1.5%	1.1%	1.6%
<b>Total income before endowments and donations as % of total income</b>	<b>97.9%</b>	96.0%	97.8%	98.7%	96.7%
<b>Donations and endowments</b>					
New endowments	0.4%	3.3%	1.2%	0.1%	1.5%
Donations with restrictions	1.2%	0.6%	0.9%	1.1%	1.6%
Unrestricted donations	0.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
<b>Total donations and endowments as % of total income</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	4.0%	2.2%	1.3%	3.3%
<b>Total income £m</b>	<b>1,433.8</b>	1,384.7	1,297.5	1,187.4	1,125.3

# Five-year summary (unaudited) (continued)

<b>CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR TO 31 JULY</b>	<b>2024 % total</b>	2023 % total	2022 % total	2021 % total	2020 % total
<b>Expenditure (1)</b>					
<b>Staff costs</b>					
Salaries	<b>53.2%</b>	40.6%	32.8%	42.6%	46.5%
Social security costs	<b>5.8%</b>	4.4%	3.6%	4.4%	4.9%
Pension costs	<b>12.6%</b>	11.8%	10.1%	12.6%	13.6%
Movement on USS provision	<b>(33.4%)</b>	(4.3%)	16.9%	(1.4%)	(15.4%)
Other unfunded pension costs	-	-	-	-	-
Severance costs	-	0.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.7%
<b>Staff costs as % of total expenditure</b>	<b>38.2%</b>	53.2%	63.5%	58.2%	50.3%
<b>Other operating expenses</b>					
Academic and related expenditure	<b>9.7%</b>	7.7%	5.7%	5.7%	7.9%
Scholarships and stipends	<b>4.8%</b>	3.9%	3.3%	4.2%	4.5%
Research grants and contracts	<b>11.4%</b>	8.5%	7.8%	8.9%	10.5%
Library, computer and other academic support services	<b>2.1%</b>	1.8%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%
Administration and central services	<b>2.6%</b>	2.7%	2.1%	1.9%	2.5%
Refurbishment and maintenance	<b>3.2%</b>	2.5%	2.0%	2.0%	3.0%
Utilities costs	<b>4.0%</b>	2.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.9%
Other premises costs	<b>1.7%</b>	1.6%	1.0%	2.0%	1.5%
Other including income generating operations	<b>5.6%</b>	1.9%	1.8%	2.1%	1.2%
Residences and catering operations	<b>6.1%</b>	4.4%	3.3%	3.7%	4.3%
<b>Other operating expenses as % of total expenditure</b>	<b>51.2%</b>	37.6%	30.0%	33.6%	38.8%
Depreciation as % of total expenditure	<b>8.6%</b>	7.0%	4.4%	6.0%	6.5%
Impairment of fixed assets as % of total expenditure	-	-	0.6%	0.4%	1.9%
Interest payable as % of total expenditure	<b>2.0%</b>	2.2%	1.6%	1.8%	2.5%
<b>Total expenditure £m</b>	<b>1,056.3</b>	1,227.5	1,389.0	1,060.0	933.7
<b>Expenditure as % of total income</b>	<b>73.7%</b>	88.6%	107.1%	89.3%	83.0%

1. Includes impact of exceptional staff costs (non-cash) relating to movement on USS pension provision in each year.

# Notes



This publication is available online  
at **[www.ed.ac.uk/finance/accounts](http://www.ed.ac.uk/finance/accounts)**  
It can also be made available in  
alternative formats on request.

**The University of Edinburgh**

Communications and Marketing  
C Floor, Forrest Hill Building,  
5 Forrest Hill, Edinburgh EH1 2QL  
T: +44 (0)131 650 2252  
F: +44 (0)131 650 2253  
E: [communications.office@ed.ac.uk](mailto:communications.office@ed.ac.uk)

**[www.ed.ac.uk](http://www.ed.ac.uk)**

Published by:  
The University of Edinburgh

Printed by:  
The University of Edinburgh Printing Services

Photography:  
All photos and images used in this publication  
are protected by copyright and may not be  
reproduced without permission. No part of  
this publication may be reproduced without  
the written permission of the University  
of Edinburgh.

© The University of Edinburgh 2024

Thank you to all staff and students who helped  
in the production of this publication.

The University of Edinburgh is a charitable  
body registered in Scotland, with  
registration number SC005336.