

DOWNING COLLEGE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

England & Wales · Charity number 1137455

Details

Other names DOWNING COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2010-08-12

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address The Master's Lodge
Downing College
Cambridge
CB2 1DQ

Phone 01223 334800

Email college-office@dow.cam.ac.uk

Website www.dow.cam.ac.uk

Activities

Objects: ONE PERPETUAL COLLEGE FOR STUDENTS IN LAW, PHYSIC, AND OTHER USEFUL ARTS AND LEARNING.

Activities: TO FURTHER PUBLIC GOOD BY PROMOTING LEARNING, STUDY AND TEACHING IN A COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** CAMBRIDGESHIRE
- Cambridgeshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£24,130,244	£21,087,538	£248,770,287	214
2024-06-30	£17,258,997	£18,219,353	£243,073,794	220
2023-06-30	£15,266,352	£17,947,805	£223,973,916	204
2022-06-30	£14,055,784	£15,615,349	£226,492,842	180
2021-06-30	£10,908,484	£12,370,824	£225,605,800	164

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PROF GRAHAM JOHN VIRGO	Chair	
DR DINO KADICH		2024-10-04
DR RACHEL COOMBES		2023-10-02
DR REBECCA FREUND		2023-10-02
DR SARAH KENNEDY		2013-10-04
Dr ALICE SOWTON		2023-10-02
Dr BRENDAN PLANT		2014-10-01
Dr BRIGITTE STEGER		
Dr Bonnie Claire Lander Johnson		2022-10-01
Dr Charlotte Christiane Hammer		2025-02-05
Dr DAVID ROBERT PRATT		
Dr David Solomon Halpern CBE		2025-10-03
Dr EWAN JONES		2015-10-01
Dr Emma Louise Hazelwood		2025-10-03
Dr Francesco Muschitiello		2022-10-01
Dr Frisbee Sheffield		2019-10-01
Dr Hamish Anthony Symington		2025-07-03
Dr JIE LI		
Dr John William Roger Morgan		2021-10-01
Dr KAMRAN YUNUS		2013-02-14
Dr MARTA MORGADO CORREIA		
Dr Maria Elena Martinez-Acacio Alonso		2025-01-31
Dr Maria Vera Morales		2022-10-01
Dr Maria-Andreea Filip		2026-03-20
Dr Michael Crisp		2017-01-01
Dr NATALIA MORA-SITJA		
Dr Neda Farahi		2020-10-01

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr SOPHIA DEMOULINI		
Dr STEFANIA FIORENTINO		2023-10-02
Dr TIM BURTON		2011-04-12
Dr YANG LI		2024-10-04
Giulia Maltagliati		2024-05-03
James Christopher McCaffrey		2025-07-03
Joanne Finnie Jones		2018-05-11
Michael Ashby		2020-10-01
PROF AMY LOUISE MILTON		
PROF CHRISTOPHER ALLIM HANIFF		
PROF DAVID JOHN WALES		
PROF IAN GARETH ROBERTS		
PROF JOSEPH WEBSTER		2019-10-01
PROF MICHAEL TREVOR BRAVO		
PROF MONICA MORENO FIGUEROA		2014-10-01
PROF NICK RAWLINSON		2017-10-01
PROF WILLIAM O'NEILL		
PROF ZOE HELEN BARBER		
PROFESSOR ALISON DEIRDRE JANE SCADDEN		2024-10-04
PROFESSOR EMMA FRANCIS INGLIS LEES		2024-10-04
Prof GUY BARNETT WILLIAMS		
Prof Nicholas Coleman		
Prof ZOE KOURTZI		2017-10-01
Professor Helen Jane Scott		2022-10-01
Professor ROBERT HARLE		
Richard Justin Davies		2020-12-01
Robert Todd Beardwell		2022-03-11

Name	Role	Appointed
Simon Brockington		2024-11-04
THE REVD DR KEITH EYEONS		
William Andrew Day		2020-10-01

Linked charities

- THE JOHN MILLER SCHOLARSHIPS (1137455-1)

Accounts



ANNUAL
REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS

for the financial year ending 30 June 2025

DOWNING COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

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DOWNING COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE CB2 1DQ

Visitor: The Crown

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Master: Graham John Virgo MA BCL (Oxon) KC (Hon), University Professor of English Private Law,
University Deputy Vice-Chancellor

The Fellows of the College (in order of Election) as of 1 October 2025

David John Wales MA PhD ScD FRS FRSC, Fellow in Chemistry, University Professor of Chemical Physics (1989)
Christopher Allim Haniff MA PhD, Fellow in Physics, University Professor of Physics (1993)
Nicholas Coleman BSc MB ChB (Bristol) PhD FRCPATH FMed Sci, Verjee Fellow in Medicine,
University Professor of Molecular Pathology (1994)
Zoe Helen Barber MA PhD, *Vice-Master*, Fellow in Materials Science and Metallurgy,
University Professor of Materials Science (2000)
Sophia Demoulini BA (Wooster) MSc (Minnesota) PhD (Minnesota), Fellow in Pure Mathematics,
College Associate Professor (2000)
Ian Gareth Roberts BA (Wales, Bangor) MA (Salford) PhD (Southern California) LittD FBA, Fellow in Linguistics,
University Professor of Linguistics (2000)
Michael Trevor Bravo BEng (Carleton) MPhil PhD, Brammer Fellow in Geography,
University Professor at the Scott Polar Research Institute (2001)
David Robert Pratt MA PhD FRHistS, *Fellow Archivist, Keeper of Art and Artefacts*, Fellow in History,
College Teaching Officer (2001)
Guy Barnett Williams MA PhD, *Senior Tutor, Safeguarding Officer*, Darley Fellow in Clinical Neurosciences,
University Professor of Imaging Science, Assistant Director of Information Processing at the Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (2004)
Natalia Mora-Sitja BSc (Barcelona) MA (Barcelona) MSc (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), *Tutor*, Fellow in History, University Associate
Professor in Economic History (2005)
William O'Neill BSc (Essex) MSc (Essex) PhD (Imperial) FEng, *Tutor*, Stephen Peel Fellow in Engineering,
Professor of Laser Engineering (2006)
Amy Louise Milton MA PhD, Ferreras Willetts Fellow in Neuroscience, *Praelector*,
University Professor of Behavioural Neuroscience (2007)
Brigitte Steger MA MPhil (Vienna) PhD (Vienna), Fellow in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies,
University Associate Professor in Modern Japanese Studies (2007)
Jie Li BS (Wuhan) MS (Paris) PhD (Paris), Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Fluid Dynamics (2009)
Keith James Eyeons MA MA (Nottingham) PhD, *Chaplain and Dean of Chapel, Secretary to the Governing Body*,
SCR President, Fellow in Theology (2010)
Robert Keith Harle MA PhD, *Dean*, Fellow in Computer Science, University Professor in Computer Science (2010)
Timothy James Burton MA MB BChir PhD FRCP, *Tutor*, Oon Fellow in Clinical Medicine,
Clinical Lecturer in Translational Medicine and Therapeutics (2010)
Marta Morgado Correia BA (Lisbon) PhD, *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Biological Sciences,
Professor and Head of MRI Facility at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (2010)
Kamran Yunus BSc (Bath) MA PhD (Bath), *Director of Admissions, Tutor*, Fellow in Chemical Engineering,
University Associate Teaching Professor (2012)
Sarah Lilian Kennedy BA (Melbourne) LLB (Melbourne) PhD, *Senior Treasurer of the Downing Dramatic Society*,
RJ Owens Fellow in English, College Associate Professor (2013)
Monica Moreno Figueroa BA (UIA Leon) MA (London), MA, PhD (London), Fellow in Social Sciences,
University Professor in Sociology (2014)
Brendan Plant BEc (Sydney) LLB (Sydney) MSc (LSE) PhD, Hopkins Parry Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2014)
Ewan James Jones BA MPhil PhD, *Graduate Tutor, Fellow Librarian*, Fellow in English,
University Associate Professor in Nineteenth-Century Literature (2015)
Michael Crisp MEng PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Photonics and RF Systems (2017)
Nicholas Rawlinson BSc (Monash), MA, PhD (Monash) *Fellows' Steward*, Fellow in Earth Sciences,
BP Foundation McKenzie Professor of Earth Sciences (2017)

Zoe Kourtzi BSc (Crete) MA (Rutgers), MA, PhD (Rutgers) Angharad Dodds John Fellow in Cognitive Neuroscience, Professor of Experimental Psychology (2017)

Joanne Claire Finnie Jones MA (Aberdeen), *Development Director* (2018)

Frisbee CC Sheffield BA (Bristol) MPhil DPhil (Oxon), Octavius Augustus Glasier Collins Fellow in Classics, University Associate Professor in Classics (2019)

Joseph Webster MA (Edinburgh) MSc (Edinburgh) PhD (Edinburgh), *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Anthropology, University Professor of the Anthropology of Religion (2019)

Michael Ashby MA MPhil PhD, *Deputy Director of Admissions*, *Senior Treasurer of the Amalgamation Club*, Williams Downing Fellow in Economics, College Associate Professor (2020)

Neda Farahi BSc (Edinburgh) PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Natural Sciences and Medical and Veterinary Sciences, College Associate Professor (2020)

William Day BA (Durham) MA BCL (Oxon), Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2020)

Richard Justin Davies MA MB MChir LRCP (London) FRCS, Fellow in Clinical Medicine, University Affiliated Associate Professor (2020)

John William Roger Morgan MSci MA PhD, *Tutor*, *Praelector*, *Archive Auditor*, *Silver Auditor*, Fellow in Chemistry, College Associate Professor, University Assistant Professor (2021)

Robert Todd Beardwell BSc (Sheffield), MA, *Junior Bursar*, *Acting Fellow Librarian* (2022)

Francesco Muschitiello BSc (Venice) MSc (Perugia) PhD (Stockholm), Arnell Fellow in Climate Repair, University Associate Professor, Fellow in Geography (2022)

Helen Scott BA (Cape Town) LLB (Cape Town) BCL (Oxon) MPhil (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Law, Regius Professor of Civil Law (2022)

Maria Vera-Morales BEng (Carlos III de Madrid) VK Diploma (Von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics) PhD, Fellow in Engineering, CDT Senior Fellow in Future Propulsion and Power (2022)

Bonnie Claire Lander Johnson BA (Sydney) MA (Melbourne) DPhil (Oxon), *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in English, College Associate Professor (2022)

Stefania Fiorentino MSc (ENSA Paris) BEng (Rome) MEng (Rome) PhD (UCL), Fellow in Land Economy, University Associate Teaching Professor (2023)

Rebecca Freund BA (Cape Town) LLB (Cape Town) LLM, *Senior Treasurer of the Boat Club*, Parry-Anderson Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2023)

Rachel Coombes BA (Oxon) MA (Birmingham) DPhil (Oxon), *Keeper of the Gallery*, Graham Robertson Research Fellow (2023)

Alice Sowton MA MRes PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Natural Sciences (Biological), University Research Associate (2023)

Juliana Santos De Carvalho LLB (Rio Grande do Norte) LLM (Vrije) PhD (IHEID), Fellow in Gender Studies (2024)

Giulia Maltagliati BA (Pisa) MA (Pisa) PhD (London), *Archive Auditor*, Fellow in Classics, College Associate Professor (2024)

Emma Francis Inglis Lees BA (Oxon) LLM (Dundee) PhD (Cantab), Fellow in Land and Property Law, University Professor of Environmental and Property Law (2024)

Dino Kadich BA (Arizona) MPhil (Cantab) PhD (Cantab), Whitworth Research Fellow (2024)

Alison Deirdre Jane Scadden BSc (Otago) PhD (Cantab), Fellow in Natural Sciences (Biological), University Professor of RNA Biology (2024)

Yang Li BA (Cantab) MMath PhD (Imperial), Fellow in Mathematics (2024)

Simon Brockington PG Dip MBA PhD, *Senior Bursar* (2024)

Elena Martínez-Acacio BA (Alicante) MA (Alicante) PhD (Alicante), Fellow in Spanish and Portuguese (2025)

Charlotte Christiane Hammer BA (Bonn) MA (Durham) MPH (Manchester) MSc (Berlin) PhD, *Silver Auditor*, Fellow in Natural Sciences (2025)

James Christopher McCaffrey BA (Oxon) BM BCh (Oxon) PhD (Manchester), Fellow in Medical Sciences, University Assistant Research Professor (2025)

Hamish Symington MA PhD, Head of Academic Skills (2025)

Emma Hazelwood BSc (Sheffield) MSc (Manchester) PhD (Bristol), Everitt Butterfield Research Fellow (2025)

David Halpern BA PhD CBE, Director of the Downing Battcock Institute (2025)

Retirements and Resignations 1 July 2024–30 September 2025

Gavin John Flynn MA (Oxon), MA, MBA (INSEAD) MSc (LSE), Fellow and Senior Bursar. Resigned 31 December 2024.

Hugh Burton BA MSci MA PhD, Kim and Juliana Silverman Fellow. Resigned 31 December 2024.

Nathan Rhys James MDc PhD, Mays Wild Research Fellow in Biological Sciences. Resigned 3 February 2025.

Dmitrij Szamozvancev BA MEng, Fellow in Computer Science and Technology, College Associate Professor. Resigned 30 September 2025.

OTHER FELLOWS

The Honorary Fellows

Giles Skey Brindley MA MD FRS
Dame Janet Abbott Baker CH DBE
Sir Trevor Robert Nunn BA CBE
Martin John Kemp MA FBA
Richard John Bowring MA PhD LittD
Professor David Stanley Ingram OBE VMH ScD FRSE
FLS FRSE
Sir Quentin Saxby Blake MA CBE FCSD FRSL RDI FRA
The Rt Hon Lord Collins of Mapesbury LLD FBA
Sir David Anthony King ScD HonFREng FRS
The Rt Rev'd Nicholas Thomas Wright MA DPhil DD
Sir John Pendry MA PhD FInstP FRS
Sir William Brian Vickers PhD DLitt FBA
Aitzaz Ahsan MA Barrister at Law
Professor John Lawrence Cardy MA PhD FRS
Howard Eric Jacobson MA
The Rt Hon Sir Kim Martin Jordan Lewison MA
Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach BA MPhil GBE KCB
ADC DL
The Rt Hon Lord Lloyd-Jones MA LLB
The Rt Hon Sir Richard George Bramwell McCombe MA
Professor Barry John Everitt BSc MA PhD ScD DSc
FRS FMedSci
Martin Baker MA FRCO
Stephen Chambers MA RA
Caroline Elizabeth Wilson MA MA CMG DBE
Professor Geoffrey Grimmett MA DPhil DSc ScD FRS
Keith Ajegbo BA MA OBE
Martin Maiden MA MPhil PhD FBA
Ritchie Neil Ninian Robertson MA DPhil FBA
Victoria Susan Brignell MA
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Colin Birss BA KC
Farmida Bi MA CBE
Richard Snowden BA LLM
Alan Peter Bookbinder BA MA MA
Edward Bullmore MB PhD FRCP FRCPsych FMedSci FRS
Emily Greenwood BA MA MPhil PhD
Ai Weiwei
Rachel O'Reilly MA PhD FRSC CChem CSci
David William Kinloch Anderson KBE KC
Michael Lean MA MB BChir MD (Cambridge)
FRCP (Edinburgh) FRCPs (Glasgow) FRSE

Dharshini David MA OBE
Andrew Popplewell MA KC
Ravindra Gupta MA MPH BM BCH PhD FRCP FRCPATH
Nigel Clifford FRGS FRSA FRICS

The Emeritus Fellows

Ian Bonar Topping MA
Robert John Richards MA PhD
Charles Harpum MA LLB LLD
Philip Huson Rubery MA PhD ScD
Margery Ann Barrand BSc PhD
Richard Michael Smith BA MA PhD FBA
Stafford Withington BEng PhD
Peter James Duffett-Smith MA PhD
Peter David Evans MA PhD ScD
Paul Frederick Linden BSc MSc PhD FRS
Richard Keith Taplin BSc MA MBE
John Stuart Landreth McCombie MA MA) PhD
Trevor William Robbins CBE MA PhD FRS
Kenneth McNamara BSc PhD
David John Feldman MA DCL PhD FBA FRSA
Trevor William Clyne MA PhD FREng
Paul Christopher Millett MA PhD, MCR Liaison Fellow
William Mark Adams MA MSc PhD
Catherine Lynette Phillips BA MA PhD
Susan Elizabeth Lintott MA PhD
John Stuart Richer MA PhD
Ian Richard James MA MA PhD
Liping Xu, BSc PhD

Foundation Fellows

Humphrey William Battcock MA MBA CBE
Tadayoshi Tazaki MA
Alwyn Wai-Yin Heong MA BA BM BCh MBA
Kim Silverman MA PhD
Jonathan Howard MA
Julie Lambert BSc
James Simon Edward Arnell MA
Louise Arnell BA MA (Open) MA (Sussex)
Hiromi Tazaki

The Wilkins Fellows

Richard Alexander Frischmann MA
Christian Flemming Heilmann MA
The Lord Verjee MA CBE
Richard Anthony Williams MA
Christopher John Bartram MA FRICS
Maria Ferreras Willetts MA
Robert John MA DLitt
Robert Markwick MA MBA (Manchester)
Stephen Mark Peel MA MAS (Yale)
Christopher Harborne MA MEng MBA
Gifford Combs AB (Harvard) MPhil
Philippa Dodds John MBE
Andrew Phillips PhD MBA

The Fellow Commoners

David Chambers BA (Oxon) MSc (LBS) MSc (LSE)
PhD (LSE)
Timothy Rawle MA
Gabrielle Bennett BA (Virginia) MA
Penny Furniss MA
Paul Jarvis MA
Sarah Pickard BA
Azubueze Adogu Elizabeth Ulanova BA MPhil MLA

Bye-Fellows

Oliver Antczak BA MPhil PhD
Jennifer Ashworth BA MA
W Bagnieswski BSc MSc PhD
Breeze Barrington BA MA PhD
Stephen Bennett BEd
Richard Berengarten MA
Parul Bhandari BA MA MPhil PhD
Jan-Moritz Bogdanovic MA
Matthew Carter BA MA MB BChir
Samuel P Charlwood BA MEng MA
Alec Philip Christie BSc PhD
Adrian Chung BSc) MSc MPhil
Andrew Cockburn MSci PhD
Kate Daniels BA MA PhD

Charlotte Davis BA MA PhD
Elizabeth Deans BA MA PhD
Louisa Denby MA MMus Director of Music
Michalina Drejza MSc PhD
Alistair Dunham BA MPhil PhD
Kyriakos Flouris BA MSc PhD
Stuart Eves Vet MB MRCVS
Jianfeng Ge BSc MSc PhD
Silvia Gonzáles Jové BA PGCE MA
David Hill BSc CEng FBCS CITP
Andrew Hopkins BSc DPhil LLD FRS FMedSci FRSE
FLSW FRSB
Farah Jassat BA MPhil
Vicky Jones MA MB BChir MRCS
Erina Kirisawa BEd MA MA PhD
Patricia Laurenson PhD
Yongcan Liu BA MA MPhil PhD
Deepti Marchment BA MA MChir
Katie McCallum BVMS RCVS
Aram Mooradian AADipl PGDip ARCH ARB
Yelda Nasifoglu March MSc PhD
Mahlagua (Mila) Noor BSc PhD
Yeong Seo Park BA MPhil PhD
Marsha Pearce BA PhD
Mykhailo Pivnenko MSc PhD
Edward Pyzer-Knapp MChem PhD
Miruna Rapeanu BA MEng MRes PhD
Matthew Russell BA PhD
Andrew Sackin-Poll BA MPhil MPhil PhD
Marcel John Francis Satchell BA PhD
William Schafer PhD FMedSci FRS
Nanase Shirota MSc PhD
Neal Spencer BA PhD
Harry Spillane BA MPhil PhD
Victoria Steward-Jolley LLB LLM MSt PhD
Dmitrij Szamozvancev BA MEng
Gareth Taylor BA MA PhD
Thomas Towers BA VetMB MSc
Jenifer Varzaly LLM MSt PhD
Mark Vivian MSci MB BS FRCA
Louise Mary Wells MSci PhD
Xin-She Yang MSc DPhil
Katharina Zühlsdorff PhD

OFFICERS AND PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Master: Graham John Virgo MA BCL (Oxon) KC (Hon)
Senior Tutor: Dr Guy Williams MA, PhD
Senior Bursar: Dr Simon Brockington MBA PG Dip PhD

Actuaries

Cartwright Consulting Ltd
Mill Pool House
Mill Lane
Godalming GU7 1EY

Architects

CMP Architects
2 Denny Lodge Business Park
Ely Road
Chittering CB25 9PH

Multi-disciplinary Construction Consultants

Robert Lombardelli Partnership
St Luke's House
5 Walsworth Road
Hitchin
Hertfordshire SG4 9SP

Property Development

MPM Properties
3 Station Court
Station Road
Great Shelford
Cambridge CB22 5NE

Auditors

PEM Audit Ltd
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge CB1 2LA

Bankers

Barclays Bank
9–11 St Andrew's Street
Cambridge CB2 3AA

Health & Safety

Eastern Builders Safety Group
The Officers Mess
Royston Road
Duxford
Cambridge CB22 4QH

Property Managers

Carter Jonas LLP
6–8 Hills Road
Cambridge CB2 1NH

Property Valuers

BNP Paribas
SUITE 1022, First Floor
A1 Cambridge Square
Milton Avenue
Cambridge CB4 0AE

Securities Managers

Partners Capital LLP
5 Young Street
London W8 5EH

Tax

JTK Associates LLP
27 Rio Drive Collingham
Newark
Nottinghamshire NG23 7NB

Solicitors

HCR Hewitsons
50–60 Station Road
Cambridge CB1 2JH

Inland Revenue Charity No: X2938
Charity Registration No: 1137455

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY

This Report provides the context within which to interpret the Accounts. The first section explains the College's charitable objective, its governance, its public benefit, and the way it is funded. The second section reviews the specific activities and achievements of the year to 30 June 2025 and developments since the year end.

Charitable Objective

Downing is a self-governing, autonomous College within the University of Cambridge. Our charitable objective is to further the public good by promoting learning, study, and teaching in a community of Fellows, students, and staff. We believe in the transformative power of a world-class education.

September 2025 saw the 225th anniversary of the foundation of the College in 1800. The College takes its name from Sir George Downing, 3rd Baronet, who bequeathed his fortune to establish a new college in Cambridge. It is the 17th oldest of the University's 31 colleges, the 'newest of the old and the oldest of the new'. The College was founded with an emphasis on law and medicine, but its teaching spans the full range of subjects studied within the University.

With 225 years of history, set amidst 20 acres of magnificent grounds in the heart of the city, the College is a community of committed scholars and students, current and future leaders in their fields.

Governance, Structure and Management

The College is a lay eleemosynary corporation established by Royal Charter. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 12 August 2010 (Registered Number: 1137455) following the removal of the exempt status of the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge on 1 June 2010. The arrangements for governance of the College are set out in the Statutes.

The trustees of the College are the Master and Fellows elected under Statute X who constitute the Governing Body. They are responsible for ensuring that the College meets its charitable objective to promote learning, study, and teaching. Because the College is responsible for admitting undergraduate students, directing their studies, arranging their supervisions, providing pastoral support for both undergraduates and postgraduates and providing a wider educational experience for all students, the Governing Body focuses much of its attention on the students' academic experience, engagement and welfare, as well as overseeing the College's finances and premises.

Members of the Governing Body are trustees of the College and are required to act with integrity in the College's interests without regard to their own private interests and to manage the affairs of the College prudently, balancing long-term and short-term considerations. They are chosen, after interview, on the basis of excellence in their teaching and research, their commitment to providing direction of studies and supervisions across the subjects offered by the University and their willingness to take a full part in the life of the College. Some Fellows take on additional roles as Tutors, advising students on pastoral matters. They serve until the earlier of retirement or the end of the academic year in which they reach 69 years of age. New Fellows are trained in the fulfilment of their duties as trustees.

The Master chairs the Governing Body and is responsible for the strategic direction of the College; the Senior Tutor has overall responsibility for the admission, education, and welfare of students; and the Senior Bursar has overall responsibility for the finances, the estate, and the administration of the College. The Master, the Senior Tutor, and the Senior Bursar are accountable to the Governing Body.



The Governing Body meets nine times per year and discharges its responsibilities through a network of standing committees dealing with: Education; Fellowships, Finance; Buildings and Environment; Development; Investments; Information Management; HR; General Purposes; and the International Programme. Representatives of the JCR and the MCR participate in these committees, with the exception of the Fellowships, HR, and International Programme committees. Sub-committees deal with: Health and Safety; Equality and Inclusion; the Heong Gallery; Student Facilities and Societies; and Staff Consultation. A Remuneration Committee, consisting of five external members, decides on the remuneration of current and former members of the Governing Body. During periods of intense fundraising, a Campaign Board, including external members, acts as a steering group. The College has established a new Audit and Risk Committee, which met for the first time in November 2024.

Although the College is a legally autonomous body, it operates within the federal structure of the University of Cambridge. Matters of common concern are discussed and acted on through a system of University-wide committees, such as the Colleges' Committee, of which all Heads of House are members, the Senior Tutors' Committee, and the Bursars' Committee. These committees work through the building of consensus.

Public Benefit

The Governing Body has complied with its duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

In order to meet our charitable objective of furthering the public good by promoting learning, study, and teaching in a community of Fellows, students, and staff, we seek to provide a world-class education to the students with the most potential in each subject, whatever their means, social background, or nationality. We aim to attract the best applicants from the broadest range of schools and colleges, actively supporting the University's widening participation targets, as agreed with the Office for Students.

Downing students have access to several sources of financial support in case of hardship, in the form of bursaries, including rent bursaries, as well as those for the purchase of books and equipment, attendance at conferences, travel, and studentships. For students from low-income families, the Cambridge Bursary Scheme provides grants of up to £3,500 per year, tapering down to £100 for those with household incomes of £62,215.

As part of the collegiate University, Downing is committed to meeting the targets within the Access and Participation Plan. The latest iteration of this agreement with the Office for Students continues to focus on ensuring access for those with educational disadvantage. This year we have developed a partnership with the Colyton Foundation to extend our reach in our target outreach area in the South-West.

College Funding

The College funds its activities from academic fees (approx. 22% of income), charges for student residences and catering, income from its conference and functions business and the International Programme, its investments, and from donations and bequests.

Since 2012-13, the undergraduate tuition fee has been paid either by the students themselves or through the Student Loan Company. The College collects these fees and passes half of their value to the University. The College admits, matriculates, and accommodates undergraduates, provides supervisions for them, takes responsibility for their pastoral care and presents them for degrees. The University provides lectures and laboratories and examines and classifies students. The portion of the tuition fee that goes to the College only partly covers the real costs of offering the distinctive small-group teaching that Cambridge provides. The shortfall must be made up by other sources of income.

Since 2014-15, the fee due from postgraduates is a proportion of a single fee charged by the University. The fee is calculated according to a complex formula that assigns weightings to different categories of postgraduate student.

Students living in College accommodation pay rent and, if they wish, buy food and drink from College outlets. This stream of income typically amounts to 26% of the total.

Through its subsidiary, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited, the College has built a substantial commercial business, which consists of conferences, corporate functions, and the International Programme. In 2024-25, income from conferencing and the International Programme amounted to 22% of the College's total income.

Donations and legacies from alumni and friends of the College typically amount to 14% of income. Additionally, in 2024-25, we were fortunate to receive a further £5.6m of donations direct to our endowment to support activities in future years. Investment income from our relatively modest endowment normally contributes a further 16%. These percentages are based on total income excluding endowment donations but including all the endowment spending rule income.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The Academic Year 2024-25 was a very successful one for Downing College, as regards academic performance (with the highest number of firsts recorded) and fundraising (with the highest amount raised in one year). The strategy of ensuring that the wider student experience is enhanced has continued to be implemented, notably with the adoption of a creative arts strategy and the Active Students programme to support participation in sport.

Financial performance remains a concern, with a continuing operating deficit, although the situation is improving with strong conference income and growth in international programmes. The deficit has also been managed by amendments to the timing and scale of refurbishments.

One of the other significant concerns is the need to increase the size of the accommodation stock within the College. Significant plans are being developed with a view to increase accommodation by 200 rooms over the next decade.

Thanks to a generous donation, the College has established the Downing Battcock Institute for policy engagement with a view to build bridges between the College and policy makers.

Undergraduates

At the beginning of the 2024-25 academic year, there were 425 undergraduates across all years at Downing; 55% were men and 44% were women (1% were 'other' or undeclared); 75% were from the UK and 25% were from overseas; of those schooled in the UK, 70% were from state schools and 30% from the independent sector.

Downing's popularity with applicants has continued to grow: 1063 candidates applied for undergraduate entry in October 2024. Across most subjects, competition for our approximately 135 undergraduate places grows ever more intense. We are considered to be the most competitive College for entry in Cambridge.

We carefully monitor the demographic characteristics of our incoming students. For the 2024 matriculants for Tripos courses, 7% of UK students were noted as residing in the bottom two quintiles of areas ranked by proportion of those going on to higher education, and 14% were within the bottom two quintiles by the metric 'Indices of Multiple Deprivation' (IMD). This compares with the target for the University over the next four years of 25.1%, indicating that we have some work to do to address this inequality. Downing continues to participate in the Foundation Year programme, with four students admitted, one of whom continued to Tripos study. In terms of Tripos results, the College was ranked 6th in the "Baxter" table of colleges published by the Varsity newspaper. In total, 144 first class results or distinctions were awarded this academic year, more than 10% higher than the previous high, and six students came top of their Triposes.

Postgraduates

At the beginning of the 2024-25 academic year, Downing had a total of 501 postgraduate students. Of these, 47% were men and 52% were women (1% other); 50% were from the UK, 8% from the EU and 42% from the rest of the world; 232 were studying for a PhD and the remainder following shorter courses (including 78 MPhils, 21 full-time MBAs, 6 LLMs, 7 MFin, 11 PGCEs, 1 MArch and 2 MAST; 77 were studying on a part-time course), while 50 were clinical medics and vets.



Dr Paul Millett, the College's MCR Liaison Fellow, continues to run the William Frere Society, which provides a link between the postgraduates and the Fellowship. Events involve a termly seminar evening at which postgraduate students present their research; twice termly talks by Fellows; an annual postgraduate conference in May; and regular dining by postgraduates on High Table.

The Middle Combination Room representatives organised an exchange with the University of Barcelona and continued to facilitate an exchange with Lincoln College, Oxford, our sister College.

Sport

It has been an exciting year for sport at Downing following the launch of the College's Active Students programme and Alumni Sports Fund. These initiatives encourage greater participation in both social sport and College sports clubs. The funds have supported casual coached sessions in sports including Tennis, the creation of new College sports clubs, additional training and equipment for existing teams, and small grants for students to buy personal kit.

Downing remained one of the few colleges to be represented in all inter-collegiate sports leagues. Highlights included a remarkable year for Table Tennis. The club was named College Team of the Year at the University Sports Awards, won Cuppers and the Division 1 title in both Michaelmas and Lent, and substantially increased its membership with support from the Active Students and Alumni Sports funds. Elsewhere, Downing secured Cuppers titles in Ultimate and Karting, alongside league titles for Ultimate, Mixed Lacrosse, Women's Netball and Badminton.

At the University level, five full blues, seven half-blues, and three colours were awarded to Downing students in the 2024-25 academic year across sports including Athletics, Cheerleading, Cricket, Cross-country (Hare and Hounds), Field Hockey, Hockey, Korfbal, Lightweight Rowing, Rugby Union, Skiing, Triathlon, Women's Lacrosse, Women's Water Polo, and Yacht Racing. 31 Downing students represented the University in varsity matches against Oxford.

The Arts

The Heong Gallery hosted exhibitions including *Alison Wilding: By the Mark—and the Line Below the Loaf*; *Rasheed Araeen: A British Story*; *A Ribbon Unfurling: Lara Smithson*; *Magma Rising: A Journey to Iceland's Volcanic Heart*, and *What Can Be Done with Painting: Gillian Ayres in the '70s*. Over 25 events - from film screenings to art workshops and symposia - were programmed alongside these shows. Exhibitions received press coverage in publications including *The Guardian*, *Art UK*, and *The Spectator*.

The Gallery launched its new 'Visual Enquiries' exhibition strand in Lent Term, which aims to forge a closer connection between the visual arts and academic research within Cambridge. The first exhibition of this kind, *Magma Rising*, in partnership with Cambridge Festival, welcomed a record-breaking c.4,500 visitors during the two months that it was open. The annual *Twining Egginton Fine Arts* prize was hosted in the Gallery this year, allowing us to show more student submissions than ever before.

Music in College continues to thrive, with a huge number of events organised each term by the Music Society, plus the following professional events:

- 'The Master's Salon' in Michaelmas – an authentic recreation of a 19th-Century 'salon' concert in the Master's Lodge, by Downing alumnus Declan Hickey and his colleagues;
- 'The Illusionist's Art' in Michaelmas as part of the tenth anniversary celebrations for the Chapel Organ – featuring former Organ Scholar William Mason and members of the Chapel Choir;
- A Musical Theatre Workshop for students with Downing alumnus and current star of *Mamma Mia!* Christopher Dickins.

Other notable events were the premiere of alumnus Chris Lowe's 'comic cantata' *Away from the Manger* in the Howard Theatre in December, under the auspices of the Music Society, the Chapel Choir's performance of Part II of Handel's *Messiah* in March, and the annual Carol Services in College and London.

The celebration of ten years of the Chapel organ began with a presentation by the Director of Music and Chaplain on the Alumni Weekend in September, followed by Evensong. A thanksgiving Evensong was also held in April with over 50 singers in attendance, most of whom were former members of the Chapel Choir. April saw the launch of the Downing Arts podcast hosted by the Director of Music; the audience has grown to over 500 listeners from across the world.

A number of individual students have achieved considerable success in the realms of Musical Theatre, solo performance, and choral singing, with 14 Choral Awards made during the year. Special mention must also be made of one Masters student who participated in the new University-wide Choral Foundation Scheme, building his musical and singing skills from nothing at the start of the year, to performing in public several times during the course of the year.

2024-25 was an exceptionally busy year for Downing Dramatic Society (DDS). In terms of overall quality, it may have been the best anyone can remember. While there were myriad DDS-driven projects going on around Cambridge, the highlights, in the Howard Theatre, made for an impressive programme of high-quality drama.

Michaelmas boasted the brilliant new play, 'TOAD PATROL', written by committee member Lorna Beal and a beautifully staged and sung version of the recent delightfully intimate Broadway musical, 'ORDINARY DAYS'. Lent Term brought the now traditional favourites - the Freshers' Play, followed by our Festival of New Writing. The former proved to be yet another large cast, high-energy romp in the form of Dion Boucicault's, 'LONDON ASSURANCE'. The latter showed once again why our annual showcase of theatrical talent - writers, directors, and actors - has become the University-wide model for the development and performance of new student drama. Easter Term saw what is becoming a regular outdoor staging of a Shakespeare comedy - this time, 'AS YOU LIKE IT' in the East Lodge Garden. A supremely-talented cast had the sold-out audiences rolling in the aisles (despite the shortage of actual aisles) and rounded off an exceptional year in fine comic style. The society has never been in better shape and the new committee cannot wait to launch its exciting and challenging programme in the new academic year.

This year's edition of The Leaves was the biggest yet. It was edited by three English Literature second-year students and contained submissions (prose, poetry, and visual art) from students across all subjects and degree levels. We continued with our Quentin Blake outreach writing competition: this year's secondary-school winner was a fourteen-year-old from Bradford, whose prose piece responded to an image drawn by Quentin especially for the competition. The launch of The Leaves was a much larger affair than in previous years: an occasion to celebrate all the great work across Downing's literature, drama, music, and fine art activities. The Heong Gallery that evening was full of student art. Students read from their submissions to The Leaves, the Drama Society performed a scene, and music was played all evening. It was

a superb showcase of Downing's creative talent. Throughout the academic year, students also took part in writing workshops run by professional writers including alumna Susan Elderkin and Bye-Fellow Professor Jenn Ashworth. We hosted the winner of the BBC National Short Story Award, who spoke to students about their own writing, and Downing undergraduates were invited to come to London to help run the award night live-broadcast celebration at Broadcasting House. Many warm thanks to those who have supported creative writing in College this year: we look forward to expanding opportunities for students in future years.

The Estate

19-35 Regent Street, the buildings opposite the main gates, have been an ongoing project since 2020 and in 2024 we received planning permission to create a building with a much-improved facade, incorporating 26 student rooms and ground-floor commercial space. We anticipated starting construction during 2025 but have not been able to do so because of a planning requirement to retain some of the existing facades. We have been advised by structural engineers that the facades cannot be safely retained. Consequently, we have made a Section 73 application to remove the facade retention conditions, and at the time of writing, we await the outcome of this application. If the application is granted, we anticipate construction beginning during 2025 and occupation towards the end of 2027.

During Summer 2025, we commenced renovation of student accommodation rooms on K staircase. This included construction of three new attic rooms, including new dormer windows, into the roof space above K staircase.

Downing's lease of 26 rooms at Hope House ended during the year. To retain and increase postgraduate room provision, we embarked on a new lease for 60 studio rooms at Railyard near Cambridge Railway Station. Initial feedback is that these rooms are popular with students and we anticipate raising the number of rooms in 2026–27.

Alumni Relations and Development

The Alumni and Development team delivered a comprehensive alumni relations programme over the year, organising 33 events including reunions, lectures and dinners in the College and receptions generously hosted by alumni in London, Singapore and Hong Kong.

The College Magazine, incorporating Magenta News, is produced in-house by the team with editorial oversight by the Vice-Master. The Downing Column e-newsletter, including updates from students, Fellows and alumni, is sent to 8,000 alumni monthly with "open rates" above 60%. Social media activity continues to increase, with themed stories such as the Christmas 'Elf on a Shelf' and 'Summer of Sport' proving to be popular.

The Master, Development Director, Fellows and Campaign Board are charged with delivering the Downing 360 Campaign to raise £40 million by 2027. Philanthropic support at all levels is sought for three key areas of need: additional investment in teaching; student support and co-curricular activities; and improving the fabric of College buildings and providing new student accommodation.

Donations to the College recorded in the accounts totalled £8.4m in the year to 30 June 2025, a record high which takes the campaign total for gifts and pledges to £35.6m. Exceptional gifts this year were received from Mr Humphrey Battcock (1973, Nat Sci) to found the Downing Battcock Institute and Mr and Mrs Tazaki to support Cambridge Bursaries. The



College is grateful to its Foundation and Wilkins Fellows; to its Benefactors and to the 441 members of the 1749 Society for committing a legacy to Downing; to the members of the 1717 Society who support the Heong Gallery; and to those who support student bursaries, wellbeing, music, drama and sport, all of which make a huge contribution to student life at Downing. A new Active Students programme was launched in Michaelmas 2024 thanks to alumni donations which support 'Give it a Go' sessions, coaching and kit. This has led directly to an increase in students participating in classes and club memberships, as well as strong performances, with teams reaching finals and a win in Cuppers.

Downing is grateful to those alumni who contribute to the College by giving their time, advice and support to its activities, including: Year Representatives; members of the Campaign Board and College committees; the Segreants; and the Alumni Association Executive Committee and its merchandising group.

Alumni Lectures that took place during 2024–25

Alumni Day, 28 September 2024: Urban regeneration: how can we plan more inclusive cities? by Dr Stefania Fiorentino, Associate Professor in the Department of Land Economy and Downing Fellow in Land Economy.

21 March 2025: The Global Green Economy: Fact or Fiction a panel event chaired by Simon Wilson (1983 MML), with Ashley Alder (1982, Law), Chair of the Financial Conduct Authority, Dharshini David OBE 1991, Economics), BBC Chief Economics Correspondent and Mark Versey (1990, Mathematics), CEO, Aviva Investors

Fundraising Compliance

Downing College voluntarily subscribes to the Fundraising Regulator and adheres to the Code of Fundraising Practice. All fundraising is carried out by professional fundraisers employed by the College, not by volunteers or companies working on its behalf. Development staff are alert to signs that donors and potential donors may be vulnerable and lack the capacity to make a decision regarding any potential gift or legacy. In such cases, appropriate steps will be taken, which may include advising a donor to seek independent advice, not accepting or returning a donation.

The Development Director produces an annual Alumni and Development plan which outlines objectives for the year, based on previous years' performance, income targets, current budget and staffing. Alumni and Development team activities are subject to internal scrutiny via the Downing College Development Committee. The Committee's work is itself overseen by Governing Body and financial reports are audited by the College's external auditors.

Anyone wishing to make a complaint about Downing's fundraising activities can use the complaints procedure available on our website. Any complaints related to alumni relations and fundraising activities, including any potential breach of the Code of Fundraising Practice, are received by the Development Director, who will lead any investigation and respond within 28 days. The Alumni and Development team retains a full record of complaints, subsequent investigations and associated correspondence for 24 months which will be available to the Fundraising Regulator for this period of time. The College received zero complaints during the year under report. The College endeavours to resolve and learn from any complaints, implementing appropriate remedies to ensure the highest standards of fundraising practice. Complaints relating to other non-fundraising activities are managed by the College Office, with oversight from the Senior Bursar and the Master.

Downing Battcock Institute

The Downing Battcock Institute is a new initiative based at Downing to strengthen the bridges between academia and policymaking. The Institute is funded by a gift of £5 million from alumnus Humphrey Battcock (1973), a Foundation Fellow at Downing since 2013 and donor of transformational gifts to support the College and its students.

Led by Dr David Halpern as Director, the Institute will primarily focus on supporting and bringing together researchers and policymakers from other institutions, rather than running its own separate primary research. An early priority will be to fund and host 'policy retreats' at Downing on key social and economic challenges, with a particular focus on issues early in the policy cycle, before fixed policy positions have emerged.

Plans For The Future

Significant discussions are underway to address our most urgent estate issue: the need to provide accommodation for a much larger proportion of our postgraduate students. We currently house far below the average for Cambridge colleges and, as well as improving provision, increasing our accommodation will generate incremental income for the College. We are considering multiple sites on and off the Domus with a view to increasing our room count by more than one-third from the existing 575 rooms on the Domus. During 24/25 we established a lease arrangement at Railyard, near the Railway Station, for 60 studio flats which have been well received by students. We anticipate raising this number in 26/27.

Following substantial work with the central University and many Departments, Downing, working with a donor and entrepreneur, has been instrumental in the launch of a new course called Cambridge Better Futures. The course is delivered by the Institute of Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) and we welcomed the first Better Future Leaders to Downing in October 2025, as Downing Associates. This course targets later-life learners who wish to develop a social enterprise working closely with the Cambridge ecosystem and will be a valuable addition to the education landscape in Cambridge. Downing is hosting the Centre for Better Futures, which conceived the idea for the programme, has driven the adoption and created the partnership with PACE and will deliver significant academic content. Beyond the core programme, we anticipate a series of relevant events and an expansion of the available learning opportunities, as well as some welcome financial benefit to Downing through various forms of income from the Centre.

We are pleased with the continued expansion of the Downing International Programme during 25/26. This was the fourth year of the programme's operation, and we welcomed over 300 students from 26 different nationalities. Many of the students visit Downing for the summer school programme in June to August, although we are working to schedule courses at different times of year.



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The accounts that follow consolidate those of the College and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited. Also included is a linked charity that is invested as part of the College's endowment, The John Miller Scholarships, the fund value of which is disclosed in note 26 of the accounts.

Significant Policies

Reserves

1. College net Assets stood at £248.8 million at 30 June 2025. Of this amount, £192.5 million represents the net book value of the buildings, including the Revaluation Reserve of £62.2 million. As functional fixed assets, they cannot be spent as income. Continuing investment by the College in its buildings, in excess of depreciation, will cause this figure to increase and correspondingly reduce free reserves. However, opportunities, such as the acquisition of property on the College borders, do not always arise when they are affordable, but are nevertheless strategically necessary. Virtually all of the remaining £56.3 million is made up of Permanent Restricted Endowment. At 30 June 2025, therefore, free reserves (general and pension reserves) stood at negative £7.9 million (2024: negative £7.8 million).
2. In formulating the reserves policy, the Governing Body has taken into account the guidance offered by the Charity Commission in its publication Charity reserves: building resilience (CC19) and has carefully considered the factors that cause variations in income and sudden calls on cash. These are: student numbers; changes in the funding of higher education and the apportionment of tuition fees; the susceptibility of the conference business to corporate cutbacks and geopolitical events; the volatility of the investment portfolio caused by movements in world markets and unanticipated rental voids; and the variability of donations and benefactions. The Governing Body has also considered examples of historical unanticipated expenditure, in particular those that have arisen from problems in the fabric of the buildings, e.g. drainage, dry rot and responses to changes in the law. The Reserves also support any liability arising under FRS 102, Section 28 from the USS and CCFPS final salary pension scheme for staff (2025: £433,036; 2024: £536,054).
3. The Governing Body therefore considers that the assessment of whether the College has sufficient reserves should take into account a range of factors: annual operating expenditure met from unrestricted funds; capital expenditure; working capital needs; unanticipated expenditure on repairs; known cash needs (e.g. refurbishment projects); the level of essential expenditure that can be supported by returns from restricted funds; the level of unapplied total return; liquidity within the investment portfolio; the cash flow effect of the pension liability; and the likelihood of increased employer pension contributions.
4. Recommendations to the Governing Body for the adoption of the annual budget or major incremental expenditure incorporate these factors. The current level of free reserves at negative £7.9 million is due to work on 19-35 Regent Street allied to the recent conversion of 90-92 Regent Street, the purchase of 4-5 Bene't Place and 98 Regent Street in prior years and continuing building improvements this year. However, the Governing Body does not consider this currently to be problematic, as the College has access to various sources of liquidity, including raising loan finance, raising funds in fundraising campaigns and realising unrestricted investment assets which stand at £11.9 million. Furthermore, the reserves that represent the net book value of the buildings are designated by the College as such;



however, in extremis, apart from the inalienable listed buildings on the Domus, the remainder of these reserves could be realisable. Given this complexity, and the wide range of funding options, the Governing Body has not defined a formal reserves policy, preferring a flexible approach as the situation requires.

Investment Principles

1. The College may invest in securities and in real or personal property. (See Statute XLVII, approved by Her Majesty in Council on 19 July 2005, and superseded by the full set of statutes approved on 9 May 2006 and updated subsequently). Since 1 August 1957, the College has operated an Amalgamated Fund made under the Universities and Colleges (Trusts) Act 1943, in which permanent capital, expendable capital, restricted funds (including trusts), and unrestricted funds hold units. Since 1 July 2010, the units of the Amalgamated Fund have also been invested in the College's commercial property portfolio.
2. The College manages its investments in securities and property to produce the highest return consistent with the preservation of capital value in real terms for the long term, net of costs and withdrawals to support its operating needs. A subsidiary aim is to enhance the value of the capital for future beneficiaries.
3. The Investment Committee sets the overall asset allocation and appoints advisors and managers. On 1 August 2009, the College appointed Partners Capital to advise on and manage the securities portfolio. Such appointments are reviewed at five-yearly intervals or in response to specific problems or opportunities. The review considers the risk/return parameters that have been given to the managers, whether these parameters still accord with the College's investment objectives, the performance benchmark resulting from these parameters, and the long-term investment objective. The latest five-yearly review occurred in late 2022. Following this review, the Investment Committee opted to reappoint Partners Capital for a further five years.
4. For the securities portfolio, the goal implies a time-weighted net return target, comprising inflation, plus a spending rate of c. 4%, measured on a five-year trailing basis. The Investment Committee has set an additional goal of outperforming, net of all investment expenses, a composite benchmark, which comprises the sum product of the Strategic Asset Allocation and performance of each constituent asset class benchmark.
5. Risk in the securities portfolio is measured by a) Equity-Like Risk and b) the volatility of returns. Both of these metrics are assessed against the composite Strategic Asset Return benchmark. That benchmark currently reflects an expected return of 7.9% with a standard deviation of 12.2% and an Equity-Like Risk of 75%.
6. The current strategic asset allocation and benchmarks by which performance is judged consists of: Equities: 32%, MSCI ACWI NR with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to GBP Index; Fixed Income: 11%, FTSE A British Government All Stocks; Hedged Funds: 17%, HFRI Fund of Funds Composite; Cash: 1%, UK three-month Gilts; Inflation Linked Bonds: 3%, FTSE A (Index Linked) British Government All Stocks; Commodities: 3%, S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Index; and Private Equity: 33%, State Street All PE Index (lagged 3 months).
7. Tactical Allocation ranges were Cash: 0–5%; Fixed Income: 0–36%; Hedge Funds: 0%–33%; Equities: 20–65%; Private Equity: 10–40%; Commodities: 0–6%; and Inflation Linked Bonds: 0–10%. Portfolio rebalancing is normally undertaken on a quarterly or more frequent basis to re-align asset allocations towards targets.



8. The Investment Committee monitors the liquidity in the securities portfolio and has set a limit on illiquid financial assets. New agreements to purchase such assets will not be executed if the aggregate market value of all such illiquid assets exceeds 58% of the aggregate market value of the value of the securities portfolio.
9. The currency hedging policy is managed through foreign currency forward contracts. The target Sterling exposure is 50%. The 50% remaining unhedged foreign currency exposure is a combination of US dollars, Euro, Yen and Emerging Market Currencies. The currency hedging policy is applied across the entire securities portfolio.
10. The custodian used is Union Bancaire Privee (London) S.A.

Responsible Investing

The College aims to invest responsibly whilst earning returns appropriate for the funds invested. Since February 2019, the portfolio has not directly held any energy-focused public equity managers and all passive equity holdings have tracked indices excluding fossil fuels. Nor has the portfolio had any direct exposure to fossil fuels since February 2019 and, as of 30 June 2025, the College's estimated indirect exposure to fossil fuels (including companies involved in the extraction of fossil fuels) is 0.4% (£0.3M) of the total portfolio. At 30 June 2025, 1.2% (£0.7M) of the College's securities portfolio was invested in renewable energy and decarbonisation assets. The equities allocation of the College at 30 June 2025 is estimated to have a carbon intensity of 52 (Tco2/ \$1M sales), which compares favourably to the MSCI All Countries World Index carbon intensity of 95.

Securities Performance

The securities portfolio returned +3.1% in 2024-25 after deducting all costs and fees in Sterling terms, and +7.4% excluding the impact of foreign currency and also net of all fees with the difference due to the -8% depreciation of the US Dollar versus Sterling over this period. This compares to a +7.9% return for the Strategic Asset Allocation composite benchmark, gross of most fees and expenses and excluding the effect of foreign currency movements, over the same period. A similar risk equity/bond benchmark returned +9.8% (gross of fees) in the period, driven by the continued rally in global equities (+13.4%), whilst fixed income returned +1.6% in the same period. The decision to adopt a multi-asset class approach detracted from performance in 2024–25, mainly because Private Equity results are reported with a one-quarter lag. Private Equity returned +7.5%, reflecting performance from Q2 2024 to Q1 2025. On a comparable basis, this modestly outperformed Global Equities, which returned +7.3% over the same period. Over the longer term, Private Equity has been accretive, returning 12.8% annualised since the portfolio's inception vs 10.8% for public equities.

Since inception in 2009, the securities portfolio has returned +7.7% per annum net of all fees and expenses in Sterling terms, and +7.9% excluding the impact of foreign currency. This compares to the Strategic Asset Allocation composite benchmark, which has returned +7.9% per annum, also excluding the impact of foreign currency but gross of most fees and expenses, and an equity/bond benchmark which has returned +7.7% over the same period (gross of fees and expenses).

As of 30 June 2025, 52% of the £62.9 million securities portfolio was in Sterling, 33% in USD and 15% in other currencies. Of the securities portfolio, 48% was invested in illiquid assets (35% Private Equity, 13% Private Debt). Of the securities portfolio, 55% has quarterly or better liquidity, of which 25% has daily liquidity. At 30 June 2025, the Equity-Like Risk of the securities portfolio stood at 72%.

Tax

As a UK charity, the College is not subject to taxes on income or capital gains. It also holds 501(c) (3) status in the USA, which means that it is recognised as a non-profit organisation and, therefore, exempt from US Federal Income Tax. To the extent that it holds investment assets in offshore vehicles, it does so to reduce the administrative costs of portfolio management, but only in jurisdictions that have signed up to the Common Reporting Standard, an information standard for the automatic exchange of tax and financial information on a global level.

Borrowings

Borrowings at 30 June 2025 totalled £34.5 million (note 14 to the financial statements). The level of borrowings of the College must adhere to any financial covenants set by lenders and currently the College is well within those limits. The Governing Body is comfortable with the amount of borrowings, as it considers the interest can be serviced from operations. Any additional borrowings would need to be recommended by Finance Committee and then approved by the Governing Body with a view to the long-term benefit of the College.

Risk Management

The Governing Body is responsible for risk management and its Risk Management Register is kept under active review. The Register is informed through the work of each committee which considers the risks inherent in its area of responsibility and advises the Governing Body on the probability of occurrence and the likely impact, together with the steps taken in mitigation. The College's Audit and Risk Committee scrutinises the Governing Body Risk Register and advises accordingly.

Although risks can be identified and plans to deal with such risks formulated, the College is nevertheless exposed to a variety of risks, some of which cannot be addressed through insurance. The age of the estate, parts of which are 200 years old, means that problems inevitably occur, sometimes without warning and often at great expense. Annual results can be affected by large swings in student numbers, principally in the postgraduate community and mainly because of multiple applications and the uncertainty of funding. Many of the College's operations are affected by volatility in the financial markets and by recession in the real economy, the effects of which are hard to mitigate. All operations have been, and would be again, impacted by a pandemic or other form of significant business interruption. An increasing dependence on cloud-based systems brings with it known and unknown risks, which will require a greater emphasis on cyber security. Harm to the fabric of the buildings from atypical weather is a harbinger of the longer-term damage and disruption caused by changes in the climate.

Underpinning the sustainability of all activities is the need for financial resilience. The relatively small size of the endowment leaves the College's funding for operations vulnerable to disruption in the stock market and the world economy, as well as the immediate risks posed by Government challenges to tuition fees. Lack of resources could inhibit the attraction of high-quality staff and the research-active academics who are essential to the proper provision of teaching, as well as further reducing required investments to achieve our mission. The ongoing cost of living crisis makes recruiting and retaining staff problematic, further risking our delivery of core objectives. Finally, as we grow our international income, we are more subject to geo-political risks.

The charity trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks. (Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008)

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Income and expenditure

The total surplus for the year ended 30 June 2025 was £5.7 million, compared with a £19.1 million profit last year; this figure includes new endowments and restricted donations, as well as gains on investments. Last year's surplus was higher due to a revaluation of fixed assets and a pension provision release. The Unrestricted column in the accounts measures the efficiency of operations and this year showed a loss of £466 thousand (2024: £159 thousand profit), largely attributable to last year's pension provision release, increased costs and a large expendable donation in the current year.

Unrestricted income and expenditure

Unrestricted College income before donations is made up of academic fees (25%), charges to students for accommodation and meals (32%), conference income (25%), income from the College's investment assets (18%). This income amounted to £18.3 million (2024: £14.9 million), up 23%, the increase largely attributable to the International Programme income.

Student accommodation and catering income was £5.9 million (2024: £5.2 million). Increases in conference income are largely attributable to an expanding International Programme, conference income totalling £4.6 million (2024: £3.2 million). Profit and cash flow from the conference business helps to mitigate the overhead costs of providing the College infrastructure and thus to reduce the costs to students.

Expenditure comprises staff costs, including academic stipends, of 44%, of which non-academic salaries represent 35%; operating costs make up a further 44%; and depreciation is 12%. Staff and operating costs increased by £1.0 million and £0.3 million in the year, respectively, due to increased staff numbers and the International Programme activity.

Academic fee income remained largely unchanged at £4.5 million (2024: £4.6 million), while the corresponding expenditure increased to £6.1 million (2024: £5.8 million); this resulted in the Education account being in deficit by £1.6 million (2024: £1.2 million). The College must, therefore, bear the expense of this subsidy, not all of which can be met from trust funds. The cost of an undergraduate education at Downing increased from £12,421 to £13,776 for the 2024–25 year, as both fixed costs and direct costs increased. The regulated Home/EU undergraduate tuition fee has remained frozen since 2012, apart from a small increase in 2017, so in real terms the College's half-share of £9,250 has declined in value. The cost of providing academic and pastoral support for each postgraduate increased from £5,858 to £6,391.

Income from unrestricted donations was £1.6 million (2024: £1.1 million). Restricted and endowment return was £6.9 million (2024: £1.6 million), based on the spending rule under the Total Return policy.

Restricted income and expenditure

Restricted income arises from expendable donations for specific purposes and the income from any endowed funds to support specific projects. The income is matched against the eligible expenditure and any surplus is carried forward to restricted reserves.

The restricted income was £2.9 million (2024: £2.1 million), of which £1.7 million is endowment return, and the associated expenditure was £2.7 million (2024: £2.2 million).

Conference Services

The total income for Conference in 2024/25 was £4.5m which included catering and conference contributions from the Downing International Programmes in summer 2024. Approximately £750k of conference business was placed in term time, with increases in non-residential conferences, training programmes, and private dining alongside a business schedule of College internal events. £320k of business was converted with Meet Cambridge, which represents a year-on-year increase of 30%. Meet Cambridge continue to be a key partner of Downing College and provide valuable marketing and PR opportunities. The period represented the strongest year for B&B, an increase of 27% year-on-year, and the highest revenues achieved since 2012.

Year 2 of Downing International was very successful with revenues increasing from £780k in Year 1 to £2.1m due to consolidating relationships with existing international schools and increasing awareness, with broader marketing and additional business development with new countries. This includes the core 15-18 programme and the undergraduate programme, together with new opportunities developing the tailored programmes. Continued efforts were made to increase diversity amongst the students in order to provide a truly international programme experience whilst providing protections against global risks.

Investments

The total investment portfolio stood at £81.9 million at 30 June 2025 (2024: £81.9 million), consisting of £64.4 million in securities and £17.5 million in property. The overall total return was 5.80% (2023: 2.15%). Additions to the portfolio were largely balanced by the £6.1m transfer of works of art and silver to fixed assets.

The College operates a Total Return policy for its endowment investments whereby all capital gains and income are allocated to an unapplied total return 'pot'. A spending rule is then used to transfer some of the return to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. The College's spending rule is designed to smooth spending and reduce the effect on income of fluctuations in market performance. The rule protects operations from the volatility of returns and ensures that the amount available for spending is known in advance. It is usually possible to net outflows against inflows so that the actual investments remain undisturbed. In setting the spending rule, the Finance Committee is conscious of the need to achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries and aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distribution.

Partners Capital has been the College's investment adviser since 2009, an outsourced investment office which performs the same functions as the in-house investment teams at the large global endowments, offering access to the same range of asset classes through a feeder-fund structure. The firm has more than 200 employees and seven offices covering all major regions. Partners Capital's mandate is discretionary within risk levels set by the College.

Investment of the securities portfolio is across the different asset classes using the Endowment Model, an approach that is expected to return 2% above the traditional mix of stocks and bonds. As the strategy includes investments in private equity and other relatively illiquid assets, the Investment Committee, acting on advice from Partners Capital, sets limits on illiquidity and monitors daily, monthly and quarterly liquidity to ensure that, in an emergency, funds can easily be accessed, even in the conditions experienced in the financial crisis of 2008.



Distributions for Spending

Via the spending rule, the Amalgamated Fund delivered an overall £3.3 million (or 4.7% of the portfolio) in support of current operations, an increase of 3.5% on last year's drawdown. The Amalgamated Fund consists of units held by each unrestricted and restricted fund, with each receiving a share of the overall income. For 2024-25, each unit was valued at £32.00 and received income for spending ('the dividend') of £1.49, a dividend increase of 2.1% on last year's levels.

The Committee aims to achieve balance between the claims of present and future, to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distributions. Given the rate of educational inflation versus investment returns, the preservation of purchasing power has proved difficult. In the interests of consistency, the Spending Rule has remained the same since its introduction, although its output has been routinely compared with that of other methodologies. With the prospect of lower future returns, the Finance Committee considered whether the rule needed revision. It decided to retain the current formula, noting that the College was mindful of the need to restrain spending.

Property

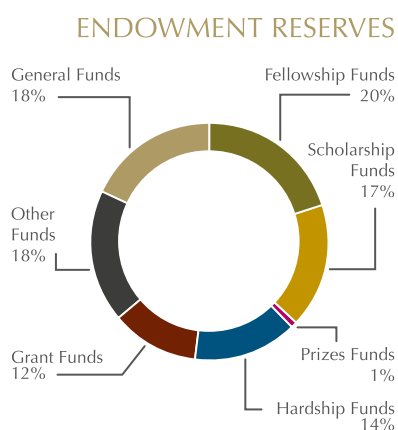
The property portfolio returned 5.3% in 2024-25. The property portfolio consists almost exclusively of the shops and offices on the Regent Street border plus some speculative land. These properties are owned for opportunistic and defensive purposes, and are classified as part of the investment portfolio, yet share only some of the characteristics of financial investments. Despite being the main route between the station, the Ring Road, and the City Centre, Regent Street remains a tertiary location for shops and it is, therefore, difficult to attract tenants with strong covenants. The property portfolio stood at £17.5 million as at 30 June 2025.

Additional information is shown in Section 4 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

Capital and Reserves

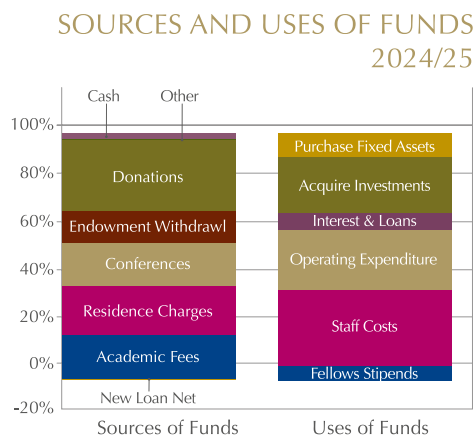
The College's capital base increased by £5.7 million (2.3%) to £248.8 million, largely attributable to a £5 million endowed donation in the year. Fixed assets account for 82% of the net assets. The College has had success in the past in attracting donations for buildings, but the timing or nature of some projects, which are nevertheless strategically necessary, does not always make this possible.

Free reserves are consistent with the prior year at negative £7.9 million.



Cash Flow

The cash balance decreased in the year from £1.9 million to £380 thousand primarily due to International Programme prepaid income being deferred into the following year, additional expenditure in improving fixed assets and property investment repayments being postponed into 2024-25.



On behalf of the Governing Body:

Graham Virgo, Master

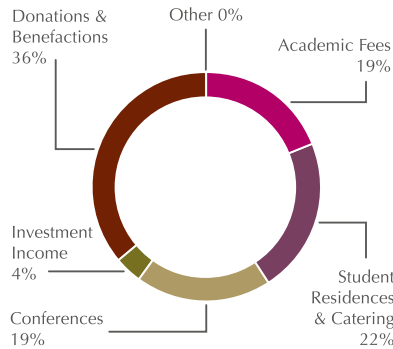
Date: 15 December 2025

Simon Brockington, Senior Bursar

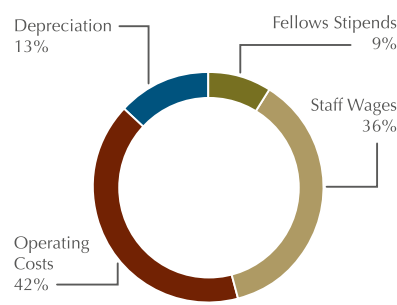
COLLEGE STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	2025	2024	2023
Income and Expenditure			
Total Income	23,800,497	17,258,955	15,266,352
Donations and Benefactions Received	8,461,518	2,728,653	2,466,039
Conference Services Income	4,490,018	3,461,831	2,571,338
Total Expenditure	20,758,005	18,219,353	17,947,805
Total Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	3,042,492	(960,398)	(2,681,453)
Unrestricted Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(465,960)	(958,820)	(953,796)
Capital Expenditure			
Total Capital Expenditure	2,124,557	3,597,976	3,291,076
Investment in Buildings	1,752,046	2,778,556	2,843,664
Other Capital Expenditure	372,511	819,420	447,412
Assets			
Free Reserves	(7,896,935)	(7,786,870)	(7,718,701)
Investment Portfolio	81,947,324	75,417,401	71,947,345
Spending Rule Amount	3,258,889	3,147,794	2,872,414
Net Assets	248,770,287	243,051,155	223,973,919

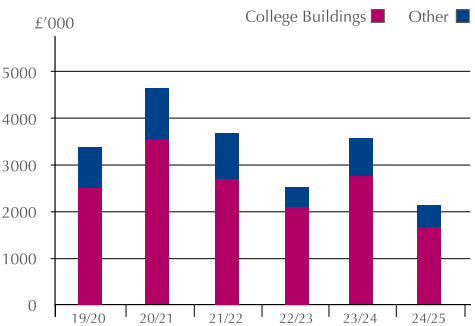
BREAKDOWN OF INCOME
2024/25



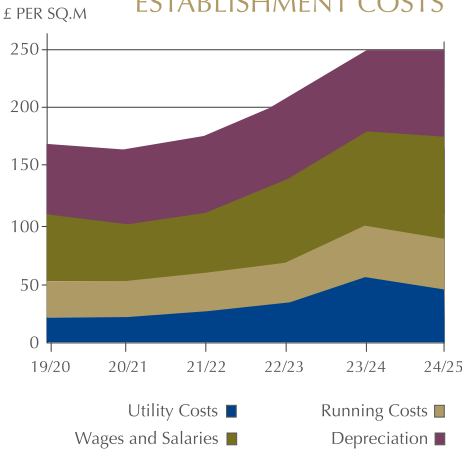
BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2024/25



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



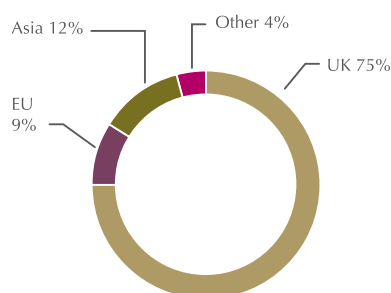
ESTABLISHMENT COSTS



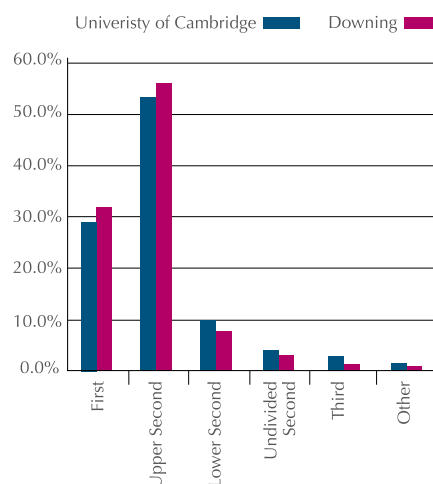
1. UNDERGRADUATE NUMBERS 2024–25 AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2024

Subject	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Years 5–6	Total 2024/25	Total 2023/24
Foundation Yr in the Arts, Humanities, and Soc Sci	4	—	—	—	—	4	—
Anglo-Saxon	—	—	—	—	—	0	0
Archaeology	1	1	1	—	—	3	2
Architecture	2	—	2	—	—	4	5
Asian & Middle Eastern Studies	2	2	3	2	—	9	9
Chemical Engineering	3	3	3	1	—	10	7
Classics	2	2	3	3	—	10	10
Classics – 4yr	2	1	1	—	—	4	9
Computer Science	6	5	5	—	—	16	19
Design	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Economics	5	6	5	—	—	16	15
Education	1	1	1	—	—	3	3
Engineering	13	10	11	11	—	45	46
English	6	7	6	—	—	19	21
Geography	7	4	3	—	—	14	13
History	5	5	4	—	—	14	14
History with Modern Languages	2	—	4	2	—	8	3
History with Politics	6	2	2	—	—	10	4
History of Art	1	2	—	—	—	3	4
Human, Social and Political Science	5	7	5	—	—	17	19
Land Economy	4	3	4	—	—	11	8
Law	12	13	12	—	—	37	38
Linguistics	2	1	2	—	—	5	5
Management Studies	—	—	—	—	—	0	3
Manufacturing Engineering	—	—	—	1	—	1	3
Mathematics	3	5	4	3	—	15	18
Medical Sciences	15	13	16	12	28	94	90
Modern & Medieval Languages	5	2	1	3	—	11	12
Music	2	1	1	—	—	4	3
Natural Sciences (Biological)	8	9	10	—	—	27	32
Natural Sciences (Physical)	10	9	6	7	—	32	29
Philosophy	2	2	2	—	—	6	5
Psychology and Behavioural Sciences	3	5	5	—	—	13	14
Theology	2	1	1	—	—	4	4
Theology BTh	—	—	—	—	—	0	—
Veterinary Medicine	2	2	2	—	5	11	15
Total	144	124	125	45	33	471	482

UNDERGRADUATES
BY REGION



UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREE CLASSIFICATIONS



2. PHD THESES SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED BY DOWNING POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS 2024–25

Archaeology	(Un)interrupted histories, continuous feeling: indigenous identity formation and notions of heritage in the Southeastern Caribbean
Architecture	A canonical history of architectural discourse produced by Arab architects within a post-colonial Arab world (1930-1980)
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies	Definiteness and specificity in second and third language acquisition of Mandarin Chinese
Biochemistry	Optimisation of use of waste materials by <i>Rhodopseudomonas palustris</i>
Biological Anthropology	Faecal sediments as bio-archives: the fish event horizon in the Low Countries
Biological Anthropology	Lifestyle and intestinal parasite infection in Northern Europe: a study comparing clergy and the general population of Cambridge and Belgium in the 12th - 18th centuries
Biological Science at the Babraham Institute	Novel tools for investigating microglia cellular turnover kinetics and microglia-CD4 T cell Interaction
Biological Science at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology	Characterisation of bedaquiline resistance mediated by the <i>M. tuberculosis</i> MmpS5L5 efflux pump
Biological Science at the Sanger Institute	Inferring effective cancer combination therapies using network-based multi-omics data integration
Biological Science at the Sanger Institute	Gene misexpression in humans
Cancer Biology (Stem Cell Biology)	Investigating the translational and metabolic reprogramming of the bone marrow niche in myeloid malignancy
Chemistry	A deep dive into the liquid droplet state of α -synuclein
Chemistry	Leveraging protein homeostasis as a disease-modifying strategy
Chemistry	On machine learning loss landscapes
Chemistry	Cellulose nanocrystals as a candidate for solar geo-engineering
Chemistry	The development and application of ultra-sensitive protein aggregate detection techniques
Chemistry	Photoelectrochemical fuel synthesis using organic semiconductors with (bio)molecular catalysts
Chemistry	Non-equilibrium pattern formation in multi-species interacting particle systems
Chemistry	Energy landscapes of hybrid potentials based on NMR data
Computational Methods for Materials Science (Chemistry)	
Computer Science	End-user programming of visualisations
Computer Science	Accurate estimation of drug combination synergies with uncertainty quantification
Criminology	Logical legitimist treatise: on policing and protests in Hong Kong
Engineering	Advances in Optimisation of Model Parameters and Hyperparameters for Neural Networks
Engineering (Graphene Technology)	Atomically thin microwave biosensors
Genetics	Role of the atypical Notch ligand Dlk2, and it's relationship with Dlk1 in mammalian neurogenesis
Geography	Explosive volcanism in the Kenyan Rift: a tephrostratigraphic perspective
History	Education, aristocracy, and morality in the political thought of François Guizot
Land Economy	The political economy of alternative investments
Materials Science and Metallurgy	Enhancing critical current density in (RE)Ba ₂ CuO _{7-x} superconductors
Materials Science and Metallurgy	Enhancing the mechanical and chemical integrity of Ag/ZnO-based transparent and conductive thin film coatings: an atomistic modelling study
Medical Science at Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute	Graph representation learning to study the tumour microenvironment

Medical Science at the Cambridge Institute for Medical Research	An investigation into the intracellular trafficking and processing pathways of amyloid precursor protein
Medical Science at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit	Genetic and environmental factors related to child and parent mental health in the context of intellectual disabilities
Medicine	Clonal haematopoiesis of indeterminate potential and the role of inflammation in its association with atherosclerosis
Medicine	Visualisation of innate immune signalling complexes in cells by cryo-electron tomography
Pharmacology	Investigations into the lipid transport mechanisms and energetics of bacterial ATP-binding cassette (ABC) transporters MsbA and LmrA
Physiology, Development and Neuroscience	Hepatic and extra-hepatic metabolism in NAFLD and the role of hepatocyte oxygen sensing
Physiology, Development and Neuroscience	Sleep oscillations and their temporal association in neocortices in mice
Physiology, Development and Neuroscience	Cell mechanics-based modelling and in toto imaging describe a new mode of lumen formation in chicken neural tube
Plant Sciences	Using remote sensing to track resilience of subtropical rainforests against fires and tropical cyclones
Psychiatry	Educational and vocational disengagement in autistic young adults
Psychology	Characterisation of the role of peripheral μ -opioid receptors in the behavioural effects of heroin and their underlying neural systems in the rat
Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics	Coupling in SPDEs and spectral analysis of heavy-tailed random operators
Social Anthropology	"Very Sumba": new forms of regional cultural reflexivity in eastern Indonesia
Social Anthropology	Space-times of exile: mobility, temporality, and place-making among Kurdish and left-wing political refugees from Turkey in Greece
Stem Cell Biology	Deciphering the mechanisms of heterogeneity within haematopoiesis in health, development and disease
Theoretical and Applied Linguistics	Pursuing the meaning of expressiveness: a holistic, radical contextualist account of lexical expressives
Toxicology	Investigating the impact of pharmacological exposures on the developing epigenome
Zoology	Prediction and surveillance of antigenic variation in influenza and SARS-CoV-2 viruses

3. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS BY DOWNING FELLOWS

Ashby, Michael

Ashby, Michael, 'Are Regulatory Short Sale Data a Profitable Predictor of UK Stock Returns?', *Journal of Risk and Financial Management*, 17.8 (2024)

Bravo, Michael

Olsen, Julia, and Michael Bravo, 'Arctic coastal communities and the social ontologies of sea ice', *Environmental Sociology* (2025), 1-13

Coombes, Rachel

Coombes, Rachel, 'Inter-artistic alliances in the early twentieth-century *renouveau catholique*: the case of Saint-Germain-en-Laye', *French History*, 39.2 (June 2025), 170-90

Correia, Marta

Correia, Marta M., Rafael Neto Henriques, Marc Golub, and others, 'The trouble with free-water elimination using single-shell diffusion MRI data: A case study in ageing', *Imaging Neuroscience* (August 2024)

Day, William

Day, William, and Julius Grower, eds, *Borderlines in Private Law* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2024)

Fiorentino, Stefania

Fiorentino, Stefania, 'Are shared workspaces a new form of social infrastructure?', *Planning Practice & Research*, 39.5 (2024), 892-905

Hammer, Charlotte

Braam, Dorien Hanneke, Muhammad-Bashir Bolajoko, and Charlotte C. Hammer, 'A One Health approach to pastoral (im)mobility, health, and disease: A qualitative participatory study in Plateau State, Nigeria', *PLOS Global Public Health* (2024)

Brainard, Julii, Isabel Catalina Swindells, Joanna Wild, and others, 'Emergency infection prevention and control training in fragile, conflict-affected or vulnerable settings: a scoping review', *BMC Health Services Research*, 24 (2024)

Bullen, Jay C., Mina Mohaghegh, Fatima Tahir, and others, 'Near-source wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2, norovirus, influenza virus and RSV across five different sites in the UK', *PLOS Global Public Health*, 5.4 (2025)

Haniff, Chris

Creech-Eakman, M. J., V. D. Romero, C. A. Haniff, and others, 'Recent progress with the Magdalena Ridge Observatory Interferometer project', *Proceedings SPIE*, 13095 (28 August 2024)

Haniff, Christopher A., James Luis, David F. Buscher, and others, 'Performance verification results for the Magdalena Ridge Observatory Interferometer (MROI)', *Proceedings SPIE*, 13095 (28 August 2024)

Kourtzi, Zoe

Jia, Ke, Mengxin Wang, Cecilia Steinwurz, and others, 'Recurrent inhibition refines mental templates to optimize perceptual decisions', *Science Advances*, 10.31 (July 2024)

Lee, Liz Yuanxi, Joseph J. Ziminski, Polytimi Frangou, and others, 'Neurogenetic phenotypes of learning-dependent plasticity for improved perceptual decisions', *Communications Biology*, 8 (2025)

Lander Johnson, Bonnie

Lander Johnson, Bonnie, *Botanical Culture and Popular Belief in Shakespeare's England* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2025)

Lander Johnson, Bonnie, ed., *The Cambridge Handbook of Literature and Plants* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2025)

Lander Johnson, Bonnie, *Vanishing Landscapes: The Story of Plants and How We Lost Them* (London: Hodder Press, 2025)

Lees, Emma

Lees, Emma, and Emilie Gjaldbæk-Sverdrup, 'Fuzzy Universality in Climate Change Litigation', *Transnational Environmental Law*, 13.3 (November 2024), 502-21

Lees, Emma, and Ole W Pedersen, 'Performative Environmental Law', *Modern Law Review*, 88.1 (January 2025), 124-54

Lees, Emma, and Ole W Pedersen, 'Restoring the Regulated: The EU's Nature Restoration Law', *Journal of Environmental Law*, 37.1 (March 2025), 75-96

Li, Yang

Li, Yang, 'Intermediate complex structure limit for Calabi-Yau metrics', *Inventiones mathematicae*, 240 (2025), 459-96

Li, Yang, 'Quantitative Thomas-Yau uniqueness', *Geometry & Topology*, 29.5 (2025), 2251-268

Li, Yang, 'Thomas-Yau conjecture and holomorphic curves', *EMS Surveys in Mathematical Sciences*, 12 (2025), 323-475

McCaffrey, James

Lee, Colin Y. C., James McCaffrey, Dominic McGovern, and others, 'Profiling immune cell tissue niches in the spatial -omics era', *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, 155.3 (March 2025), 663-77

Stewart, Andrew P., Kevin W. Loudon, Matthew Routledge, and others, 'Neutrophil extracellular traps protect the kidney from ascending infection and are required for a positive leukocyte dipstick test', *Science Translational Medicine*, 16.766 (September 2024)

Zhang, Roy, Patrick B. Trotter, James McCaffrey, and others, 'Assessment of biological organ age using molecular pathology in pre-transplant kidney biopsies', *Kidney International*, 106.2 (August 2024), 302-16

Milton, Amy

Colom, Morgane, Amy L. Milton, and Trevor W. Robbins, "'Only connect": cognition meets motivation as cognitive effort to enhance models of depression', *Behavioral Pharmacology*, 36.4 (June 2025), 171-74

McKenzie, Colin, Bart Sloot, Felipe Espinelli Amorim, and others, 'Agonism at mGluR2 receptors reduces dysfunctional checking on a rodent analogue of compulsive-like checking in obsessive compulsive disorder', *Psychopharmacology*, 242 (2025), 1893-907

Rye, Charlotte S., and Amy L. Milton, 'Glutamate receptor expression in the PL-BLA circuit is associated with susceptibility to showing the PTSD-like phenotype', *Neurobiology of Learning and Memory*, 219 (May 2025)

Morgan, John

Nicy, John W. R. Morgan, and David J. Wales, 'Energy landscapes for clusters of hexapeptides', *The Journal of Chemical Physics*, 161.5 (2024)

Roberts, Ian

Kallulli, Dalina, and Ian Roberts, 'Defectivity and auxiliary syncretism: Diachronic aspects', *Journal of Historical Syntax*, 9 (2025), 1-20

Kallulli, Dalina, and Ian Roberts, 'Form Copy and A'-dependencies: Revisiting Resumption', *Catalan Journal of Linguistics* (July 2025), 1-18

Roberts, Ian, 'Case and the theory of parameters', in Christina Sevdali, Dionysios Mertyrus, and Elena Anagnostopoulou, eds, *The Place of Case in Grammar* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2024), pp. 154-74

Santos de Carvalho, Juliana

Santos de Carvalho, Juliana, 'Doing legality as doing drag: the Yogyakarta Principles and the productive power of performing international law-making', *London Review of International Law*, 12.2 (July 2024), 155-80

Santos de Carvalho, Juliana, 'Fear of a Queer Law: Sex/Gender and the Exclusion of Queer Thinking in International Law', in Tamsin Phillipa Paige and Claerwen O'Hara, eds, *Queer Encounters with International Law: Lives, Communities, Subjectivities* (London: Routledge, 2024), pp. 200-20

Santos de Carvalho, Juliana, 'Under the shadow of legality: A shadow hauntology on the legal construction of the Women, Peace and Security agenda', *Leiden Journal of International Law*, 37.4 (December 2024), 866-90

Sheffield, Frisbee

Sheffield, Frisbee, 'Desire and Argument in Plato's *Gorgias*', in J. Clerk Shaw, ed., *Cambridge Critical Guides: Plato's Gorgias* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024), pp. 124-45

Sheffield, F. C. C., 'The Gorgias', in Peter D. Larsen and Vasilis Politis, eds, *The Platonic Mind* (London: Routledge, 2025), pp. 46-57

Sheffield, Frisbee C. C., 'Love in Plato and Aristotle', in Ryan Patrick Hanley, ed., *Love: A History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2024), pp. 42-65

Virgo, Graham

Virgo, Graham, 'Unjust Enrichment/Equity', in William Day and Julius Grower, eds, *Borderlines in Private Law* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2024), pp. 138-61

Wales, David

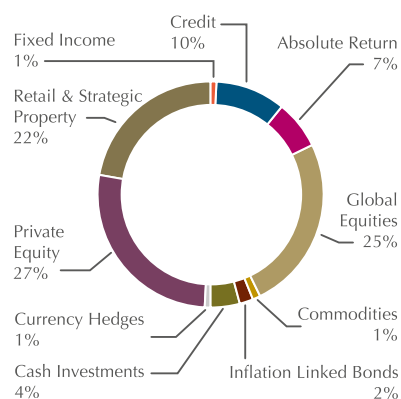
Yang, Shiun-Jr, David J. Wales, Esmae J. Woods, and others, 'Design principles for energy transfer in the photosystem II supercomplex from kinetic transition networks', *Nature Communications*, 15 (2024)

4. INVESTMENTS

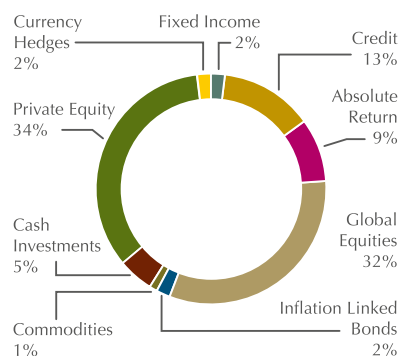
Composition of Investment Portfolio

	30 June 2025 £	30 June 2024 £	30 June 2023 £
1. Securities			
Core Portfolio Cash	4,302,287	4,196,850	2,853,446
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedges	-	-	598,304
Fixed Income	1,226,741	1,257,990	875,699
Credit	8,196,942	6,859,755	6,539,731
Absolute Return	5,672,522	4,151,053	2,389,950
Hedged Equities	-	-	2,173,557
Global Equities	19,841,327	17,328,009	17,161,700
Private Equity	21,699,266	22,098,599	20,408,416
Inflation Linked Bonds	1,337,695	1,410,321	1,421,454
Commodity Fund	661,103	631,328	564,630
Total	62,937,883	57,933,905	54,986,886
Other Private Equity	-	-	-
TOTAL SECURITIES	62,937,883	57,933,905	54,986,886
2. Property			
Office	5,025,499	4,730,000	4,730,000
Retail	12,474,501	11,741,000	11,741,000
Property Development	-	170,217	489,459
TOTAL PROPERTY	17,500,000	16,641,217	16,960,459
TOTAL PORTFOLIO	80,437,883	74,575,122	71,947,345
Securities Equity Like Risk	75%	75%	75%

ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2025 (inc. property)



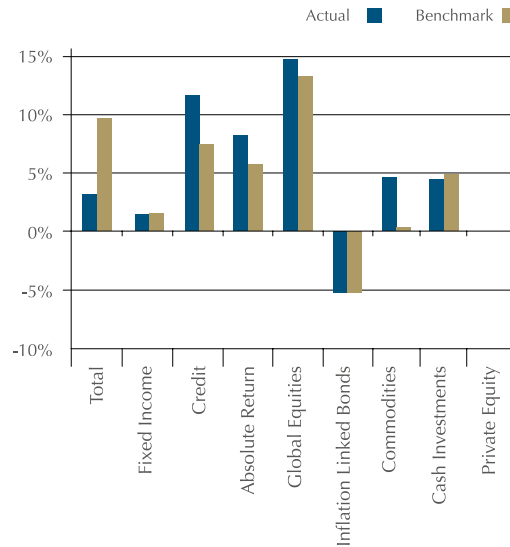
ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2025 (exc. property)



ENDOWMENT & TOTAL RETURN

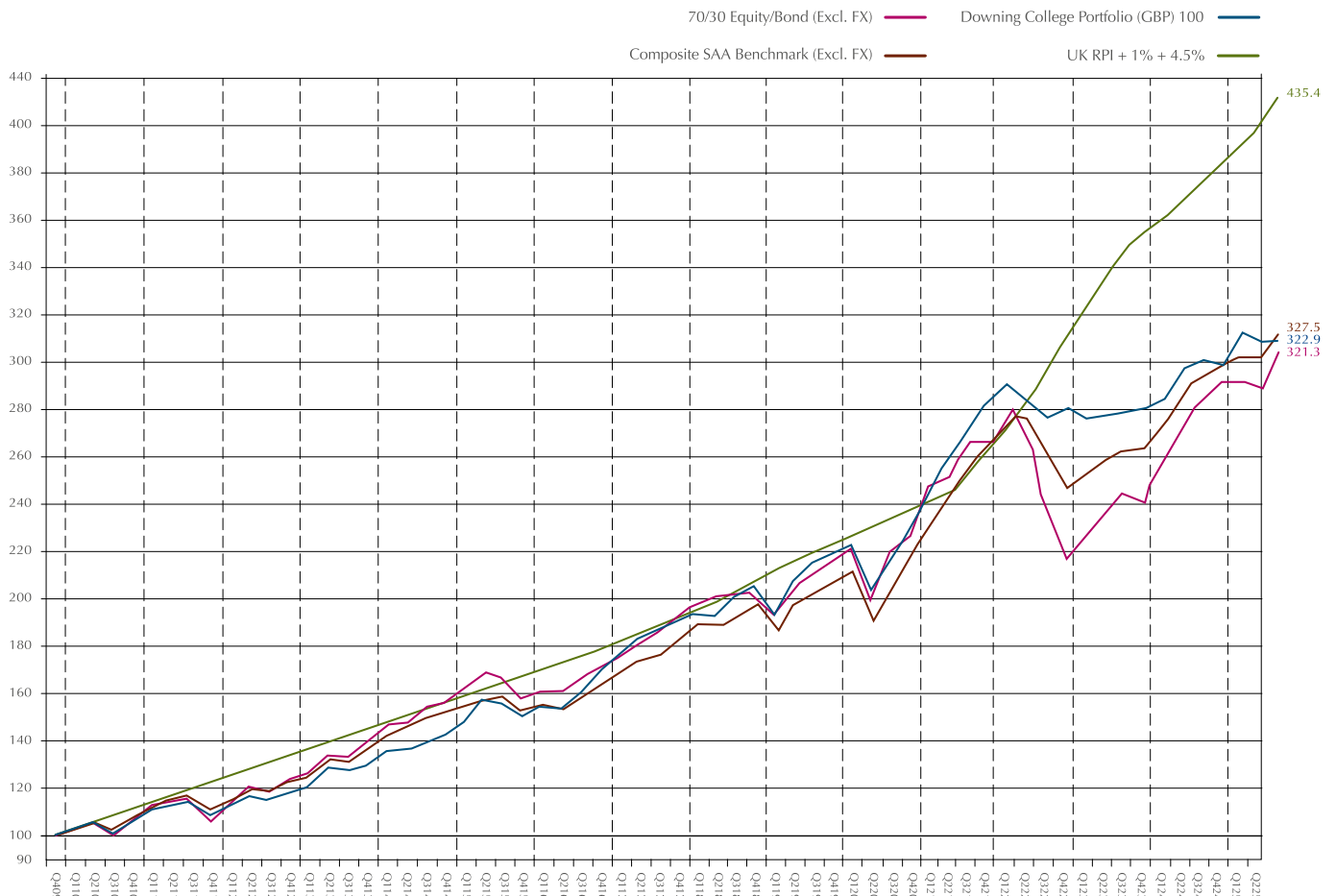


SECURITIES RETURN AGAINST BENCHMARKS 2024/25



Note: asset class returns are shown in local currency against their respective benchmarks (listed under Investment Principles section 6) gross of Partners Capital Management fees and net of underlying investment charges. Total portfolio returns are shown in GBP terms after the effect of foreign currency (which detracted -4.3% in 2024/25) and net of all management and investment fees. Performance is shown without the benefit of long-term debt.

CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION - value of £100 invested



Inception is from 2009 when the mandate for the portfolio was transferred to Partners Capital

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COLLEGE'S GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The College's Statutes and the Statutes and Ordinances of the University of Cambridge require that financial statements are prepared for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of the surplus or deficit of the College for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Governing Body is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the College will continue in operation.

The Governing Body is responsible for ensuring that there is an effective system of internal control and that accounting records are properly kept.

The Governing Body is responsible for taking reasonable steps to ensure that there are appropriate financial and management controls in place to safeguard the assets of the College and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Governing Body is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the College's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF DOWNING COLLEGE

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Downing College (the 'College') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 30 June 2025 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Reserves, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and College's affairs as at 30 June 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the Statutes of the University of Cambridge.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

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

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

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

OTHER INFORMATION

The Governing Body is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the contribution due from the College to the University has been computed as advised in the provisional assessment by the University of Cambridge and in accordance with the provisions of Statute G,II, of the University of Cambridge.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and College and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNING BODY

As explained more fully in the responsibilities of the Governing Body statement set out on page 36, the Governing Body is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governing Body determines 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 Governing Body is responsible for assessing the Group's and College'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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the Group or the College or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the College through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the education sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the College, including the Charities Act 2011, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and taxation legislation;
- in addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations which do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Group's and College's ability to operate or to avoid material penalties;
- we obtained an understanding of the College's policies and procedures on compliance with laws and regulations, including documentation of any instances of non-compliance;
- we made enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- we considered the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- we assessed the susceptibility of the College's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur; and
- laws and regulations identified were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.



AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

As a result of the above risk assessment procedures we identified the greatest risk of material misstatement on the financial statements arising from irregularities and fraud to be within the potential for management to override controls together with the risk of fraudulent revenue recognition. We considered the risk of fraudulent revenue recognition to be most prevalent in the completeness and cut off of donation and legacy income and the cut off of conference income. In response to these identified risks, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- performed audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policy were indicative of potential bias;
- we used Audit Data Analytics to review the client data for unusual anomalies;
- we performed substantive testing for a sample of donations from Raiser's Edge to supporting documentation to ensure that all income was appropriately recognised in the general ledger in the correct period and any restrictions appropriately recognised;
- we also tested a sample of donations around the year end and discussed ongoing legacies with the Development Office to ensure cut off had been correctly applied; and
- we performed substantive testing for a sample of conferences from the booking system to invoice to ensure that all income was appropriately recognised in the general ledger in the correct period.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or 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. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the College and the Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

PEM Audit Limited

PEM Audit Limited
Registered Auditors
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge
CB1 2LA

Date: 15 December 2025

PEM Audit Limited is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes of the College and of the University of Cambridge, using the Recommended Cambridge College Accounts (RCCA) format; and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting for Further and Higher Education issued in 2019.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure includes activity analysis in order to demonstrate that all fee income is spent for educational purposes. The analysis required by the SORP is set out in note 7.

The College is a public benefit entity and therefore has applied the relevant public benefit requirement of the applicable UK laws and accounting standards.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified in respect of the treatment of investments and operational properties which are included at valuation.

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements include the College and its subsidiary undertakings. Details of the subsidiary undertakings included are set out in note 10. Intra-group balances are eliminated on consolidation. A separate balance sheet and certain related notes for the College are not included in the accounts because the College's subsidiary companies are a conference and banqueting trading company, small investment vehicle and an event company for running the biennial May Ball. Each trading company donates their profits to the College each year. The balance sheet for the College alone would not be materially different to the one included in the accounts. The consolidated financial statements do not include the activities of student societies as these are separate bodies in which the College has no financial interest and over whose policy decisions it has no control.

RECOGNITION OF INCOME

Academic fees

Academic fees are recognised in the period to which they relate and include all fees chargeable to students or their sponsors. The costs of any fees waived or written off by the College are included as expenditure.



Grant income

Grants received from non-government sources (including research grants from non-government sources) are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College 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.

Donations and endowments

Non-exchange transactions without performance-related conditions are donations and endowments. Donations and endowments with donor-imposed restrictions are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income. Income is retained within restricted reserves until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions at which point the income is released to general reserves through a reserve transfer.

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

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 College.
3. Restricted expendable endowments – the donor has specified a particular objective and the College can convert the donated sum into income.
4. Restricted permanent endowments – the donor has specified that the fund is to be permanently invested to generate an income stream to be applied to a particular objective.

Donations with no restrictions are recorded within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income.

Investment income and change in value of investment assets

Investment income and change in value of investment assets is recorded in income in the year in which it arises and as either restricted or unrestricted income according to the terms or other restrictions applied to the individual endowment fund.

Total return

The College operates a total return policy with regard to its endowment assets (including property). The endowment spending policy is specifically designed to stabilise annual spending levels and to preserve the real value of the endowment portfolio over time. The spending policy attempts to achieve these two objectives by using a long-term targeted spending rate combined with a smoothing rule, which adjusts spending gradually to changes in the endowment market value. The actual rate of spending for 2025, when measured against the previous year’s market value, was 4.7%.

Other income

Income is received from a range of activities including accommodation, catering conferences and other services rendered.

Cambridge Bursary Scheme

In 2024–25, payment of the Cambridge Bursaries has been made by the College to eligible students via the Student Loans Company (SLC) and the University of Cambridge has reimbursed the College for their portion. The College has shown the gross payment made to eligible students via the SLC and a contribution from the University as Income under “Academic Fees and Charges”.

The net payment of £156,187 is shown within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure as follows:

Income (see note 1)	£299,961
Expenditure (see note 4)	£456,148

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at year end rates or, where there are forward foreign exchange contracts, at contract rates. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the determination of the comprehensive income and expenditure for the financial year.

FIXED ASSETS

Land and Buildings

Buildings are stated at valuation, the aggregate surplus or deficit is transferred to a revaluation reserve included within Reserves.

Where parts of a fixed asset have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of fixed assets.

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

Freehold land is not depreciated as it is considered to have an indefinite useful life. A full asset valuation of the operational estate for accounts purposes was carried out by Gerald Eve LLP, Surveyors, as at 30 June 2021. Freehold buildings are depreciated on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives of 100, 50, or 20 years. The earliest buildings, designed by William Wilkins, form a significant part of the Domus and are listed as Grade I¹. All other buildings on the Domus come within the curtilage of those buildings and are therefore subject to some of the same restrictions. The Listing imposes an obligation to repair and restore. All repairs that restore value are capitalised, as are improvements. Other repairs are charged against income. For insurance purposes, the replacement cost of the buildings has been valued at £152.1 million.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a fixed asset may not be recoverable.

Buildings under construction are valued at cost, based on the value of architects' certificates and other direct costs incurred. They are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

Land held specifically for development, investment and subsequent sale is included in current assets at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

The cost of additions to operational property shown in the balance sheet includes the cost of land. All other assets are capitalised and depreciated over their expected useful life as follows:

Library books	30 years
Furniture and equipment	10 years
Catering equipment	5 years
Information Technology	3 years

Works of Art

Works of art and silver are shown in the accounts at their market value as assessed by Townley Valuation Services Limited on 18 October 2022. A review for impairment of works of art is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a fixed asset may not be recoverable.

¹ Details of the listing can be found at: <http://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/results?q=Downing+College>

Leased assets

Leases in which the College 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 leases 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. Lease payments are accounted for as described below.

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.

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 minimum lease term.

Heritage assets

The College does not hold any assets that should be classed as heritage assets.

INVESTMENTS

Fixed asset investments are included in the balance sheet as follows:-

a) Securities

Securities are included at their open market value.

b) Subsidiary Undertakings

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are recorded at costs less any provision for impairment in value, and eliminated on consolidation.

c) Unlisted investments

Unlisted investments are carried at costs less any provision for permanent diminution in value, unless they are listed as a recognised stock exchange in which case their open market value is used, or there has been a more recent funding round, in which case this value is used to value all investments made to the fund.

d) Property

Investment properties are included at open market valuation. An annual assessment was carried out by Strutt & Parker as at 30 June 2025.

STOCKS

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making provision for slow-moving and obsolete items.

PROVISIONS

Provisions are recognised when the College has a present legal or constructive obligation, as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the College 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 College. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the College 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 College.

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

TAXATION

The College is a registered charity (number 1137455) and also a charity within the meaning of Section 467 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. Accordingly, the College is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within the categories covered by Sections 478 to 488 of the Corporation Tax Act 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 College receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax. The College is a partially exempt organisation for VAT purposes. With the approval of H M Revenue and Customs, it has adopted a methodology that enables it to recover part of the VAT on its expenses. Though recovered VAT significantly exceeds the VAT previously recoverable under the old CVCP Guidelines, input tax on purchases is, nevertheless, largely irrecoverable. In 2024-25, the College received £207,250 in refunds on purchases of £8.5 million.

The College's subsidiary companies, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited are not subject to these exemptions and are liable for Corporation Tax. However, all taxable profits of the subsidiaries are gift-aided to the College, thereby extinguishing any corporation tax that may be assessable.

CONTRIBUTION UNDER STATUTE G,II

The College is liable to be assessed for Contribution under the provisions of Statute G,II of the University of Cambridge. Contribution is used to fund grants to colleges from the Colleges Fund. The liability for the year is as advised to the College by the University based on an assessable amount derived from the value of the College's assets as at the end of the previous financial year.

PENSION COSTS

The College participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme. The assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. 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 College 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 College therefore accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme. Since the College has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan) that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit, the College recognises a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit) with related expenses being recognised through the profit and loss account.

The College participates in the Cambridge Colleges Federated Pension Scheme (CCFPS), a defined benefit scheme which is externally funded and until 31 March 2017 was contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). As CCFPS is a federated scheme and the College is able to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities, the College values the fund as required by Section 28 Employee Benefits of FRS102 'Retirement Benefits'. As a result, the amount charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure represents the amount calculated under FRS102 guidelines.

The College also operates defined contribution pension schemes and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the College to the funds in respect of the year.



CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS

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 Universities Superannuation Scheme. 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) with the resulting expense charged through the profit or loss account in accordance with section 28 of FRS 102. The Governing Body is satisfied that the Universities Superannuation Scheme meets the definition of a multi-employer scheme and has therefore recognised the discounted fair value of the contractual contributions under the recovery plan in existence at the date of approving these financial statements.

All other accounting judgements and estimates are detailed under the appropriate accounting policy.

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 College. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the College expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

RESERVES

Reserves are allocated between restricted and unrestricted reserves. Endowment reserves include balances which, in respect of endowment to the College, are held as permanent funds, which the College must hold to perpetuity.

Restricted reserves include balances in respect of which the donor has designated a specific purpose and therefore the College is restricted in the use of these funds..



PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2025 Total £000	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2024 Total £000
Income									
Academic fees and charges	1	4,533	—	—	4,533	4,560	—	—	4,560
Accommodation, catering and conferences	2	9,770	—	—	9,770	8,390	—	—	8,390
Investment income	3	19	—	922	941	30	—	1,155	1,185
Endowment return transferred	3	1,588	1,669	(3,257)	—	1,549	1,597	(3,146)	—
Other income		425	—	—	425	394	—	—	394
Total income before donations and endowments		16,335	1,669	(2,335)	15,669	14,923	1,597	(1,991)	14,529
Donations		1,558	1,237	—	2,795	1,146	470	—	1,616
New endowments		—	3	5,655	5,658	—	1	1,103	1,104
Other capital grants for assets		—	8	—	8	—	8	—	8
Total income		17,893	2,917	3,320	24,130	16,069	2,076	(888)	17,257
Expenditure									
Education	4	5,667	2,536	—	8,203	5,764	2,170	—	7,934
Accommodation, catering and conferences	5	11,791	—	—	11,791	10,683	5	—	10,688
Other expenditure		901	171	20	1,092	582	73	59	714
Change in USS pension deficit recovery provision contributions	8,15	—	—	—	—	(1,118)	—	—	(1,118)
Total expenditure	7	18,359	2,707	20	21,086	15,911	2,248	59	18,218
(Deficit) / Surplus before other gains and losses		(466)	210	3,300	3,044	158	(172)	(947)	(961)
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gain on investments		103	5	2,455	2,563	657	49	3,284	3,990
(Deficit) / Surplus for the year		(363)	215	5,755	5,607	815	(123)	2,337	3,029
Other comprehensive income									
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of fixed assets	9	—	—	—	—	15,954	—	—	15,954
Actuarial gain / (loss) in respect of pension schemes	15	91	—	—	91	116	—	—	116
Total comprehensive income for the year		(272)	215	5,755	5,698	16,885	(123)	2,337	19,099

The notes on pages 57 to 81 form part of these accounts

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Income and expenditure reserve			Revaluation	Total £000
	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	reserve £000	
Balance at 1 July 2024	129,790	4,648	45,822	62,813	243,073
(Deficit)/ surplus from income and expenditure statement	(363)	215	5,755	—	5,607
Other comprehensive income	91	—	—	—	91
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year	8	(8)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves	595	(279)	311	(627)	—
Balance at 30 June 2025	130,121	4,576	51,888	62,186	248,771

	Income and expenditure reserve			Revaluation	Total £000
	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	reserve £000	
Balance at 1 July 2023	128,365	4,392	43,873	47,342	223,972
(Deficit)/ surplus from income and expenditure statement	815	(123)	2,337	—	3,029
Other comprehensive income	116	—	—	15,956	16,072
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year	8	(8)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves	486	387	(388)	(485)	—
Balance at 30 June 2024	129,790	4,648	45,822	62,813	243,073

The notes on pages 57 to 81 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 £000	2024 £000
Non-current assets			
Fixed assets	9	204,110	198,491
Investments	10	81,947	81,913
Total non-current assets		286,057	280,404
Current assets			
Stocks		123	130
Trade and other receivables	11	3,021	1,446
Cash and cash equivalents	12	189	380
Total current assets		3,333	1,956
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(6,074)	(4,601)
Net current liabilities		(2,741)	(2,645)
Total assets less current liabilities		283,316	277,759
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(34,112)	(34,150)
Provisions			
Pension provisions	15	(433)	(536)
Total net assets		248,771	243,073
Restricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – endowment reserve	16	51,888	45,822
Income and expenditure reserve – restricted reserve	17	4,576	4,648
		56,464	50,470
Unrestricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – unrestricted		130,121	129,790
Revaluation reserve		62,186	62,813
		192,307	192,603
Total reserves		248,771	243,073

The financial statements were approved by the Governing Body on 28 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Graham Virgo, Master

The notes on pages 57 to 81 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 £000	2024 £000
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		5,607	3,029
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation		2,648	2460
Gain on Endowments, Donations and Investment Property		(2,542)	(3,931)
Decrease / (increase) in stocks		7	12
(Increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables		(1,575)	(383)
Increase in creditors		632	974
Pension costs less contributions payable		(52)	(1,145)
Adjustment for investing or financing activities			
Investment income		(941)	(1,185)
Interest payable		1,134	1,061
Profit of disposal of non-current fixed assets		—	—
Net cash inflow from operating activities		4,918	892
Proceeds from sales of non-current fixed assets		—	—
Non-current investment disposal		—	—
Investment income		3,257	3,292
Endowment funds invested		(5,633)	(1,045)
Withdrawal of deposits		—	—
Payments made to acquire non-current assets		(2,125)	(3,598)
Cash flows from investing activities		(4,501)	(1,351)
Interest received		19	30
Interest paid		(1,134)	(1,061)
New unsecured loan		—	—
New finance lease		—	—
Repayment of finance lease		(75)	(75)
Cash flows from financing activities		(1,190)	(1,106)
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(773)	(1,565)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		380	1,945
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	19	(393)	380
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year comprise:			
Cash at bank and in hand	12	189	380
Bank overdrafts	13	(582)	—
		(393)	380

The notes on pages 57 to 81 form part of these accounts

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Academic Fees and Charges

	2025 £000	2024 £000
College fees:		
Fee income received at the regulated undergraduate rate	1,789	1,865
Fee income received at the unregulated undergraduate rate	844	776
Fee income received at the graduate rate	1,575	1,491
	4,208	4,132
Cambridge Bursary Scheme income	300	306
Research/Teaching Grants	11	106
Other income	14	16
Total	4,533	4,560

2. Income from accommodation, catering and conferences

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Accommodation		
College Members	4,249	4,033
Conferences	3,129	2,015
Catering		
College Members	1,031	895
Conferences	1,361	1,447
Total	9,770	8,390

3. Endowment return and Investment Income

	2025 £000	2024 £000
3a. Analysis		
Total return contribution (see note 3b)	3,257	3,146
Other interest receivable	19	30
	3,276	3,176

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

3b. Summary of Total Return

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Income from:		
Land and buildings	942	979
Quoted and other securities and cash	(20)	176
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:		
Land & Buildings	1,029	-
Quoted and other securities and cash	1,534	3,990
Investment management costs (see note 3c)	(20)	(59)
Total return for year	3,465	5,086
Total return transferred to income and expenditure reserve	(3,257)	(3,146)
Unapplied total return for year included within Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure (see note 18)	208	1,940

3c. Investment Management Costs

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Land & Buildings	20	21
Quoted securities and other investments	—	38
	20	59

4. Education expenditure

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Teaching	3,565	3,212
Tutorial	1,208	1,179
Admissions	1,016	979
Research	307	356
Scholarships and awards	1,235	1,370
Other educational facilities	872	838
Total	8,203	7,934

Included within Scholarships and Awards are payments under the Cambridge Bursary Scheme amounting to £456,148 (2024 - £479,316).

5. Accommodation, catering and conferences expenditure

		2025 £000	2024 £000
Accommodation	College Members	5,604	5,424
	Conferences	2,860	2,414
Catering	College Members	1,705	1,684
	Conferences	1,622	1,166
Total		11,791	10,688

Conference expenditure above is on a fully-costed basis, which includes a significant contribution to the absorption of overheads.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

6. Other expenditure

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Investment management fees and administration	20	59
USS pension interest charge	—	26
FRS102 pension schemes interest charge	27	34
Other general and administrative	1,045	595
Total	1,092	714

7a. Analysis of 2024/2025 expenditure by activity

	Staff Costs (Note 8) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	3,770	3,732	701	8,203
Accommodation, catering and conferences	5,280	4,587	1,924	11,791
Other	274	795	23	1,092
Totals	9,324	9,114	2,648	21,086

The above expenditure includes £646,662 as the direct cost of fundraising (2024 - £538,802). This expenditure includes the costs of alumni relations.

7b. Analysis of 2023/2024 expenditure by activity

	Staff Costs (Note 8) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	3,417	3,861	656	7,934
Accommodation, catering and conferences	4,621	4,285	1,782	10,688
Other	305	387	22	714
Change in USS pension deficit recovery provision contributions	-1,118	—	—	-1,118
Totals	7,225	8,533	2,460	18,218

7c. Auditors' remuneration

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Other operating expenses include:		
Audit fees payable to the College's external auditors	34	34
Other fees payable to the College's external auditors	6	5

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

8. Staff Costs	College Fellows £000	Non-Academics £000	Total 2025 £000	Total 2024 £000
Staff Costs				
Emoluments	1,648	6,483	8,131	7,266
Social security costs	138	569	707	586
Other pension costs	161	325	486	539
Net change in USS deficit recovery and subtotal of pension costs (see Note 8b.)	—	—	—	(1,166)
Sub-total pension costs	161	325	486	(627)
Total	1,947	7,377	9,324	7,225

Based on the 2020 valuation of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), the impact of the net change in the USS deficit recovery provision is a credit/charge of £Nil (2024: £1,116,000). This comprises a non-cash credit resulting from the change in assumptions, including the discount rate, of £Nil (2024: £1,118,000) and cash contributions made to reduce the deficit in the year of £Nil (2024: £48,000).

Average staff numbers (full-time equivalents):				
Academic	49	—	49	51
Non-academic	4	178	182	169
Total	53	178	231	220

As of 30 June 2025 the Governing Body comprised 53 Fellows, of whom 51 were stipendiary.

No officer or employee of the College, including the Head of House, received emoluments of over £100,000.

8a. Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the College. Therefore, the Trustees who include the Master, Senior Bursar, Vice-Master, Secretary to the Governing Body and Senior Tutor are the key management personnel.

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Aggregate Emoluments	230	198

Trustees received no emoluments in their capacity as Trustees of the Charity.

8b. Pension costs

The total pension cost included in staff costs for the year (see note 8) was:

	Employer contributions 2024/25 £000	Provisions (Note 15) 2024/25 £000	Total 2024/25 £000	Employer contributions 2023/24 £000	Provisions (Note 15) 2023/24 £000	Total 2023/24 £000
USS	240	—	240	290	(1,166)	(876)
CCFPS	17	(39)	(22)	53	(39)	14
Other	268	—	268	235	—	235
Total	525	(39)	486	578	(1,205)	(627)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	College Buildings and Site £000	Assets under Construction £000	Works of art and silverware £000	Furniture fittings and equipment £000	Total £000
Cost					
As at 1 July 2024	195,066	—	—	14,284	209,350
Additions at cost	1,752	—	—	373	2,125
Disposals	—	—	—	(30)	(30)
Transfers	(2,353)	2,353	6,142	—	6,142
As at 30 June 2025	194,465	2,353	6,142	14,627	217,587
Depreciation					
As at 1 July 2024	—	—	—	10,859	10,859
Charge for the year	1,924	—	—	724	2,648
Disposals	—	—	—	(30)	(30)
As at 30 June 2025	1,924	—	—	11,553	13,477
Net book value					
As at 30 June 2025	192,541	2,353	6,142	3,074	204,110
As at 1 July 2024	195,066	—	2,928	497	198,491

The insured value of freehold land and buildings as at 30 June 2025 was £152,121,010 (2024 - £152,055,300).

The value of the land, included in College Buildings and Site, as at 30 June 2025 was £58,166,000 (2024 - £58,166,000).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

10. Investments

	2025 £000	2024 £000
As at 1 July	81,913	79,257
Additions	11,748	11,663
Disposals	(8,469)	(11,823)
Transfers	(6,142)	—
Gains	2,187	3,217
(Decrease)/increase in cash balances held at fund managers	710	(401)
As at 30 June	81,947	81,913

Represented by:

Property	17,500	16,642
Securities	59,776	55,482
Cash with agents	3,162	2,452
Works of art	—	6,142
Over distribution of market value of funds	1,049	735
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding Plc	5	5
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding II Plc	5	5
Land	450	450
	81,947	81,913

Subsidiary Company

At 30 June 2025 Downing College held an investment in the following companies:

Subsidiary Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights	Country of Incorporation
Downing College Developments Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
The May Ball Company Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom

Downing College Developments Limited was incorporated on 20 January 1999. The principal activity of the company is development of student accommodation and other facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited was incorporated on 2 April 2007. The principal activity of the company is the provision of non-educational conference facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

The May Ball Company Limited was incorporated on 28 July 2010. The principal activity of the company is to administer the operation of the biennial College May Ball. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

11. Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated 2025 £000	College 2025 £000	Consolidated 2024 £000	College 2024 £000
Members of the College	254	254	200	200
Amounts due from group companies	—	95	—	—
Other receivables	1,663	1,498	556	428
Prepayments	1,104	1,104	690	690
	3,021	2,951	1,446	1,318

12. Cash and cash equivalents

	Consolidated 2025 £000	College 2025 £000	Consolidated 2024 £000	College 2024 £000
Bank deposits	—	—	—	—
Current accounts	188	—	379	272
Cash in hand	1	1	1	1
	189	1	380	273

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Consolidated 2025 £000	College 2025 £000	Consolidated 2024 £000	College 2024 £000
Bank overdrafts	582	582	—	—
Trade creditors	1,393	1,239	1,165	1,156
Members of the College	316	316	316	316
Amounts due to group companies	—	219	—	24
University fees	12	12	15	15
Other creditors	3,713	3,401	3,030	2,785
Obligations under finance leases	58	58	75	75
	6,074	5,827	4,601	4,371

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

14. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Consolidated 2025 £000	College 2025 £000	Consolidated 2024 £000	College 2024 £000
Long term bank loan	5,481	5,481	5,480	5,480
Other loans	28,631	28,631	28,612	28,612
Obligations under finance leases	—	—	58	58
	34,112	34,112	34,150	34,150

The long term bank loan is due for repayment in 2048 at a fixed interest rate of 4.64%.

During 2013–14 the College borrowed £5m from institutional investors in a private placement done collectively with other colleges, although each college's loan is separate from those of the others. The loans are unsecured and repayable during the period 2043-53 and are at fixed interest rates of approximately 4.4%. The College has agreed a financial covenant of the ratio of borrowings to net assets, and has been in compliance with the covenant at all times since incurring the debt.

During 2019–20, the College borrowed £20m from an institutional investor in a private placement. The loan is unsecured and repayable in 2069 at a fixed interest rate of 2.05%.

15. Pension provisions

Group and College	CCFPS £000	USS £000	2025 £000	2024 £000
Balance at beginning of year	536	—	536	1,797
Movement in year:				
Current service cost	18	—	18	14
Contributions	(57)	—	(57)	(53)
Change in expected contribution	—	—	—	—
Other finance cost	27	—	27	60
Actuarial (gain) / loss	(91)	—	(91)	(116)
Net change in underlying assumptions (see Note 8)				
Change in underlying assumptions	—	—	—	(1,118)
USS deficit contributions payable	—	—	—	(48)
Balance at end of year	433	—	433	536

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

16. Endowment funds

Restricted net assets relating to endowments are as follows:

Consolidated and College	Restricted permanent endowments £000	Unrestricted permanent endowments £000	2025 Total £000	2024 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year				
Capital	33,919	11,903	45,822	43,873
New donations and endowments	5,642	13	5,655	1,103
(decrease)/increase in market value of investments	102	(2)	100	1,234
Transfers between reserves	311	—	311	(388)
Balance at end of year	39,974	11,914	51,888	45,822
Analysis by type of purpose:				
Fellowship Funds	10,497	—	10,497	10,437
Scholarship Funds	8,022	620	8,642	8,617
Prize Funds	524	27	551	549
Hardship Funds	7,140	—	7,140	5,429
Bursary Funds	52	—	52	51
Grant Funds	6,110	11	6,121	6,001
Other Funds	7,629	1,844	9,473	5,329
General Funds	—	9,412	9,412	9,409
	39,974	11,914	51,888	45,822
Analysis by asset				
Property	9,236	2,753	11,989	10,876
Investments	29,069	8,664	37,733	34,212
Cash	1,669	497	2,166	734
	39,974	11,914	51,888	45,822

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

17. Restricted reserves

Consolidated and College	Capital grants unspent £000	Permanent unspent and other restricted income £000	Restricted expendable endowment £000	2025 Total £000	2024 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year					
Capital	—	2,917	—	2,917	2,710
Accumulated income	—	—	1,731	1,731	1,682
	—	2,917	1,731	4,648	4,392
New grants	8	—	—	8	8
New donations	—	1,196	44	1,240	471
Investment income	—	1,588	81	1,669	1,597
Increase in market value of investments	—	—	5	5	49
Expenditure	—	(2,606)	(101)	(2,707)	(2,249)
Capital grants utilised	(8)	—	—	(8)	(8)
Transfer to/(from) reserves	—	(255)	(24)	(279)	389
Balance at end of year	—	2,840	1,736	4,576	4,649
Comprising Capital	—	2,840	—	2,840	2,917
Accumulated income	—	—	1,736	1,736	1,731
	—	2,840	1,736	4,576	4,649
Analysis of other restricted funds/donations by type of purpose					
Fellowship Funds	—	188	—	188	258
Scholarship Funds	—	202	218	420	386
Prize Funds	—	31	—	31	28
Hardship Funds	—	187	—	187	455
Grant Funds	—	1,429	1,064	2,493	2,437
Other Funds	—	803	454	1,257	1,085
	—	2,840	1,736	4,576	4,649

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

18. Memorandum of Unapplied Total Return

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Unapplied total return at beginning of year	24,645	22,705
Unapplied total return for the year	208	1,940
Unapplied total return at end of year	24,853	24,645

19. Reconciliation and analysis of net debt

	At 1 July 2024 £000	Cash Flows £000	New finance leases £000	Other non- cash changes £000	At 30 June 2025 £000
Cash and cash equivalents	380	(773)	—	—	(393)
Borrowings:					
Amount falling due within one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	(75)	72	—	(58)	(61)
Amount falling due after more than one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	(58)	—	—	58	—
Unsecured loans	(34,092)	—	—	(20)	(34,112)
Total net debt	(33,845)	(701)	—	(20)	(34,766)

20. Financial instruments

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Financial assets at fair value through Statement of Comprehensive income		
Listed equity investments (note 10)	59,776	55,482
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 10, 12 and 13)	2,769	2,832
Other equity investments (note 10)	10	10
Other debtors (note 11)	1,663	556
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Loans (note 14)	34,112	34,092
Trade creditors (note 13)	1,393	1,165
Other creditors (note 13 and 14)	3,771	3,163

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

21. Capital commitments

	2025	2024
	£000	£000
Capital commitments at 30 June 2025 are as follows -		
Authorised and contracted	550	368
Authorised but not yet contracted for	2,316	734

22. Financial Commitments

	2025	2024
	£000	£000

At 30 June 2025, the College had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Land and buildings:

Expiring within one year	900	281
Expiring between two and five years	47	83
Expiring in over 5 years	258	214

Other:

Expiring within one year	7	1
Expiring between two and five years	8	10

23. Pension Schemes

In addition to the defined contribution scheme for assistant staff the College participates in two defined benefit schemes, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), and the Cambridge Colleges Federation Pension Scheme (CCFPS). The total pension cost for the year ended 30 June 2025 was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£000	£000
USS: Contributions	240	290
CCFPS: Charged to income and expenditure account	17	53
Other pension schemes: Contributions	268	235
	525	578

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

Universities Superannuation Scheme

A deficit recovery plan was put in place as part of the 2020 valuation. It required payment of 6.2% of salaries over the period 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2024, at which point the rate would increase to 6.3%. No deficit recovery plan was required under the 2023 valuation because the scheme was in surplus on a technical provisions basis. The institution was no longer required to make deficit recovery contributions from 1 January 2024 and accordingly released the outstanding provision to the statement of income and expenses in the prior year.

The latest available complete actuarial valuation of the Retirement Income Builder is as at 31 March 2024 (the valuation date), which was carried out using the projected unit method.

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

The 2023 valuation was the seventh valuation for the scheme under the scheme-specific funding regime introduced by the Pensions Act 2004, which requires schemes to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover their technical provisions (the statutory funding objective). At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the scheme was £73.1bn and the value of the scheme's technical provisions was £65.7bn indicating a surplus of £7.4bn and a funding ratio of 111%.

The key financial assumptions used in the 2023 valuation are described below. More detail is set out in the Statement of Funding Principles.

Price inflation – Consumer Prices Index (CPI)	3.0% p.a. (based on a long-term average expected level of CPI, broadly consistent with long-term market expectations)
RPI/CPI gap	1.0% p.a. to 2030, reducing to 0.1% p.a. from 2030
Discount rate	Fixed interest gilt yield curve plus:
	Pre-retirement: 2.5% p.a.
	Post retirement: 0.9% p.a.
Pension increases (all 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

The main demographic assumptions used relate 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 0.40% p.a., 10% w2020 and w2021 parameters, and a long-term improvement rate of 1.80% p.a. for males and 1.60% p.a. for females

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

The current life expectancies on retirement at age 65 are:

	2025	2024
Males currently aged 65 (years)	23.8	23.7
Females currently aged 65 (years)	25.5	25.6
Males currently aged 45 (years)	25.7	25.4
Females currently aged 45 (years)	27.2	27.2

Cambridge Colleges' Federated Pension Scheme

The College also operates a defined benefits plan for the College's employees of the Cambridge Colleges' Federation Pension Scheme.

The liabilities of the plan have been calculated, at 30 June 2025, for the purposes of FRS102 using a valuation system designed for the Management Committee, acting as Trustee of the Cambridge Colleges' Federated Pension Scheme, but allowing for the different assumptions required under FRS102 and taking fully into consideration changes in the plan benefit structure and membership since that date.

The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date were as follows:

	2025 % p.a.	2024 % p.a.
Discount rate	5.50	5.10
Retail Price Index (RPI) assumption	2.90	3.35
Consumer Price Index (CPI) assumption		
To 2030	1.90	2.35
From 2031	2.80	3.25
Pension increases in payment (RPI max 5% p.a.)	2.85	3.15
Pension increases in payment (CPI max 2.5% p.a.)	1.85	2.00

The underlying mortality assumption is based upon the standard tables known as S3PxA on a year of birth usage with CMI_2023 future improvement factors and a long-term rate of future improvement of 1.25% per annum (2024: same). This results in the following life expectancies:

- Male aged 65 now has a life expectancy of 21.4 years (previously 21.4 years)
- Female age 65 now has a life expectancy of 24 years (previously 23.9 years)
- Male age 45 now, retiring at age 65, has a life expectancy from 65 of 22.7 years (previously 22.6 years)
- Female age 45 now, retiring at age 65, has a life expectancy from 65 of 25.4 years (previously 25.3 years)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

Members are assumed to retire at their normal retirement age (65) apart from in the following cases:

	Male	Female
Active Members – Option 1 Benefits	64	64
Deferred Members – Option 1 Benefits	63	62

Allowance has been made at retirement for non-retired members to commute part of their pension for a lump sum on the basis of the current commutation factors in these calculations

Employee Benefit Obligations

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet as at 30 June 2025 (with comparative figures as at 30 June 2024) are as follows:

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Market value of scheme assets	3,804	4,103
Present value of scheme liabilities	(4,237)	(4,639)
Net defined benefit (liability)	(433)	(536)

The amounts recognised in the income and expenditure account for the year ending 30 June 2025 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2024) are as follows:

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Current service cost	18	14
Interest on net defined benefit liability	27	34
Total charge	45	48

Changes in the present value of the scheme liabilities for the year ending 30 June 2025 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2024) are as follows:

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Present value of scheme liabilities at beginning of period	4,639	4,732
Current service cost (including employee contributions)	—	—
Benefits paid	(248)	(277)
Interest on scheme liabilities	230	239
Actuarial (gains) / losses	(384)	(55)
Present value of Scheme liabilities at end of period	4,237	4,639

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets for the year ending 30 June 2025 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2024) are as follows:

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Market value of scheme assets at beginning of period	4,103	4,075
Contributions paid by the College	57	53
Benefits paid	(248)	(277)
Administration expenses paid	(19)	(16)
Interest on scheme assets	203	205
Return on assets, less interest included in profit and loss	(292)	64
Market value of Scheme assets at end of period	3,804	4,104
Actual return on scheme assets	(89)	268

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total Scheme assets at 30 June 2025 (with comparative figures at 30 June 2024) are as follows:

	2025	2024
Equities	50%	46%
Bonds & Cash	37%	42%
Properties	13%	12%
Total	100%	100%

The plan has no investments in property occupied by assets used by or financial instruments issued by the College.

Analysis of the remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability recognised in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI) for the year ending 30 June 2025 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2024) are as follows:

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Actuarial return less expected return on scheme assets	(292)	64
Expected less actual plan expenses	(1)	(3)
Experience gains and losses arising on scheme liabilities	(18)	61
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of scheme liabilities	402	(6)
Remeasurement of net defined benefit liability recognised in OCI	91	116

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

Movement in net defined benefit liability during the year ending 30 June 2025 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2024) are as follows:

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Deficit in scheme at beginning of year	(536)	(657)
Recognised in Profit and Loss	(45)	(48)
Contributions paid by the College	57	53
Actuarial gain recognised in SOCIE	91	116
Deficit in scheme at the end of the year	(433)	(536)

Funding Policy

Actuarial valuations are carried out every three years on behalf of the Management Committee, acting as the Trustee of the Scheme, by a qualified independent actuary. The actuarial assumptions underlying the actuarial valuation are different to those adopted under FRS102.

The last such actuarial valuation was as at 31 March 2023. This showed that the plan's assets were insufficient to cover the liabilities on the funding basis. A Recovery Plan has been agreed with the College, which commits the College to paying contributions to fund the shortfall. These deficit reduction contributions are incorporated into the Schedule of Contributions dated 4 June 2024 and are as follows:

- Annual contributions of not less than £39,105 p.a. payable for the period to 30 April 2027.

These payments are subject to review following the next funding valuation, due as at 31 March 2026.

Defined Contribution Pension Schemes

The College operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of certain employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the College amounting to £267,566 (2024 - £234,861) of which £Nil (2024 - £Nil) was outstanding at the year end.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

24. Contingent Liabilities

As disclosed in note 23, with effect from 16 March 2007, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) positioned itself as a “last man standing” scheme so that in the event of an insolvency of any of the participating employers in USS, the amount of any pension funding shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer will be spread across the remaining participant employers.

25. Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the College’s operations and the composition of its Governing Body, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Governing Body has an interest. All transactions involving organisations in which a member of the Governing Body may have an interest are conducted at arm’s length and in accordance with the College’s normal procedures.

The College maintains a register of interests for all its Trustees and where any have a material interest in a College matter, they are required to declare that fact.

During the year no fees or expenses were paid to Fellows in respect of their duties as Trustees.

Governing Body Fellows are remunerated for teaching, research and other duties within the College. Fellows are billed for any private catering. The Trustees' remuneration is overseen by a Remuneration Committee.

The salaries paid to Trustees in the year are summarised in the table below:

From	To	2024-25 Number	2023-24 Number
0	10,000	27	29
10,001	20,000	9	9
20,001	30,000	4	5
30,001	40,000	1	6
40,001	50,000	7	7
50,001	60,000	4	1
60,001	70,000	3	1
70,001	80,000	1	-
80,001	90,000	1	1
90,001	100,000	1	2
Total		58	61

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

25. Related Party Transactions continued

The total Trustee salaries were £1,333,342 for the year (2024 - £1,218,604).

The Trustees were also paid other taxable benefits (including associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer contributions to pensions) which totalled £315,003 for the year (2024 - £319,377).

The College has a number of trading subsidiary undertakings which are consolidated into these accounts. All subsidiary undertakings are 100% owned by the College and are registered and operating in England and Wales.

The College has taken advantage of the exemption within section 33 of FRS 102 not to disclose transactions with wholly owned group companies that are related parties.

26. Sir Mortimer Singer Fund

Other Unrestricted Funds includes the Sir Mortimer Singer Fund which was funded from a bequest of Sir Mortimer Singer, a Fellow Commoner of the College. The money was appointed to the College by Lady Singer upon the trusts declared by a deed dated 25 March 1952. The Pension Trust Fund was also set up from this bequest. Below are the movements on these Funds in the year.

	Singer Fund £000	Pension Trust £000
Opening Balance at 1 July 2024	8,597	296
Income	231	14
Expenditure	—	(14)
Change in Market Value of Investments	15	1
Closing Balance at 30 June 2025	8,843	297

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Alcan Prize Fund	—	13
Angharad John Fellowship	—	403
Alwyn W Heong Fund	—	340
Barry Moore Economics Prize Fund	—	19
Battcock Professorship	4,000	4,000
Battcock Downing Institute	—	(19)
Bathey Fund	—	12
Beinan Lu Fund	—	4
B J Everitt Prize Fund	—	21
Blankenship Book Fund	—	16
Blankenship Law Fund	—	33
Bookbinder Travel Awards	—	13
Bradbrook Fund	—	16
Brammer Fellowship in Geography	—	1,182
Buchanan Fund	—	329
Charles Campbell Book Fund	—	5
Chiu Ho Kwan Yee Annie Fund	30	30
S M and H Haniff Prize	—	47
Cockerell Fund	—	31
Collins Fund	—	261
Darley Fund	—	405
Darley Sands Postgraduate Studentship	—	79
Downing Association Fund	—	57
Downing Enterprise Fund	—	42
Edward Collins Fund	—	153
Ernest William Denham Fund	—	44
Everitt Fund	—	2
Everitt Butterfield Fund	1	1,461
Fahrenwaldt Fund	—	17
Ferreras Willetts Fund	—	372
Carried forward	4,031	9,388

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	4,031	9,388
Florence & David Jacobs Memorial Prize	—	11
Fritsch Fund	—	582
Formoso—Papalios	—	50
Fu Fund	—	5
Gamlingay Fund	—	104
Geoffrey Grimmett Prize	—	9
Gelber Bequest	—	14
Graystone Fund	—	233
Gulbenkian Fund	—	3
Hall Fund	—	14
Harold Hargreaves Prize	—	7
Harris Fund	—	592
Harrison Prize Fund	—	4
Hopkins Parry Fund	—	1,424
John Hopkins Fund	84	1,195
John Hopkins Supervision Fund	1	321
John Miller Scholarships	3	2,168
Hugh Brammer Fund	—	104
Ivor Evans Fund	—	28
Jan Hruska Fund	—	340
Jean Ruhman Fund	—	13
John Hawkins Mays Wild Fund	—	12
John Maples America Fund	—	202
Johnston Fund	—	2
Joseph Tcheng Prize	—	17
Judy Petty Book Prize & Scholarship	—	29
Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellowship	—	1,083
Silverman Chemistry Fund — Trfr to I&E	—	201
Percy Lander Research Fund	—	371
Carried forward	4,119	18,526

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	4,119	18,526
Lander Fund	—	15
Landrum & Brown Scholarship Fund	—	18
Lord Butterfield Fund	—	261
Mays Wild Fund	5	770
Matthews/McKinley Travel Fund	2	24
Alfred Monk Fund	—	330
John H Morrison Prize in Law	—	34
Moullin Fund	—	3
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Fund	—	600
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Prize Fund	—	172
Professor Gabriel Oon Prize	—	8
Osler Fund	—	133
Owens Fund	—	501
D Palmer Fund	20	20
Peter Mathias Economics Prize Fund	—	2
Pilley Fund	—	473
Platt Fund	—	40
I Pocock Fund	125	125
Poulton Fund	—	650
Professor Audus Botanical Fund	—	22
Richards Fund	—	69
Robertson Research Fellowship Fund	—	912
Robson Physics Prize	—	9
Robson Postgraduate Fund	—	393
Saint Fund	—	56
Saunders Fund	—	57
Savile Fund	—	175
Schreiner Fund	—	84
Seton Fund	—	99
Carried forward	4,271	24,581

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	4,271	24,581
Seton Cavendish Fund	—	2,760
Sir Arthur Watts Choral Awards	—	17
Stephen Peel Fellowship Fund	—	398
Stevens Fund	—	6
Susan & Geoffrey Eggington Scholarship	—	20
Sutcliffe Legacy	—	775
TG Jones Fund	—	971
Thomas Fund	—	25
Thrower Fund	6	100
Timothy Walton Remembrance Fund	—	80
Treherne Fund	—	153
Unwin Fund	—	77
Verjee Fellowship Fund	—	360
Verney Fund	—	2
Michael Waring Fund	—	110
Warner—Lambert Fund	—	295
Whitby Memorial Fund	—	525
White Fund	—	10
Whitelegg Fund	—	75
Whitworth Fund	—	2,747
Wicks Travel Fund	—	18
Williams Downing Fellowship	23	581
Wilsey & Lerch Scholarship in Economics	—	82
Wyatt Fund	—	2
Postgraduate Studentship Fund	1	9
Cranworth Law Society	—	5
Student Hardship Endowment	2	513
Student Support Endowment	175	1,658
1970's Grant Fund	—	97
Carried forward	4,478	37,052

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	4,478	37,052
Active Students Baker Fund	17	13
Alumni Sport Fund	—	66
Fundraising - Teaching	7	230
Fundraising - Access	1	874
Catalysis - Teaching & Learning	8	268
Catalysis - Research & Discovery	—	19
Catalysis - Heritage & Environment	4	70
Catalysis - Support & Services	—	338
Catalysis - Culture & Community	—	14
Other	1,127	1,802
	<u>5,642</u>	<u>40,746</u>
<i>Restricted expendable</i>		
Bartram Fund	—	167
Colin Hill Fund	—	1
Lt. Colonel Anderson Trust Fund	—	136
Goodey Fund	—	218
Richens Fund	—	770
Treherne Prize Fund	—	12
Student Hardship (Spend Down)	95	95
The Great Tradition	3	125
Segreants Fund	41	151
Catalysis Conference Fund	—	—
Catalysis Research Fund	—	203
Downing Enterprise	42	—
1717 Fund	77	72
Voellm-Hruska Studentship	—	45
Tazaki Studentship	—	763
Fundraising - Buildings	—	65
Other	990	981
	<u>1,248</u>	<u>3,804</u>
Total Restricted Funds	<u>6,890</u>	<u>44,550</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Unrestricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Clark Fund	—	3
French Fund	—	44
Goodey Fund	—	—
Jarvis Fund	—	54
Library Endowment Fund	—	1,472
Richmond Fund	—	276
Stenning Fund	—	74
Stevenson Fund	—	2
Whalley-Tooker Fund	—	22
Yates Fund	—	11
Young Fund	—	247
Singer Fund (Pension Trust)	—	298
Smyth Bequest	—	662
Fleet Bequest	—	71
Deryk Prosser Fund	—	569
Corporate Capital Fund	—	1,213
General Capital	—	6,896
	—	11,914
Total Restricted Reserves	6,890	56,464
<i>Unrestricted</i>		
Designated Buildings	-	132,708
Corporate Capital Fund	-	25,402
Singer Fund (Will Trust)	-	8,843
General Capital and Other	1,571	(36,399)
Revaluation Reserves	-	62,186
Pension Reserves	-	(433)
	—	—
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,571	192,307
	—	—
Total Reserves	8,461	248,771



DOWNING COLLEGE | CAMBRIDGE | CB2 1DQ

DESIGN Nicholas Hawksworth 01223 693 082

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for the financial year ending 30 June 2024

DOWNING COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

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DOWNING COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE CB2 1DQ

Visitor: The Crown

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Master: Graham John Virgo MA BCL (Oxon) KC (Hon), University Professor of English Private Law,
University Deputy Vice-Chancellor

The Fellows of the College (in order of Election) as of 1 October 2023

David John Wales MA PhD ScD FRS FRSC, Fellow in Chemistry, University Professor of Chemical Physics (1989)
Christopher Allim Haniff MA PhD, *Fellows' Steward*, Fellow in Physics, University Professor of Physics (1993)
Nicholas Coleman BSc MB ChB (Bristol) PhD FRCPath FMed Sci, Verjee Fellow in Medicine,
University Professor of Molecular Pathology (1994)
Zoe Helen Barber MA PhD, *Vice-Master*, Fellow in Materials Science and Metallurgy,
University Professor of Materials Science (2000)
Sophia Demoulini BA (Wooster) MSc (Minnesota) PhD (Minnesota), Fellow in Pure Mathematics,
College Associate Professor (2000)
Ian Gareth Roberts BA (Wales, Bangor) MA (Salford) PhD (Southern California) LittD FBA, Fellow in Linguistics,
University Professor of Linguistics (2000)
Michael Trevor Bravo BEng (Carleton) MPhil PhD, Brammer Fellow in Geography,
University Associate Professor at the Scott Polar Research Institute (2001)
David Robert Pratt MA PhD FRHistS, *Fellow Archivist, Keeper of Art and Artefacts*, Fellow in History,
College Teaching Officer (2001)
Guy Barnett Williams MA PhD, *Senior Tutor, Safeguarding Officer*, Darley Fellow in Clinical Neurosciences, University
Professor of Imaging Science, Assistant Director of Information Processing at the Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (2004)
Natalia Mora-Sitja BSc (Barcelona) MA (Barcelona) MSc (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), *Tutor*, Fellow in History,
University Associate Professor in Economic History (2005)
William O'Neill BSc (Essex) MSc (Essex) PhD (Imperial) FREng, *Tutor*, Stephen Peel Fellow in Engineering,
Professor of Laser Engineering (2006)
Amy Louise Milton MA PhD, Ferreras Willetts Fellow in Neuroscience, *Praelector*,
University Professor of Behavioural Neuroscience (2007)
Brigitte Steger MA MPhil (Vienna) PhD (Vienna), Fellow in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies,
University Associate Professor in Modern Japanese Studies (2007)
Jie Li BS (Wuhan) MS (Paris) PhD (Paris), Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Fluid Dynamics (2009)
Keith James Eyeons MA MA (Nottingham) PhD, *Chaplain and Dean of Chapel, Secretary to the Governing Body*,
SCR President, Fellow in Theology (2010)
Robert Keith Harle MA PhD, *Dean*, Fellow in Computer Science, University Professor in Computer Science (2010)
Timothy James Burton MA MB BChir PhD FRCP, *Tutor*, Oon Fellow in Clinical Medicine,
Clinical Lecturer in Translational Medicine and Therapeutics (2010)
Marta Morgado Correia BA (Lisbon) PhD, *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Biological Sciences,
Principal Research Associate at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (2010)
Kamran Yunus BSc (Bath) MA PhD (Bath), *Director of Admissions, Tutor*, Fellow in Chemical Engineering,
University Associate Teaching Professor (2012)
Sarah Lilian Kennedy BA (Melbourne) LLB (Melbourne) PhD, *Deputy Director of Admissions*,
Senior Treasurer of the Downing Dramatic Society, RJ Owens Fellow in English, College Associate Professor (2013)
Monica Moreno Figueroa BA (UIA Leon) MA (London) PhD (London) MA, Fellow in Social Sciences,
University Professor in Sociology (2014)
Brendan Plant BEc (Sydney) LLB (Sydney) MSc (LSE) PhD, Hopkins Parry Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2014)
Ewan James Jones BA MPhil PhD, *Graduate Tutor, Fellow Librarian*, Fellow in English,
University Associate Professor in Nineteenth-Century Literature (2015)
Michael Crisp MEng PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Photonics and RF Systems (2017)
Nicholas Rawlinson BSc (Monash) PhD (Monash) MA, Fellow in Earth Sciences,
BP Foundation McKenzie Professor of Earth Sciences (2017)

Zoe Kourtzi BSc (Crete) MA (Rutgers) PhD (Rutgers) MA, Angharad Dodds John Fellow in Cognitive Neuroscience, Professor of Experimental Psychology (2017)

Joanne Claire Finnie Jones MA (Aberdeen), *Development Director* (2018)

Frisbee Candida Cheyenne Sheffield BA (Bristol) MPhil DPhil (Oxon), Octavius Augustus Glasier Collins Fellow in Classics, University Associate Professor in Classics (2019)

Joseph Webster MA (Edinburgh) MSc (Edinburgh) PhD (Edinburgh), *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Anthropology, University Professor of the Anthropology of Religion (2019)

Gavin John Flynn MA MA (Oxon) MBA (INSEAD) MSc (LSE), *Senior Bursar, Senior Treasurer to the Boat Club* (2020)

Michael Ashby MA MPhil PhD, *Senior Treasurer of the Amalgamation Club, Silver Auditor*, Williams Downing Fellow in Economics, College Associate Professor (2020)

Neda Farahi BSc (Edinburgh) PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Natural Sciences and Medical and Veterinary Sciences, College Associate Professor (2020)

William Day BA (Durham) MA BCL (Oxon), Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2020)

Richard Justin Davies MA MB MChir LRCP (London) FRCS, Fellow in Clinical Medicine, President of the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland (2020)

Nathan Rhys James MDc PhD, Graduate Tutor, Mays Wild Research Fellow in Biological Sciences (2021)

John William Morgan MSci MA PhD, Tutor, Praelector, Fellow in Chemistry, College Associate Professor, University Assistant Professor (2021)

Robert Todd Beardwell BSc (Sheffield), *Junior Bursar* (2022)

Francesco Muschitiello BSc (Venice) MSc (Perugia) PhD (Stockholm), Arnell Fellow in Climate Repair, Fellow in Geography (2022)

Helen Scott BA (Cape Town) LLB (Cape Town) BCL (Oxon) MPhil (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Law, Regius Professor of Civil Law (2022)

Maria Vera-Morales BEng (Carlos III de Madrid) VK Diploma (Von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics) PhD, Fellow in Engineering, CDT Senior Fellow in Future Propulsion and Power (2022)

Dmitrij Szamozvancev BA MEng, *Tutor*, Fellow in Computer Science and Technology, College Associate Professor (2022)

Bonnie Claire Lander Johnson BA (Sydney) MA (Melbourne) DPhil (Oxon), *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in English, College Associate Professor (2022)

Hugh Burton BA MSci MA PhD, Kim and Juliana Silverman Fellow (2023)

Stefania Fiorentino MSc (ENSA Paris) BEng (Rome) MEng (Rome) PhD (UCL), Fellow in Land Economy, University Associate Teaching Professor (2023)

Rebecca Freund BA (Cape Town) LLB (Cape Town) LLM, Parry-Anderson Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2023)

Rachel Coombes BA (Oxon) MA (Birmingham) DPhil (Oxon), *Keeper of the Gallery*, Graham Robertson Research Fellow (2023)

Alice Sowton MA MRes PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Natural Sciences (Biological), University Research Associate (2023)

Juliana Santos De Carvalho LLB (Rio Grande do Norte) LLM (Vrije) PhD (IHEID), Fellow in Gender Studies (2024)

Giulia Maltagliati BA (Pisa) MA (Pisa) PhD (London), Fellow in Classics, College Associate Professor (2024)

Emma Francis Inglis Lees BA (Oxon) LLM (Dundee) PhD (Cantab), Fellow in Land and Property Law, University Professor of Environmental and Property Law (2024)

Dino Kadich BA (Arizona) MPhil (Cantab) PhD (Cantab), Whitworth Research Fellow (2024)

Alison Deirdre Jane Scadden BSc (Otago) PhD (Cantab), Fellow in Natural Sciences (Biological), University Professor of RNA Biology (2024)

Yang Li BA (Cantab) MMath PhD (Imperial), Fellow in Mathematics (2024)

Retirements and Resignations 1 July 2023–30 September 2024

Cédric Scheidegger Laemmle BA (St Andrews) MA (Basel) DPhil (Basel), College Associate Professor in Classics (2023). Resigned 31 December 2023.

Charlotte Christiane Hammer BA (Bonn) MA (Durham) MPh (Manchester) MSc (Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Robert Koch-Institut) PhD, Everitt Butterfield Fellow in Emerging Infectious Diseases (2021). Resigned 30 April 2024.

Adam Noel Ledgeway BA (Salford) MA (Manchester) PhD (Manchester) FBA, Fellow in Italian, University Professor of Italian and Romance Linguistics (1996). Resigned 30 September 2024.

Alec Philip Christie BSc (St Andrews) PhD, Henslow Research Fellow in Zoology (2021). Resigned 30 September 2024.

Liesbeth François BA (KU Leuven) MA (KU Leuven) PhD (KU Leuven) (2023) Fellow in Spanish. Resigned 30 September 2024.

OTHER FELLOWS

The Honorary Fellows

Giles Skey Brindley MA MD FRS
Sir Francis Graham Smith MA PhD FRS
Dame Janet Abbott Baker CH DBE
Sir Trevor Robert Nunn BA CBE
Martin John Kemp MA FBA
Richard John Bowring MA PhD LittD
Professor David Stanley Ingram OBE VMH ScD FRSB FLS
FRSE
Sir Quentin Saxby Blake MA CBE FCSD FRSL RDI FRA
The Rt Hon Lord Collins of Mapesbury LLD FBA
Sir David Anthony King ScD HonFREng FRS
The Rt Rev'd Nicholas Thomas Wright MA DPhil DD
Sir John Pendry MA PhD FInstP FRS
Sir William Brian Vickers PhD DLitt FBA
Aitzaz Ahsan MA Barrister at Law
Professor John Lawrence Cardy MA PhD FRS
Howard Eric Jacobson MA
The Rt Hon Sir Kim Martin Jordan Lewison MA
Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach BA MPhil GBE KCB
ADC DL
The Rt Hon Lord Lloyd-Jones MA LLB
The Rt Hon Sir Richard George Bramwell McCombe MA
Professor Barry John Everitt BSc MA PhD ScD DSc FRS
FMedSci
Martin Baker MA FRCO
Stephen Chambers MA RA
Caroline Elizabeth Wilson MA MA CMG
Professor Geoffrey Grimmett MA DPhil DSc ScD FRS
Keith Ajegbo BA MA OBE
Martin Maiden MA MPhil PhD FBA
Ritchie Neil Ninian Robertson MA DPhil FBA
Victoria Susan Brignell MA
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Colin Birss BA KC
Farmida Bi MA CBE
Richard Snowden BA LLM
Alan Peter Bookbinder BA MA MA
Edward Bullmore MB PhD FRCP FRCPsych FMedSci
Emily Greenwood BA MA MPhil PhD
Ai Weiwei
Rachel O'Reilly MA PhD FRSC CChem CSci
David William Kinloch Anderson KBE KC

Michael Lean MA MB BChir MD Cambridge FRCP
Edinburgh FRCPS Glasgow FRSE
Dharshini David MA
Andrew Popplewell MA KC
Ravindra Gupta MA MPH BM BCH PhD FRCP FRCPath

The Emeritus Fellows

Ian Bonar Topping MA
Robert John Richards MA PhD
Charles Harpum MA LLB LLD
Philip Huson Rubery MA PhD ScD
Margery Ann Barrand BSc PhD
Richard Michael Smith BA MA PhD FBA
Stafford Withington BEng PhD
Peter James Duffett-Smith MA PhD
Peter David Evans MA PhD ScD
Paul Frederick Linden BSc MSc PhD FRS
Richard Keith Taplin BSc MA MBE
John Stuart Landreth McCombie MA PhD
Trevor William Robbins CBE MA PhD FRS
Kenneth McNamara BSc PhD
David John Feldman MA DCL PhD FBA FRSA
Trevor William Clyne MA PhD FREng
Paul Christopher Millett MA PhD, *MCR Liaison Fellow*
William Mark Adams MA MSc PhD
Catherine Lynette Phillips BA MA PhD
Susan Elizabeth Lintott MA PhD
John Stuart Richer MA PhD
Ian Richard James MA MA PhD
Liping Xu, BSc PhD

Foundation Fellows

Humphrey William Battcock MA MBA
Tadayoshi Tazaki MA
Alwyn Wai-Yin Heong MA BA BM BCh MBA
Kim Silverman MA PhD
Jonathan Howard MA
Julie Lambert BSc
James Simon Edward Arnell MA
Louise Arnell BA MA Open MA Sussex

The Wilkins Fellows

Richard Alexander Frischmann MA
Christian Flemming Heilmann MA
The Lord Verjee MA CBE
Richard Anthony Williams MA
Christopher John Bartram MA FRICS
Maria Ferreras Willetts MA
Robert John MA DLitt
Robert Markwick MA MBA Manchester
Stephen Mark Peel MA MAS Yale
Christopher Harborne MA MEng MBA
Gifford Combs AB (Harvard) MPhil

The Fellows Commoner

David Chambers BA (Oxon) MSc (LBS) MSc (LSE)
PhD (LSE)
Timothy Rawle MA
Gabrielle Bennett BA (Virginia) MA
Penny Furniss MA
Paul Jarvis MA
Sarah Pickard BA
Lucy Lord MBE
Amelia Miller

Bye-Fellows

Oliver Antczak BA MPhil PhD
Marco A Aquino-Lopez
Jennifer Ashworth BA MA
Stephen Bennett BEd
Richard Berengarten MA
Jan-Moritz Bogdanovic MA
Toby Buttress
Matthew Carter BA MA MB BChir
Samuel P Charlwood
Alec Philip Christie BSc PhD
Adrian Chung BSc MSc MPhil
Helen Craske BA MSt PhD

Andrew Cockburn MSci PhD
Kate Daniels BA MA PhD
Elizabeth Deans BA MA PhD
Louisa Denby MA MMus *Director of Music*
Alistair Dunham BA MPhil PhD
Buffy Eldridge-Thomas MA
Stuart Eves Vet MB MRCVS
Farah Jassat BA MPhil
Anna Forringer-Beal BA MPhil
Silvia Gonz  les Jov   BA PGCE MA
Charlotte Christiane Hammer BA MA MPH MSc PhD
Paula Heister MA MSc DPhil
Vicky Jones MA MB Bchir MRCS
Erina Kirisawa BEd MA MA PhD
Patricia Laurenson PhD
Yongcan Liu BA MA MPhil PhD
Deepti Marchment BA MA MChir
James McCaffrey
Katie McCallum BVMS RCVS
Aram Mooradian AADipl PGDip ARCH ARB
Joanna Page MA
Yeong Seo Park
Mykhailo Pivnenko MSc PhD
Ruohan Qin BSc MSc MPhil PhD
Miruna Rapeanu BA Meng MRes PhD
Andrew Sackin-Poll BA MPhil MPhil PhD
Marcel John Francis Satchell BA PhD
Carolyn Sauer
William Schafer PhD FMedSci FRS
Neal Spencer BA PhD
Victoria Stewart-Jolley LLB LLM MSt PhD
Hamish Symington BSc PhD
Gareth Taylor BA MA PhD
Claudia Tobin BA MA PhD
Thomas Towers BA VetMB MSc
Mark Vivian MSci MB BS FRCA
Louise Mary Wells MSci PhD
Lewis Wynn
Xin-She Yang MSc DPhil
Katharina Z  lsdorff

OFFICERS AND PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Master: Graham John Virgo MA BCL (Oxon) KC (Hon)
Senior Tutor: Dr Guy Williams MA, PhD
Senior Bursar: Dr Simon Brockington MBA PhD PG Dip (from 18 November 2024)

Actuaries

Cartwright Consulting Ltd
Mill Pool House
Mill Lane
Godalming GU7 1EY

Architects

Robert Lombardelli Partnership
St. Luke's House
5 Walsworth Road
Hitchin, Herts SG4 9SP

Auditors

PEM
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge CB1 2LA

Bankers

Barclays Bank
9–11 St Andrew's Street
Cambridge CB2 3AA

Property Managers

Carter Jonas LLP
6–8 Hills Road
Cambridge CB2 1NH

Property Valuers

Strutt & Parker
Suite 1022, First Floor
A1 Cambridge Square
Milton Avenue
Cambridge CB4 0AE

Securities Managers

Partners Capital LLP
5 Young Street
London W8 5EH

Solicitors

HCR Hewitsons
50–60 Station Road
Cambridge CB1 2JH

Inland Revenue Charity No: X2938
Charity Registration No: 1137455

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY



REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY

This Report provides the context within which to interpret the Accounts. The first section explains the College’s charitable objective, its governance, its public benefit and the way it is funded. The second section reviews the specific activities and achievements of the year to 30 June 2024 and developments since the year end.

Charitable Objective

Downing is a self-governing, autonomous College within the University of Cambridge. Our charitable objective is to further the public good by promoting learning, study and teaching in a community of Fellows, students and staff. We believe in the transformative power of a world-class education.

Founded in 1800, the College takes its name from Sir George Downing, 3rd Baronet, who bequeathed his fortune to establish a new college in Cambridge. It is the 17th oldest of the University’s 31 Colleges, the ‘newest of the old and the oldest of the new’. The College was founded with an emphasis on law and medicine, but its teaching spans the full range of subjects studied within the University.

With over 220 years of history, set amidst 20 acres of magnificent grounds in the heart of the city, the College is a community of committed scholars and students, current and future leaders in their fields.

Governance, Structure and Management

The College is a lay eleemosynary corporation established by Royal Charter. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 12 August 2010 (Registered Number: 1137455) following the removal of the exempt status of the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge on 1 June 2010. The arrangements for governance of the College are set out in the Statutes.

The trustees of the College are the Master and Fellows elected under Statute X who constitute the Governing Body. They are responsible for ensuring that the College meets its charitable objective to promote learning, study and teaching. Because the College is responsible for admitting undergraduate students, directing their studies, arranging their supervisions, providing pastoral support for both undergraduates and postgraduates and providing a wider educational experience for all students, the Governing Body focuses much of its attention on the students’ academic experience, engagement and welfare, as well as overseeing the College’s finances and premises.

Members of the Governing Body are trustees of the College and are required to act with integrity in the College’s interests without regard to their own private interests and to manage the affairs of the College prudently, balancing long-term and short-term considerations. They are chosen, after interview, on the basis of excellence in their teaching and research, their commitment to providing direction of studies and supervisions across the subjects offered by the University and their willingness to take a full part in the life of the College. Some Fellows take on additional roles as Tutors, advising students on pastoral matters. They serve until the earlier of retirement or the end of the academic year in which they reach 69 years of age. New Fellows are trained in the fulfilment of their duties as trustees.

The Master chairs the Governing Body and is responsible for the strategic direction of the College; the Senior Tutor has overall responsibility for the admission, education and welfare of students; and the Senior Bursar has overall

responsibility for the finances, the estate and the administration of the College. The Master, the Senior Tutor and the Senior Bursar are accountable to the Governing Body.

The Governing Body meets nine times per year and discharges its responsibilities through a network of standing committees dealing with: Education; Fellowships; Finance; Buildings and Environment; Development; Investments; Information Management; HR; and General Purposes. Representatives of the JCR and the MCR participate in these committees, with the exception of the Fellowships and HR Committees. Sub-committees deal with: Health and Safety; Equality and Inclusion; the Heong Gallery; Student Facilities; and Staff Consultation. A Remuneration Committee, consisting of five external members, decides on the remuneration of current and former members of the Governing Body. During periods of intense fundraising, a Campaign Board, including external members, acts as a steering group. The College has established a new Audit and Risk Committee, which met for the first time in November 2024.

Although the College is a legally autonomous body, it operates within the federal structure of the University of Cambridge. Matters of common concern are discussed and acted on through a system of University-wide committees, such as the Colleges' Committee, of which all Heads of House are members, the Senior Tutors' Committee and the Bursars' Committee. These committees work through the building of consensus.

Public Benefit

The Governing Body has complied with its duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

In order to meet our charitable objective of furthering the public good by promoting learning, study, and teaching in a community of Fellows, students and staff, we seek to provide a world-class education to the students with the most potential in each subject, whatever their means, social background or nationality. We aim to attract the best applicants from the broadest range of schools and colleges, actively supporting the University's widening participation targets, as agreed with the Office for Students.

Downing students have access to several sources of financial support in case of hardship, in the form of bursaries, including rent bursaries, as well as those for the purchase of books and equipment, attendance at conferences, travel and studentships. For students from low-income families, the Cambridge Bursary Scheme provides grants of up to £3,500 per year, tapering down to £100 for those with household incomes of £62,215.

The College seeks to help meet the University's targets, agreed with the Office for Students as Cambridge's Access and Participation Plan, of admitting students from disadvantaged backgrounds and areas of low participation. The programme includes visits to schools, fully funded residential courses in Cambridge, Open Days, Admissions Fairs and webinars. The College encourages students who may not otherwise consider higher education to look at the university options available to them. Additionally, as part of the University's Area Links Scheme, Downing works with state secondary schools, Further Education Colleges and Sixth Form Colleges in Cornwall, Devon and Dorset.

Increasingly, the College's outreach activities have focused on raising the aspirations of younger students. We recognise the importance of encouraging them to be enthusiastic about learning from an early age, helping to raise their aspirations and supporting them to apply to highly rated institutions with the confidence that they are capable of achieving the required grades.



College Funding

The College funds its activities from academic fees (approx. 25% of income), charges for student residences and catering, income from its conference and functions business and the International Programme, its investments and from donations and bequests.

Since 2012–13, the undergraduate tuition fee has been paid either by the students themselves or through the Student Loan Company. The College collects these fees and passes half of their value to the University. The College admits, matriculates and accommodates undergraduates, provides supervisions for them, takes responsibility for their pastoral care and presents them for degrees. The University provides lectures and laboratories and examines and classifies students. The portion of the tuition fee that goes to the College only partly covers the real costs of offering the distinctive small-group teaching that Cambridge provides. The shortfall must be made up by other sources of income.

Since 2014–15, the fee due from postgraduates is a proportion of a single fee charged by the University. The fee is calculated according to a complex formula that assigns weightings to different categories of postgraduate student.

Students living in College accommodation pay rent and, if they wish, buy food and drink from College outlets. This stream of income typically amounts to just under 25% of the total.

Through its subsidiary, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited, the College has built a substantial commercial business, which consists of conferences, corporate functions and the International Programme. In a normal year, profits from this business amount to around 20% of the College's total income.

Donations and legacies from alumni and friends of the College typically amount to around 15–20% of our total income. Investment income from our relatively modest endowment normally contributes a further 15–20%. These percentages are based on total income excluding endowment donations but including all of the endowment spending rule income.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The academic year 2023-24 was a successful one for Downing College, both as regards academic performance and in the continued implementation of the College's strategy to ensure that students have a world-class education and are properly supported, and that the Fellowship continues to grow.

Financial performance remains a concern, with a continuing operating deficit, although the situation is improving, with increasing conference income and a renewed focus on international programmes. The deficit has also been managed by amendments to the timing and scale of refurbishment. It is anticipated that the College will approach a breakeven position by 2025-26.

In May 2024, Downing hosted Congregations on behalf of the University, since the Senate House was unavailable, for the first time in the history of the College, with the Master awarding degrees to Downing graduates in the College Dining Hall.

The Master

Alan Bookbinder retired as Master on 30 September 2023. Professor Graham Virgo KC (Hon), a Downing alumnus, Fellow in Law and the Senior Fellow, was appointed as the 19th Master of the College on 1 October 2023.

Fellows

New fellows in 2023/24

- Dr Hugh Burton, Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellow
- Dr Rachel Coombes, Graham Robertson Research Fellow
- Dr Stefania Fiorentino, Fellow in Land Economy
- Dr Rebecca Freund, Parry-Anderson Fellow in Law
- Dr Guilia Maltagliati, College Associate Professor and Fellow in Classics
- Dr Juliana Santos de Carvalho, Isaac Newton Trust Academic Career Development Fellow in Gender Studies
- Dr Alice Sowton, Fellow in Biological Sciences

Leaving fellows: Dr Alec Christie, Dr Liesbeth Francois, Dr Charlotte Hammer, Professor Adam Ledgeway, and Dr Cédric Scheidegger Laemmle.

Undergraduates

At the beginning of the 2023-24 academic year, there were 432 undergraduates across all years at Downing; 52% were men and 45% were women (3% were 'other' or undeclared); 83% were from the UK and 17% were from overseas; of those schooled in the UK, 66% were from state schools and 34% from the independent sector.

Downing's popularity with applicants has continued to grow: 1062 candidates applied for undergraduate entry in October 2024. Across most subjects, competition for our approximately 135 undergraduate places grows ever more intense. We are considered to be the most competitive College for entry in Cambridge.



We carefully monitor the demographic characteristics of our incoming students. For the 2023 matriculants, 7% of UK students were noted as residing in the bottom two quintiles of areas ranked by proportion of those going on to higher education, and 14.9% were within the bottom two quintiles by the metric 'Indices of Multiple Deprivation' (IMD). This compares with the target for the University over the next five years of 25.1%, indicating that we have some work to do to address this inequality,

Downing continues to participate in the Foundation Year programme, with five students admitted, two of whom continued to Tripos study.

Undergraduate students obtained the equal highest number of first-class results, with one in three obtaining that class. The College was ranked 10th in the table of colleges by reference both to the proportion of students gaining firsts and those obtaining good honours results.

Three students graduated at the top of their Triposes: five were jointly awarded the Association Prize.

The Richmond Lecture, organised by and for the undergraduate student body, was given by Orla Guerin, the BBC's Senior International Correspondent, in February 2024.

The Junior Combination Room representatives remain active, organising the purchase of a College punt; the renovation of the gym; and the creation of a fund for the reimbursement of NHS prescriptions.

Postgraduates

At the beginning of the 2023-24 academic year, Downing had a total of 536 postgraduate students. Of these, 52% were men and 47% were women (1% other); 42% were from the UK, 4% from the EU and 54% from the rest of the world; 265 were studying for a PhD and the remainder following shorter courses (including 69 MPhils, 21 full-time MBAs, 10 LLMs, 9 MFins, 7 PGCEs, 2 MArchs and 1 MAST), while 56 were clinical medics and vets.

The William Frere Society was established in honour of the second Master of the College, who was known as the first senior member in Cambridge to socialise with students. The purpose of the Society is to provide a link between the postgraduates and the fellowship. Events involve a termly seminar evening at which postgraduate students present their research; twice termly talks by Fellows; an annual postgraduate conference in May; and regular dining by postgraduates on High Table.

The Middle Combination Room representatives organised an exchange with the University of Barcelona and continued to facilitate an exchange with Lincoln College, Oxford, our sister College.

Sport

Nine full blues and seven half-blues were awarded to Downing students in the 2023-24 academic year across sports including rugby (union and league), football (association and Australian rules), fencing, modern pentathlon, fives, skiing, lacrosse, basketball, surfing and cheerleading.

College-level sport continues to thrive with significant representation across all inter-collegiate leagues and sports. The College is also engaged with the University's 'give it a go' initiative to encourage participation, and foster entry-level engagement so that sport's benefits can be shared at all levels of ability and commitment.

The Arts

Downing is proud to continue its support for the arts and expects to publish a new creative arts strategy in 2025 that will ensure that music, drama, visual arts and creative writing are properly supported in the College.

The Heong Gallery hosted exhibitions by Soheila Sokhanvari, *We Could Be Heroes*, and, in collaboration with Kettle's Yard, Issam Kourbaj, *You are not you and home is not home*.

In College music, Martin Baker, Honorary Fellow of the College, was appointed the first Ambassador for Music and Louisa Denby was appointed Director of Music.

The following musical events took place during the year:

- The Staff and Fellows' Carol Service.
- The Chapel Choir's performance of Stainer's Crucifixion.
- Termly recitals.
- Open mic nights.
- Choral performances – Evensong, Compline.

The Downing Drama Society put on the following productions:

- *Downing Shorts* – an evening of short films – November 2023.
- *The Marlowe Showcase* – November 2023. DDS presented a showcase of graduating actors, before they took the show to an audience of agents in London.
- *A Christmas Carol*, in conjunction with the Music Society - November 2023.
- *Five Lesbians Eating a Quiche* – February 2024 in the Heong Gallery.
- DDS Freshers' Play: *Parfumerie* – February 2024.
- *Festival of New Writing* – March 2024. Established in 2014 and now a central and prestigious feature of the Cambridge drama scene, this is a showcase of the best of the writing talent the student body has to offer.
- *Twelfth Night* – June 2024 – East Lodge garden.

The second issue of *The Leaves*, a magazine of poetry, prose, drama and visual art, was launched in April.

The Estate

19-35 Regent Street, the buildings opposite the main gates, have been an ongoing project since 2020 and we have received planning permission to create a building with a much-improved facade, incorporating 26 student rooms and ground floor commercial space. We anticipate construction beginning during 2025 and occupation toward the end of 2026.

4-5 Bene't Place, a large building on the corner of Lensfield Road and Tennis Court Road, has been converted into teaching and study spaces and Fellows' accommodation, together with space for our collaborations with various Centres, notably the Centre for the Study of Classical Architecture and the Centre for Better Futures.



Development and Alumni Relations

The Development and Alumni Relations team delivered a comprehensive alumni relations programme during the year, organising 29 events including reunions, lectures and dinners in the College and receptions generously hosted by alumni in London, Boston and NYC.

The College Magazine, incorporating Magenta News, is now produced in-house with a refreshed design. The Downing Column e-newsletter, including updates from students, Fellows and alumni, is sent to 8,000 alumni monthly. Social media activity increased this year, with stories featuring alumni, the College gardens or the Master's dogs proving particularly popular.

The Master, Development Director and Campaign Board are charged with delivering the Downing 360 Campaign to raise £40 million by 2027. Philanthropic support is sought towards three key areas of need: teaching by investing in subjects where there are gaps; student experience by funding bursaries, studentships and extra-curricular activities; and improving our space by creating new accommodation and teaching rooms.

Donations to the College recorded in the accounts totalled £2.7 million this financial year, taking the campaign total for gifts and pledges received to £27.4 million. The College is grateful to its Foundation and Wilkins Fellows; to its Benefactors and to the 420 members of the 1749 Society for committing a legacy to Downing; to the members of the 1717 Society who support the Heong Gallery; and to those who support student bursaries, wellbeing, music, drama and sport, all of which make a huge contribution to student life at Downing.

The College's first-ever Giving Day, in November 2023, featured a film, a comprehensive social media campaign, student challenges and an alumni event in London, designed to draw the entire Downing community together in a common cause. A generous pledge from Kim and Julianna Silverman to match alumni gifts was particularly welcome as it encouraged first-time donors, younger alumni and previous donors to make a gift. The Giving Day was a huge success, raising £270,000 for teaching and student support (third out of the 10 Cambridge Colleges that ran a Giving Day) and reinforcing the message of the impact that alumni support has on students today. It was recognised with an 'Impact Award' at the Collegiate Development Conference in 2024.

Downing is also grateful to those alumni who contribute to the College by giving their time, advice and support to its activities, including: Year Representatives; members of the Campaign Board and College committees; and the Alumni Association Executive Committee and its merchandising group.

Alumni Lectures that took place during 2023-24:

The Oon Lecture: 'Repairing the brain in Parkinson's Disease - the long and winding road' delivered by Professor Roger Barker and Professor Malin Parmar - February 2024.

'What makes a Good Economy?' Alumni expert panel chaired by Simon Wilson (1983) - November 2023.

'Any Questions?' with the Master, chaired by Dharshini David (1992) - Alumni Reunion Day, September 2024.



Plans for the Future

Significant discussions are underway to address our most urgent estate issue: the need to provide accommodation for a much larger proportion of our postgraduate students. We currently house far below the average for Cambridge Colleges and, as well as improving provision, increasing our accommodation will generate incremental income for the College. We are considering multiple sites on and off the Domus with a view to increasing our room count by more than one-third from the existing 575 rooms on the Domus. Additionally, we are developing plans to accelerate the decarbonisation of the Domus, following the government-funded report we commissioned during 2023.

Following substantial work with the central University and many Departments, Downing, working with a donor and entrepreneur, has been instrumental in the launch of a new course, delivered by the Institute of Continuing Education (ICE). This course will target later-life learners who wish to develop a social enterprise working closely with the Cambridge ecosystem and will be a valuable addition to the education landscape in Cambridge. Downing is hosting the Centre for Better Futures, which conceived the idea for the programme, has driven the adoption and created the partnership with ICE and will deliver significant academic content. Beyond the core programme, we anticipate a series of relevant events and an expansion of the available learning opportunities, as well as some welcome financial benefit to Downing through various forms of income from the Centre.



THE FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts that follow consolidate those of the College and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited. Also included is a linked charity that is invested as part of the College's endowment, The John Miller Scholarships, the fund value of which is disclosed in note 27 of the accounts.

Significant Policies

Reserves

1. Net Assets stood at £243.1 million at 30 June 2024. Of this amount, £195.1 million represents the net book value of the buildings, including the Revaluation Reserve of £62.8 million. As functional fixed assets, they cannot be spent as income. Continuing investment by the College in its buildings, in excess of depreciation, has caused this figure to increase and correspondingly reduce free reserves. However, opportunities, such as the acquisition of property on the College borders, do not always arise when they are affordable, but are nevertheless strategically necessary. Of the remaining £48 million, £50.5 million consists of Permanent Restricted Endowment, and £5.3 million is attributable to the revaluation of works of art. At 30 June 2024, therefore, free reserves (General Reserve less pension liability of £1.8 million) stood at negative £7.8 million (2023: negative £7.7 million).
2. In formulating the reserves policy, the Governing Body has taken into account the guidance offered by the Charity Commission in its publication Charity reserves: building resilience (CC19) and has carefully considered the factors that cause variations in income and sudden calls on cash. These are: student numbers; changes in the funding of higher education and the apportionment of tuition fees; the susceptibility of the conference business to corporate cutbacks and geopolitical events; the volatility of the investment portfolio caused by movements in world markets and unanticipated rental voids; and the variability of donations and benefactions. The Governing Body has also considered examples of historical unanticipated expenditure, in particular those that have arisen from problems in the fabric of the buildings, e.g. drainage, dry rot and responses to changes in the law. The Reserves also support any liability arising under FRS 102, Section 28 from the USS and CCFPS final salary pension scheme for staff (2024: £536,054; 2023: £1,797,061).
3. The Governing Body therefore considers that the assessment of whether the College has sufficient reserves should take into account a range of factors: annual operating expenditure met from unrestricted funds; capital expenditure; working capital needs; unanticipated expenditure on repairs; known cash needs (e.g. refurbishment projects); the level of essential expenditure that can be supported by returns from restricted funds; the level of unapplied total return; liquidity within the investment portfolio; the cash flow effect of the pension liability; and the likelihood of increased employer pension contributions.
4. Recommendations to the Governing Body for the adoption of the annual budget or major incremental expenditure take into account these factors. The current level of free reserves at negative £7.8 million is due to the completion of the conversion of 90–92 Regent Street, the purchase of 4–5 Bene't Place last year and the purchase of 98 Regent Street and continuing building improvements this year; however, the Governing Body does not consider this currently to



be a problem, as the College has access to various sources of liquidity, including raising loan finance, raising funds in fundraising campaigns and realising unrestricted investment assets which stand at £11.9 million. Furthermore, the reserves that represent the net book value of the buildings are designated by the College as such; however, in extremis, apart from the inalienable listed buildings on the Domus, the remainder of these reserves could be realisable. Given this complexity, and the wide range of funding options, the Governing Body has not defined a formal reserves policy, preferring a flexible approach as the situation requires.

Investment Principles

1. The College may invest in securities and in real or personal property. (See Statute XLVII, approved by Her Majesty in Council on 19 July 2005, and superseded by the full set of statutes approved on 9 May 2006 and updated subsequently). Since 1 August 1957, the College has operated an Amalgamated Fund made under the Universities and Colleges (Trusts) Act 1943, in which permanent capital, expendable capital, restricted funds (including trusts), and unrestricted funds hold units. Since 1 July 2010, the units of the Amalgamated Fund have also been invested in the College's commercial property portfolio.
2. The College manages its investments in securities and property to produce the highest return consistent with the preservation of capital value in real terms for the long term, net of costs and withdrawals to support its operating needs. A subsidiary aim is to enhance the value of the capital for future beneficiaries.
3. The Investment Committee sets the overall asset allocation and appoints advisors and managers. On 1 August 2009, the College appointed Partners Capital to advise on and manage the securities portfolio. Such appointments are reviewed at five-yearly intervals or in response to specific problems or opportunities. The review considers the risk/return parameters that have been given to the managers, whether these parameters still accord with the College's investment objectives, the performance benchmark resulting from these parameters, and the long-term investment objective. The latest five-yearly review occurred in late 2022. Following this review, the Investment Committee opted to reappoint Partners Capital for a further five years.
4. For the securities portfolio, the goal implies a time-weighted net return target, comprising inflation, plus a spending rate of c. 4%, measured on a five-year trailing basis. The Investment Committee has set an additional goal of outperforming, net of all investment expenses, a composite benchmark, which comprises the sum product of the Strategic Asset Allocation and performance of each constituent asset class benchmark.
5. Risk in the securities portfolio is measured by a) Equity-Like Risk and b) the volatility of returns. Both of these metrics are assessed against the composite Strategic Asset Return benchmark. That benchmark currently reflects an expected return of 8.1% with a standard deviation of 11.8% and an Equity-Like Risk of 75%.
6. The current strategic asset allocation and benchmarks by which performance is judged consists of: Equities: 32%, MSCI ACWI NR with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to GBP Index; Fixed Income: 11%, FTSE A British Government All Stocks; Hedged Funds: 17%, HFRI Fund of Funds Composite; Cash: 1%, UK three-month Gilts; Inflation Linked Bonds: 3%, FTSE A (Index Linked) British Government All Stocks; Commodities: 3%, S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Index; and Private Equity: 33%, State Street All PE Index (lagged 3 months).



7. Tactical Allocation ranges were Cash: 0–5%; Fixed Income: 0–36%; Hedge Funds: 0%–33%; Equities: 20–65%; Private Equity: 10–40%; Commodities: 0–6%; and Inflation Linked Bonds: 0–10%. Portfolio rebalancing is normally undertaken on a quarterly or more frequent basis to re-align asset allocations towards targets.
8. The Investment Committee monitors the liquidity in the securities portfolio and has set a limit on illiquid financial assets. New agreements to purchase such assets will not be executed if the aggregate market value of all such illiquid assets exceeds 58% of the aggregate market value of the value of the securities portfolio.
9. The currency hedging policy is managed through foreign currency forward contracts. The target Sterling exposure is 50%. The 50% remaining unhedged foreign currency exposure is a combination of US dollars, Euro, Yen and Emerging Market Currencies. The currency hedging policy is applied across the entire securities portfolio.
10. The custodian used is Union Bancaire Privee (London) S.A.

Responsible Investing

The College aims to invest responsibly whilst earning returns appropriate for the funds invested. Since February 2019, the portfolio has not directly held any energy-focused public equity managers and all passive equity holdings have tracked indices excluding fossil fuels. Nor has the portfolio had any direct exposure to fossil fuels since February 2019 and, as of 30 June 2024, the College's estimated indirect exposure to fossil fuels (including companies involved in the extraction of fossil fuels) is 0.8% (£0.5 million) of the total portfolio. At 30 June 2024, 1.2% (£0.7 million) of the College's securities portfolio was invested in renewable energy and decarbonisation assets. The equities allocation of the College at 30 June 2024 is estimated to have a carbon intensity of 89 (Tco2/ \$1 million sales), which compares favourably to the MSCI All Countries World Index carbon intensity of 116.

Tax

As a UK charity, the College is not subject to taxes on income or capital gains. It also holds 501(c) (3) status in the USA, which means that it is recognised as a non-profit organisation and, therefore, exempt from US Federal Income Tax. To the extent that it holds investment assets in offshore vehicles, it does so to reduce the administrative costs of portfolio management, but only in jurisdictions that have signed up to the Common Reporting Standard, an information standard for the automatic exchange of tax and financial information on a global level.

Borrowings

Total borrowings at 30 June 2024 is £34.1 million (note 14 to the financial statements). The level of borrowings of the College must adhere to any financial covenants set by lenders and currently the College is well within those limits. The Governing Body is comfortable with the amount of borrowings, as it considers the interest can be serviced from operations. Any additional borrowings would need to be recommended by Finance Committee and then approved by the Governing Body with a view to the long-term benefit of the College.



Risk Management

The Governing Body's Risk Management Register is kept under active review. Each committee routinely considers the risks inherent in its area of responsibility and has advised the Governing Body on the probability of occurrence and the likely impact, together with the steps taken in mitigation. Although risks can be identified and plans to deal with such risks formulated, the College is nevertheless exposed to a variety of risks, some of which cannot be addressed through insurance. The age of the estate, parts of which are 200 years old, means that problems inevitably occur, sometimes without warning and often at great expense. Annual results can be affected by large swings in student numbers, principally in the postgraduate community and mainly because of multiple applications and the uncertainty of funding. Many of the College's operations are affected by volatility in the financial markets and by recession in the real economy, the effects of which are hard to mitigate. All operations have been, and would be again, impacted by a pandemic. The College has made an appropriate plan to minimise anticipated problems, based on learnings from the recent pandemic. An increasing dependence on cloud-based systems brings with it known and unknown risks, which will require a greater emphasis on cyber security. Harm to the fabric of the buildings from atypical weather is a harbinger of the longer-term damage and disruption caused by changes in the climate.

Underpinning the sustainability of all activities is the need for financial resilience. The relatively small size of the endowment leaves the College's funding for operations vulnerable to disruption in the stock market and the world economy, as well as the immediate risks posed after Brexit and Government challenges to tuition fees. Lack of resources could inhibit the attraction of high-quality staff and the research-active academics who are essential to the proper provision of teaching, as well as further reducing required investments to achieve our mission. The ongoing cost of living crisis makes recruiting and retaining staff problematic, further risking our delivery of core objectives. Finally, as we grow our international income, we are more subject to geo-political risks.



THE FINANCIAL REVIEW

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income and expenditure

For the year ended 30 June 2024, the total surplus was £19.10 million, compared with a £2.52 million deficit last year; this figure includes new endowments and restricted donations, as well as gains on investments and property revaluations. The Unrestricted column in the accounts measures the efficiency of operations and this year showed a profit of £159 thousand (2023: £960 thousand loss), driven in large part by the uplift from additional income from the International Programme, as well as USS pension changes.

Unrestricted income and expenditure

College unrestricted income before donations is made up of academic fees (31%), charges to students for accommodation and meals (36%), conference income (22%), income from the College's investment assets (8%) and other sources (3%). This income amounted to £14.9 million (2023: £12.8 million), up 17%. This increase was largely attributable to the International Programme income.

Student accommodation and catering income was £5.2 million (2023: £4.5 million). Income from conference activity is now ahead of pre-pandemic levels, at £3.2 million (2023: £2.6 million). The profit and cash flow from the conference business helps to mitigate the overhead costs of providing the College infrastructure and thus to reduce the costs to students.

Expenditure comprises staff costs, including academic stipends, of 43%, of which non-academic salaries represent 36%; operating costs make up a further 44%; and depreciation is 13%. Staff and operating costs increased by £0.7 million and £0.6 million in the year, respectively, due to increased staff numbers and International Programme activity. A £1.1 million change in the USS pension deficit recovery provision contributions further aided the improvement in performance over last year.

Academic fee income increased slightly to £4.6 million (2023: £4.3 million), while the corresponding expenditure decreased to £5.8 million (2023: £6.9 million); this resulted in the Education account being in deficit by £1.2 million (2023: £2.6 million). The College must, therefore, bear the expense of this subsidy, not all of which can be met from trust funds. The cost of an undergraduate education at Downing increased from £10,871 to £12,421 for the 2023–24 year, as both fixed costs and direct costs increased. The regulated Home/EU undergraduate tuition fee has remained frozen since 2012, apart from a small increase in 2017, so in real terms the College's half-share of £9,250 has declined in value. The cost of providing academic and pastoral support for each postgraduate increased from £5,849 to £5,888.

Income from unrestricted donations was £1.1 million (2023: £0.4 million). Restricted and endowment return was £1.6 million (2023: £2.0 million), based on the spending rule under the Total Return policy.



Restricted income and expenditure

Restricted income arises from expendable donations for specific purposes and the income from any endowed funds to support specific projects. The income is matched against the eligible expenditure and any surplus is carried forward to restricted reserves.

The restricted income was £2.1 million (2023: £2.7 million), of which £1.6 million is endowment return, and the associated expenditure was £2.2 million (2023: £3.5 million).

Conference Services

Conference and events income in 2023-24 was £2.5 million, representing a strong year driven by busy residential periods in the summer and Easter periods. The month of December was the best December recorded, with an increased number of multi-day conference and training programmes, and effective revenue management. £230,000 of business was confirmed through Meet Cambridge, which continues to provide valuable marketing support and is an important enquiry-stream partner. Changes have been made to strengthen the team and to provide additional resource for the increasing number of requests for more-complex AV support.

The Downing College International Programme generated £780,000 turnover in Year 1, the summer of 2023; this was the first year since Covid when groups from China and Japan travelled to the UK in meaningful numbers. Many important operational lessons were learnt during the delivery of the Programme, resulting in further resources being put in place to support its development, marketing and co-ordination. A multi-year agreement was signed to provide offsite training facilities, which will help to provide clear and sustainable delineation between the International Programme and other commercial business, allowing the two streams to co-exist without impacting each other and providing security for future growth. This has resulted in the successful increase of revenue to £2.1 million in Year 2, the summer of 2024.

The bed and breakfast business continues to be important, selling surplus bedrooms not being used for residential conferences and events. The use of Booking.com and Expedia has helped to attract guests not normally accessible through the existing channels. The breakfast element was removed, offering a 'room only' stay, which has proved operationally efficient with no detriment to sales.

Investments

The total investment portfolio stood at £81.9 million at 30 June 2024 (2023: £79.3 million), consisting of £65.3 million in securities and £16.6 million in property. The overall total return was 5.80% (2023: 2.15%).

The College operates a Total Return policy for its endowment investments whereby all capital gains and income are allocated to an unapplied total return 'pot'. A spending rule is then used to transfer some of the return to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. The College's spending rule is designed to smooth spending and reduce the effect on income of fluctuations in market performance. The rule protects operations from the volatility of returns and ensures that the amount available for spending is known in advance. It is usually possible to net outflows against inflows so that the actual investments remain undisturbed. In setting the spending rule, the Finance Committee is conscious of the need to achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries and aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distribution.



Since 2009, the College's investment adviser has been Partners Capital, an outsourced investment office which performs the same functions as the in-house investment teams at the large global endowments, offering access to the same range of asset classes through a feeder-fund structure. The firm has more than 200 employees and seven offices covering all major regions. Partners Capital's mandate is discretionary within risk levels set by the College.

The securities portfolio is invested across the different asset classes using the Endowment Model, an approach that is expected to return 2% above the traditional mix of stocks and bonds. As the strategy includes investments in private equity and other relatively illiquid assets, the Investment Committee, acting on advice from Partners Capital, sets limits on illiquidity and monitors daily, monthly and quarterly liquidity to ensure that, in an emergency, funds can easily be accessed, even in the conditions experienced in the financial crisis of 2008.

Distributions for Spending

Through the spending rule, the Amalgamated Fund delivered an overall £3.1 million (or 4.7% of the portfolio) in support of current operations, an increase of 9.5% on last year's drawdown. The Amalgamated Fund consists of units held by each unrestricted and restricted fund, with each receiving a share of the overall income. For 2023-24, each unit was valued at £31.90, and received income for spending ('the dividend') of £1.46, a dividend increase of 5.1% on last year's levels.

To achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries, the Committee aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distributions. Given the rate of educational inflation versus investment returns, the preservation of purchasing power has proved difficult. In the interests of consistency, the Spending Rule has remained the same since its introduction, although its output has been routinely compared with that of other methodologies. With the prospect of lower future returns, the Finance Committee considered whether the rule needed revision. It decided to retain the current formula, noting that the College was mindful of the need to restrain spending.

Securities Performance

The securities portfolio returned +8.0% in 2023-24 after deducting all costs and fees. This was behind the Strategic Asset Allocation composite benchmark, which returned +11.1% over the same period. A similar risk equity/bond benchmark returned +15.6% in the period, driven by the continued strong rally in global equities (+20.4%), whilst fixed income returned +4.8% in the same period. The underperformance relative to the benchmark in 2023-24 was due to Private Equity managers lagging their benchmarks in this 12-month period. Over the longer term, these managers have generated a 14.4% Internal Rate of Return (GBP) and are ahead of benchmark. Active Global Equities also lagged their benchmarks in this period as Global Equity returns were concentrated in the largest mega cap technology stocks, which returned +52% in this period, to which the more evenly allocated College's investments are naturally underweight. Finally, the Clean Energy equity allocation detracted from performance, returning -25.6% versus the +20.4% return of broader Global Equities.

Since inception in 2009, the securities portfolio has returned +8.0% per annum net of all fees and expenses, ahead of the Strategic Asset Allocation composite benchmark, which has returned +7.8% per annum, gross of most fees and expenses.

At 30 June 2024, 52% of the £57.9 million securities portfolio was in Sterling, 32% in USD and 16% in other currencies. Of the securities portfolio, 50% was invested in illiquid assets (38% Private Equity, 12% Private Debt). Of the securities portfolio, 34% has quarterly or better liquidity, of which 17% has daily liquidity. At 30 June 2024, the Equity-Like Risk of the securities portfolio stood at 75%.

Property

The property portfolio returned 5.7% in 2023–24. With the exception of a small investment in a residential property fund and some speculative land, the property portfolio consists almost exclusively of the shops and offices on the Regent Street border. Owned for opportunistic and defensive purposes, these properties are classified as part of the investment portfolio, yet share only some of the characteristics of financial investments. Despite being the main route between the station, the Ring Road and the City Centre, Regent Street remains a tertiary location for shops and it is, therefore, difficult to attract tenants with strong covenants. The property portfolio stood at £16.9 million as at 30 June 2024.

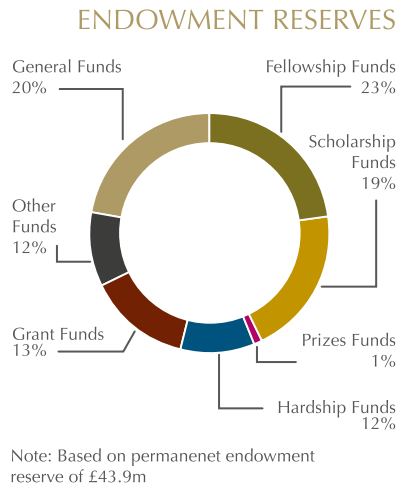
Additional information is shown in section 4 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

Capital and Reserves

The College’s capital base increased by £19.1 million (8.5%) to £243.1 million, largely attributable to a £16 million property revaluation in the year. Net assets were further enhanced by a £2.8 million improvement programme. Fixed assets account for 82% of the net assets. The College has had success in the past in attracting donations for buildings, but the timing or nature of some projects, which are nevertheless strategically necessary, does not always make this possible.

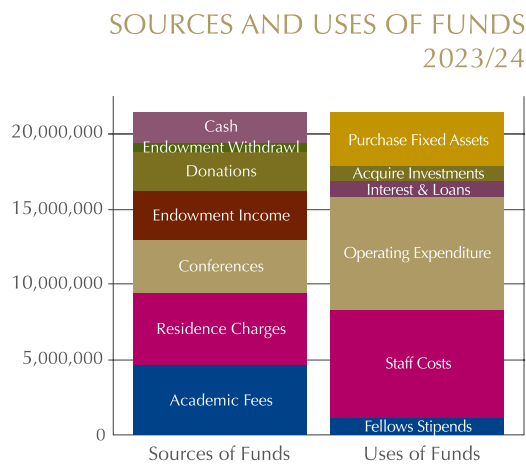
Free reserves are consistent with the prior year at negative £7.8 million.

Further increases to the net assets were secured through a £2.7 million increase in investment assets and a further £1.6 million in restricted and capital donations.



Cash Flow

The cash balance decreased in the year from £1.9 million to £380 thousand primarily due to International Programme prepaid income being deferred into the following year, additional expenditure in improving fixed assets and property investment repayments being postponed into 2024-25.



On behalf of the Governing Body:

Graham Virgo, Master

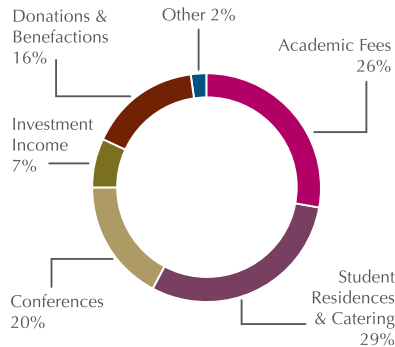
Date: 18 December 2024

Simon Brockington, Senior Bursar

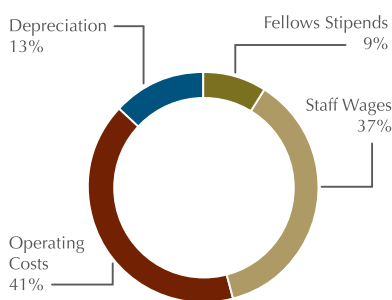
COLLEGE STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	2024	2023	2022
Income and Expenditure			
Total Income	17,258,9552	15,266,352	14,055,689
Donations and Benefactions Received	2,728,653	2,466,039	3,287,586
Conference Services Income	3,461,831	2,571,338	1,157,063
Total Expenditure	18,219,353	17,947,805	15,615,349
Total Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(960,398)	(2,681,453)	(1,559,660)
Unrestricted Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(958,820)	(953,796)	(1,889,781)
Capital Expenditure			
Total Capital Expenditure	3,597,976	3,291,076	6,816,442
Investment in Buildings	2,778,556	2,843,664	5,949,946
Other Capital Expenditure	819,420	447,412	866,496
Assets			
Free Reserves	(7,786,870)	(7,718,701)	(5,204,760)
Investment Portfolio	75,417,401	71,947,345	70,681,272
Spending Rule Amount	3,147,794	2,872,414	2,525,485
Net Assets	243,051,155	223,973,919	226,492,843

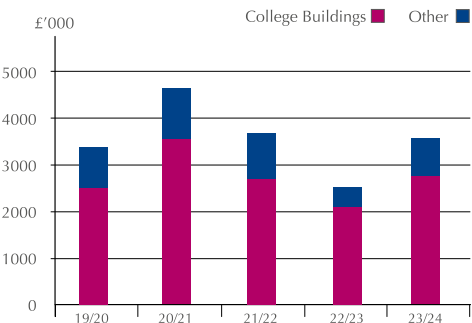
BREAKDOWN OF INCOME
2023/24



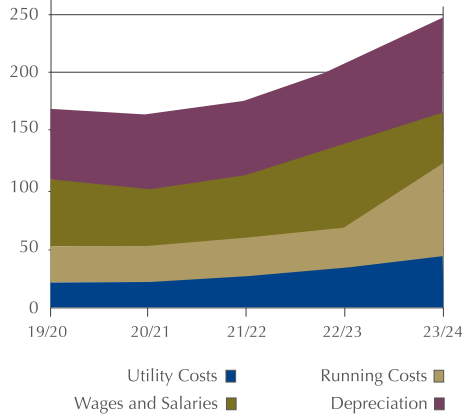
BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2023/24



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



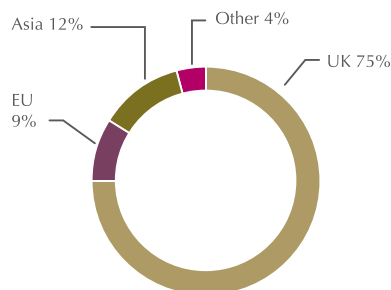
ESTABLISHMENT COSTS



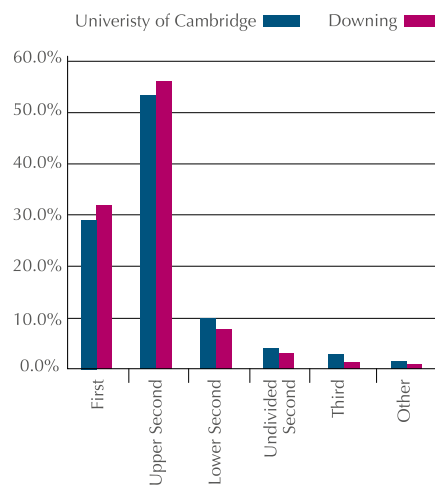
1. UNDERGRADUATE NUMBERS 2023–24 AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2023

Subject	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Years 5–6	Total 2023/24	Total 2022/23
Archaeology	1	1	—	—	—	2	3
Architecture	1	2	2	—	—	5	8
Asian & Middle Eastern Studies	2	3	1	3	—	9	7
Chemical Engineering	3	3	1	—	—	7	6
Classics	3	3	4	—	—	10	10
Classics – 4yr	1	2	3	3	—	9	11
Computer Science	5	5	6	3	—	19	15
Economics	6	6	3	—	—	15	12
Education	1	1	1	—	—	3	3
Engineering	11	11	12	12	—	46	50
English	6	7	8	—	—	21	23
Geography	4	3	6	—	—	13	16
History	5	4	5	—	—	14	17
History with Modern Languages	—	2	1	—	—	3	3
History with Politics	2	1	1	—	—	4	4
History of Art	2	—	2	—	—	4	4
Human, Social and Political Science	6	6	7	—	—	19	21
Land Economy	3	4	1	—	—	8	8
Law	12	13	13	—	—	38	38
Linguistics	1	2	2	—	—	5	5
Management Studies	—	—	1	2	—	3	1
Manufacturing Engineering	—	—	1	2	—	3	3
Mathematics	5	6	7	—	—	18	20
Medical Sciences	13	15	15	15	32	90	84
Modern & Medieval Languages	2	2	3	5	—	12	16
Music	1	1	1	—	—	3	3
Natural Sciences (Biological)	12	10	8	2	—	32	36
Natural Sciences (Physical)	7	5	11	6	—	29	35
Philosophy	2	2	1	—	—	5	5
Psychology and Behavioural Sciences	5	5	4	—	—	14	16
Theology	2	1	1	—	—	4	2
Theology BTh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Veterinary Medicine	2	2	2	4	5	15	13
Total	126	128	134	57	37	482	498

UNDERGRADUATES
BY REGION



UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREE CLASSIFICATIONS



2. PHD THESES SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED BY DOWNING POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS 2023–24

Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics	Dynamics of chiral fermions
Archaeology	There is this island: social dynamics and connectivity in Prehistoric Bronze Age Cyprus
Astronomy	Probing late stages of stellar evolution with Gaia-selected planetary nebulae
Automated Chemical Synthesis Enabled by Digital Molecular Technologies (Chemistry)	Photochemical methods for the construction of C-C and C-X bonds
Biochemistry (BBSRC)	Investigating the effects of calreticulin and beta-galactosidase on microglial functions and neuronal loss
Biological Science at the Sanger Institute	Discovering variation from cell atlases: comparative methods for single-cell genomics
Biological Science at the Sanger Institute (WTCLIP)	Phylogenetic studies into the development of foetal tissues and their neoplastic derivatives
Chemical Engineering	Monitoring biological events on native cell membranes with organic bioelectronics
Chemistry	To the frontier of RNA glycosylation: novel insights from metabolic labelling
Chemistry	The initial events of T-cell activation in realistic model systems
Chemistry	Development of novel imaging technology to study cell signalling
Chemistry	Self-assembly of enantiopure subcomponents into functional metal-organic cages
Chemistry	Non-covalent interactions in water using synthetic and biological receptors
Chemistry	Advancing fluorescence microscopy techniques for volumetric whole-cell imaging
Chemistry (BBSRC)	Development and application of chemical linking strategies for post-translational protein–protein conjugation
Computer Science	Evaluating natural language generation tasks for grammaticality, faithfulness and diversity
Criminology	Penal communication in crown court sentencing
Criminology	A matter of trust: a mixed methods study on the reunification of children 'who are looked-after' with their birth parents
Divinity	Paul and the politics of idolatry: ancient Mediterranean cult images and iconic ritual in the letters of Paul
Education	What makes a flourishing language self? A positive psychology perspective on LOTE learners' language learning motivation
Education	(Re)conceptualising time and space in multilingual identity research: a comparative study of public and international high school LOTE learners in China
Education	Winner-Takes-All: Access to Education and Labor Market Returns in the Philippines
Education	Flourishing in Chinese heritage language learning: towards a comprehensive understanding of language learner wellbeing
Engineering	Aerosol synthesis of layered oxide cathodes materials for lithium-ion batteries
Engineering	Numerical study of acoustophoretic and thermophoretic aggregation of micro- and nano-sized particles
Engineering	The role of swirl in the flow structure and response of premixed flames
Engineering	Neurosymbolic reasoning for link prediction in supply chain knowledge graphs
Engineering	Corrections to inter-blade-row flow measurements in axial compressors
Engineering	Global value network transformations: exploring interactions between value chains and organisations
Engineering (Scientific Computing, EPSRC DTC)	Concentrated Gauss curvature in shape-programmed shells

Geography	Narrating Cetacean conservation: gray whale migration, histories, and justice on the North American Pacific coast
Geography	Plants, food, and the repurposing of urban nature: the geographies of foraging and landscape in London
Haematology	Deciphering leukaemogenic mechanisms through system-scale analysis of single-cell rna sequencing data
History	Transport choice and the fragmentation of mobility in Britain, 1959–1974
History	Languages, translation, and encounters in the seventeenth-century North Atlantic world
Law	Beneficial ownership and the attribution of the res in UK tax law
Materials Science and Metallurgy	A multiscale study on the origins of the Portevin-Le Chatelier effect in polycrystalline nickel-based superalloys
Medical Genetics	Deciphering the genetic and epigenetic basis of human imprinting and chromatin disorders
Medical Science at Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute	The role of innate immunity in pancreatic cancer progression and treatment
Medical Science at Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute	Characterising the crosstalk between pancreatic fibroblasts and group 2 innate lymphoid cells in pancreatic homeostasis, inflammation, and neoplasia
Medical Science at MRC Epidemiology Unit	Advancing measures of the out-of-home food environment: a big data approach
Medical Science at MRC Epidemiology Unit	Meat consumption and type 2 diabetes: investigating heterogeneity and potential causal mechanisms
Medical Science at the Cambridge Institute for Medical Research	RNA binding proteins in neurotoxic protein clearance
Medical Sciences at the MRC Mitochondrial Biology Unit	Investigating the rate-limiting step of mitochondrial complex I catalysis
Pathology	The role of RNA structures in the evolution of respiratory RNA virus genomes
Pathology	Gene expression during the host-bacteria interaction
Pathology	HPV E6 inhibits E6AP to regulate epithelial homeostasis by modulating keratinocyte differentiation commitment and YAP1 activation
Pathology (BBSRC)	Post-translational control of mitochondria by Fbxo7 in Parkinson's disease
Physics	Constraining stellar evolution in young open clusters with NGTS
Physiology, Development and Neuroscience	Organised variations in space and time in the hippocampal representation of location
Psychology	Gender stereotypes and interventions targeting gender stereotypes
Psychology	Context clues: determinants of parental sensitivity and early childhood development
Public Health and Primary Care	Personalising predictive prevention of cardiovascular disease using electronic health records and genomics
Public Health and Primary Care	Metabolite profiling: correlates and associations with incident cardiovascular outcomes
Sociology	Environmental movements in China's digital age
Veterinary Medicine (BBSRC)	The burden and control of bovine tuberculosis in endemic settings
Zoology	Understanding the impacts of land-use change and management decisions within oil palm on insect assemblages in Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo

3. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS BY DOWNING FELLOWS

Ashby, Dr Michael

Ashby, M. W. and Linton, O.B. (2024). 'Do Consumption-Based Asset Pricing Models Explain the Dynamics of Stock Market Returns?', *Journal of Risk and Financial Management*, 17(2), p.71.

Barber, Professor Zoe

Chaves, D. A. D., Corsaletti Filho, J. C., Abbey, E. A., Bosworth, D., Barber, Z. H., Blamire, M. G., Johansen, T. H., Silhanek, A. V., Ortiz, W. A. and Motta, M., (2024), 'Using quantitative magneto-optical imaging to reveal why the ac susceptibility of superconducting films is history independent', *Physical Review B*, 109, 104510

Correia, Dr Marta

Neto Henriques, R., Henson, R., Cam-CAN and Morgado Correia, M., (2023), 'Unique information from common diffusion MRI models about white-matter differences across the human adult lifespan', *Imaging Neuroscience*, 1, pp. 1-25.

Day, Mr William

Day, W., (2023), 'Fixed and floating charges: a question of consent or control?', *Cambridge Law Journal*, 82(3), pp. 381-384.

Farahi, Dr Neda

Vignarajah, M., Wood, A. J. T., Nelmes, E., Subburayalu, J., Herre, J., Nourshargh, S., Summers, C., Chilvers, E. R. and Farahi, N., (2024), 'Regulation of ICAM-1 in human neutrophils', *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, 116(4), pp. 901-908.

Fiorentino, Dr Stefania

Fiorentino, S., (2024), 'Are shared workspaces a new form of social infrastructure?', *Planning Practice & Research*, 39(5), pp. 892-905.

François, Dr Liesbeth

Re-Imagining Class: Intersectional Perspectives on Class Identity and Precarity in Contemporary Culture, Rys, M. and François, L. (eds), Leuven University Press (Leuven, 2024).

Milton, Professor Amy

Pickenhan, L. and Milton, A. L., (2024), 'Opening new vistas on obsessive-compulsive disorder with the observing response task', *Cognitive, Affective, & Behavioral Neuroscience* 24(2), pp. 249-265.

Morgan, Dr John

Pracht, P., Morgan, J. W. R. and Wales, D. J., (2023), 'Exploring energy landscapes for solid-state systems with variable cells at the extended tight-binding level', *The Journal of Chemical Physics*, 159(6), pp. 064801.

Rawlinson, Professor Nick

Han, J., Rawlinson, N., Greenfield, T., White, R. S. and Brandsdóttir, B., (2024), 'Evidence of a Shallow Magma Reservoir Beneath Askja Caldera, Iceland, From Body Wave Tomography', *Geophysical Research Letters*, 51(9).

Santos De Carvalho, Dr Juliana

Santos De Carvalho, J., (2024), 'Doing legality as doing drag: the Yogyakarta Principles and the productive power of performing international law-making', *London Review of International Law*, 12(2), pp. 155-180.

Sheffield, Dr Frisbee

Sheffield, F., 'Beyond Gender: The Voice of Diotima', in *Ancient Women Philosophers: Recovered Ideas and New Perspectives*, O'Reilly, K. R. and Pellò, C. (eds), Cambridge University Press (Cambridge, 2023).

Wales, Professor David

Burton, H. G. A., Marti-Dafcik, D., Tew, D. P. and Wales, D. J., (2023), 'Exact electronic states with shallow quantum circuits from global optimisation', *npj Quantum Information*, 9(75).

Virgo, Professor Graham

Virgo, G., *The Principles of the Law of Restitution*, 4th edn., Oxford University Press (Oxford, 2024).

4. INVESTMENTS

Composition of Investment Portfolio

1. Securities

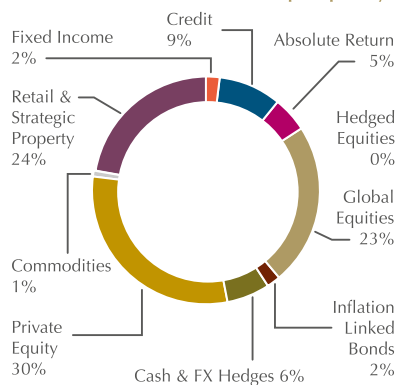
	30 June 2024 £	30 June 2023 £	30 June 2022 £
Core Portfolio Cash	4,196,850	2,853,446	2,355,607
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedges	—	598,304	(1,674,741)
Fixed Income	1,257,990	875,699	—
Credit	6,859,755	6,539,731	8,218,234
Absolute Return	4,151,053	2,389,950	1,410,581
Hedged Equities	—	2,173,557	5,592,234
Global Equities	17,328,009	17,161,700	16,867,513
Private Equity	22,098,599	20,408,416	20,720,037
Inflation Linked Bonds	1,410,321	1,421,454	1,324,645
Commodity Fund	631,328	564,630	653,772
Total	57,933,905	54,986,886	55,467,881
Other Private Equity*	—	—	—
TOTAL SECURITIES	57,933,905	54,986,886	55,467,881

2. Property

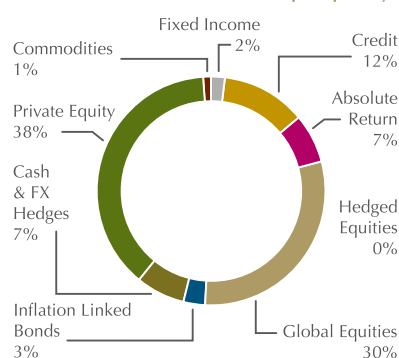
Office	4,730,000	4,730,000	4,700,000
Retail	11,741,000	11,741,000	10,005,000
Property Development	170,217	489,459	508,391
TOTAL PROPERTY	16,641,217	16,960,459	15,213,391

TOTAL PORTFOLIO	74,575,122	71,947,345	70,681,272
Securities Equity Like Risk	75%	75%	75%

ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2024 (inc. property)



ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2024 (exc. property)



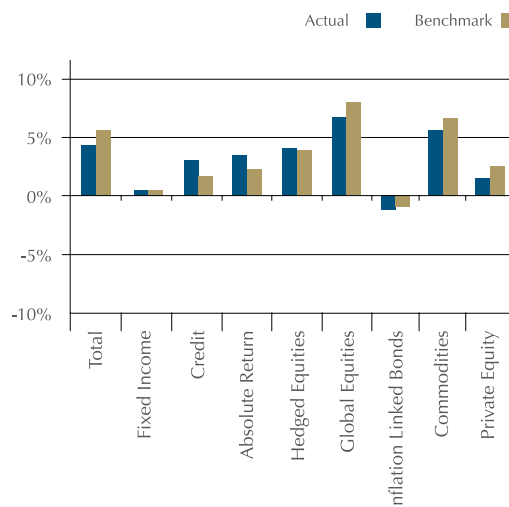
* Includes donated shares in seven new ventures, held at nil value.

ENDOWMENT & TOTAL RETURN

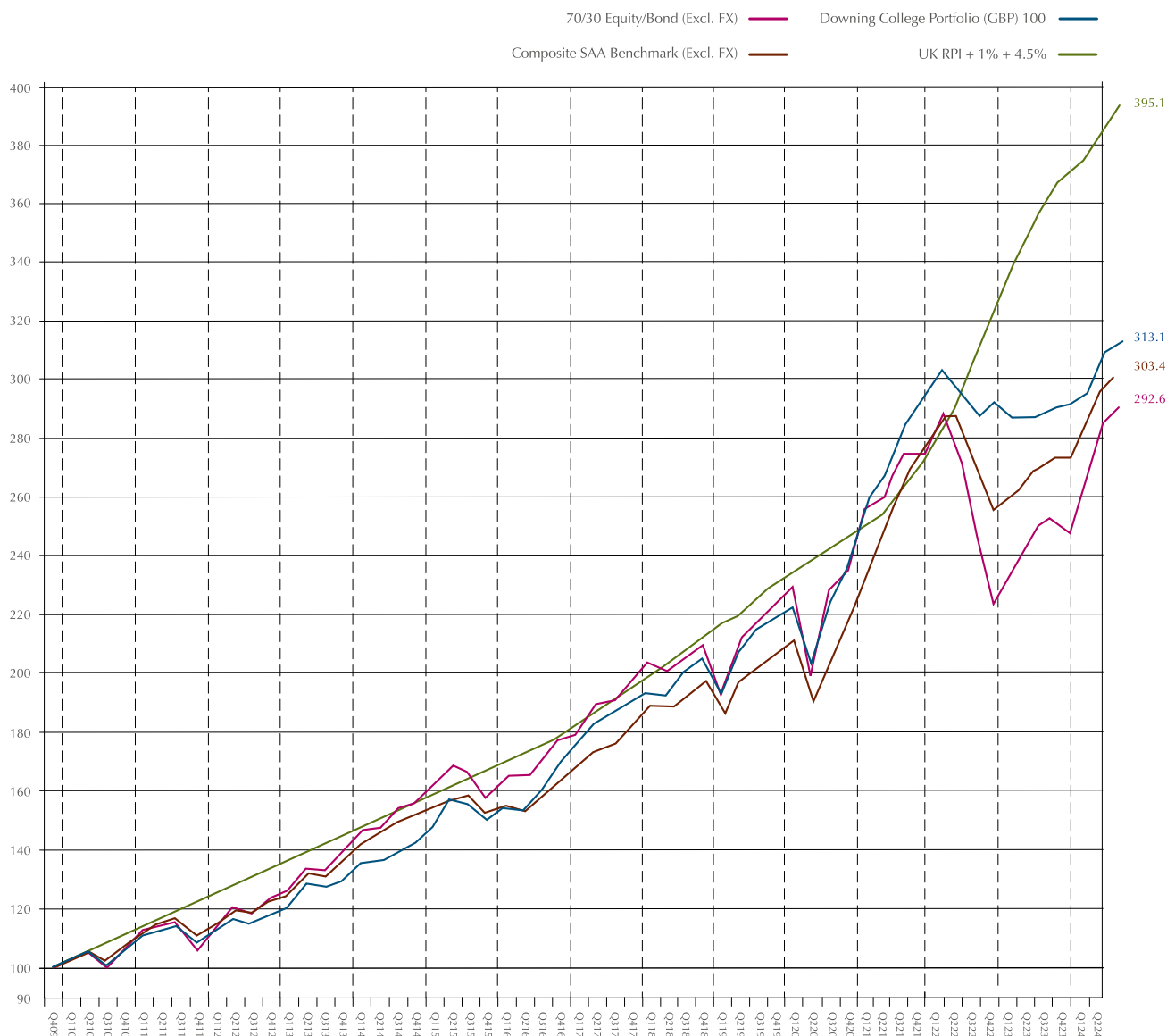


Note: £9 million added to endowment in 2019/20 from private placement and £3.25 million withdrawn in 2021/22

SECURITIES RETURN AGAINST BENCHMARKS 2023/24



CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION - value of £100 invested



Inception is from 2009 when the mandate for the portfolio was transferred to Partners Capital

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COLLEGE'S GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The College's Statutes and the Statutes and Ordinances of the University of Cambridge require that financial statements are prepared for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of the surplus or deficit of the College for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Governing Body is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the College will continue in operation.

The Governing Body is responsible for ensuring that there is an effective system of internal control and that accounting records are properly kept.

The Governing Body is responsible for taking reasonable steps to ensure that there are appropriate financial and management controls in place to safeguard the assets of the College and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Governing Body is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the College's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF DOWNING COLLEGE

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Downing College (the 'College') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 30 June 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Reserves, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and College's affairs as at 30 June 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the Statutes of the University of Cambridge.



BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

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

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

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

OTHER INFORMATION

The Governing Body are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The contribution due from the College to the University has been computed as advised in the provisional assessment by the University of Cambridge and in accordance with the provisions of Statute G,II, of the University of Cambridge.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and College and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Governing Body.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNING BODY

As explained more fully in the responsibilities of the Governing Body statement set out on page 41, the Governing Body are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governing Body 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 Governing Body are responsible for assessing the Group's and College'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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the Group or the College or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Group through discussions with Trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the education sector;
- we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Group and how the Group is complying with that framework;
- we obtained an understanding of the Group's policies and procedures on compliance with laws and regulations, including documentation of any instances of non-compliance;
- we identified which laws and regulations were significant in the context of the Group. The Laws and regulations we considered in this context were Charities Act 2011, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and taxation legislation. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items;
- in addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Group's ability to operate or to avoid material penalty; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Group's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we;

- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policy were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and the College's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or 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. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the College's Governing Body as a body, in accordance with College's statutes, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and the Charities Act 2011. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Governing Body those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the College and the College's Governing Body as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

PETERS ELWORTHY & MOORE



Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Salisbury House, Station Road, Cambridge, CB1 2LA

Date: 18 December 2024

Peters Elworthy & Moore is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes of the College and of the University of Cambridge, using the Recommended Cambridge College Accounts (RCCA) format; and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting for Further and Higher Education issued in 2019. The RCCA format was amended for 2023-24 in respect of pension provisions and as a result some 2022-23 expenditure figures have been restated. These changes did not alter the total comprehensive income for the year or the net assets at 30 June 2023.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure includes activity analysis in order to demonstrate that all fee income is spent for educational purposes. The analysis required by the SORP is set out in note 7.

The College is a public benefit entity and therefore has applied the relevant public benefit requirement of the applicable UK laws and accounting standards.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified in respect of the treatment of investments and operational properties which are included at valuation.

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements include the College and its subsidiary undertakings. Details of the subsidiary undertakings included are set out in note 10. Intra-group balances are eliminated on consolidation. A separate balance sheet and certain related notes for the College are not included in the accounts because the College's subsidiary companies are a conference and banqueting trading company, small investment vehicle and an event company for running the bi-annual May Ball. Each trading company donates their profits to the College each year. The balance sheet for the College alone would not be materially different to the one included in the accounts. The consolidated financial statements do not include the activities of student societies as these are separate bodies in which the College has no financial interest and over whose policy decisions it has no control.

RECOGNITION OF INCOME

Academic fees

Academic fees are recognised in the period to which they relate and include all fees chargeable to students or their sponsors. The costs of any fees waived or written off by the College are included as expenditure.



Grant income

Grants received from non-government sources (including research grants from non-government sources) are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College 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.

Donations and endowments

Non exchange transactions without performance related conditions are donations and endowments. Donations and endowments with donor imposed restrictions are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income. Income is retained within restricted reserves until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions at which point the income is released to general reserves through a reserve transfer.

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

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 College.
3. Restricted expendable endowments – the donor has specified a particular objective and the College can convert the donated sum into income.
4. Restricted permanent endowments – the donor has specified that the fund is to be permanently invested to generate an income stream to be applied to a particular objective.

Donations with no restrictions are recorded within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income.

Investment income and change in value of investment assets

Investment income and change in value of investment assets is recorded in income in the year in which it arises and as either restricted or unrestricted income according to the terms or other restrictions applied to the individual endowment fund.

Total return

The College operates a total return policy with regard to its endowment assets (including property). The endowment spending policy is specifically designed to stabilise annual spending levels and to preserve the real value of the endowment portfolio over time. The spending policy attempts to achieve these two objectives by using a long-term targeted spending rate combined with a smoothing rule, which adjusts spending gradually to changes in the endowment market value. The actual rate of spending for 2024 when measured against the previous year’s market value was 4.8%.

Other income

Income is received from a range of activities including accommodation, catering conferences and other services rendered.

Cambridge Bursary Scheme

In 2023-24, payment of the Cambridge Bursaries has been made by the College to eligible students via the Student Loans Company (SLC) and the University of Cambridge has reimbursed the College for their portion. The College has shown the gross payment made to eligible students via the SLC and a contribution from the University as Income under “Academic Fees and Charges”.

The net payment of £173,588 is shown within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure as follows:

Income (see note 1)	£305,728
Expenditure (see note 4)	£479,316

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at year end rates or, where there are forward foreign exchange contract, at contract rates. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the determination of the comprehensive income and expenditure for the financial year.

FIXED ASSETS

Land and Buildings

Buildings are stated at valuation, the aggregate surplus or deficit is transferred to a revaluation reserve included within Reserves.

Where parts of a fixed asset have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of fixed assets.

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

Freehold land is not depreciated as it is considered to have an indefinite useful life. A full asset valuation of the operational estate for accounts purposes was carried out by Gerald Eve LLP, Surveyors, as at 30 June 2021. Freehold buildings are depreciated on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives of 100, 50, or 20 years. The earliest buildings, designed by William Wilkins, form a significant part of the Domus and are listed as Grade I¹. All other buildings on the Domus come within the curtilage of those buildings and are therefore subject to some of the same restrictions. The Listing imposes an obligation to repair and restore. All repairs that restore value are capitalised, as are improvements. Other repairs are charged against income. For insurance purposes, the replacement cost of the buildings has been valued at £152.1 million.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a fixed asset may not be recoverable.

Buildings under construction are valued at cost, based on the value of architects’ certificates and other direct costs incurred. They are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

Land held specifically for development, investment and subsequent sale is included in current assets at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

The cost of additions to operational property shown in the balance sheet includes the cost of land. All other assets are capitalised and depreciated over their expected useful life as follows:

Library books	30 years
Furniture and equipment	10 years
Catering equipment	5 years
Information Technology	3 years

1 Details of the listing can be found at: <http://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/results?q=Downing+College>

Leased assets

Leases in which the College 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 leases 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. Lease payments are accounted for as described below.

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.

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 minimum lease term.

Heritage assets

The College does not hold any assets that should be classed as heritage assets.

INVESTMENTS

Fixed asset investments are included in the balance sheet as follows:-

a) Securities

Securities are included at their open market value.

b) Works of Art

Works of art and silver are shown in the accounts at their market value as assessed by Townley Valuation Services Limited on 18 October 2022. A review for impairment of works of art is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a fixed asset may not be recoverable.

c) Subsidiary Undertakings

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are recorded at costs less any provision for impairment in value, and eliminated on consolidation.



d) Unlisted investments

Unlisted investments are carried at costs less any provision for permanent diminution in value, unless they are listed as a recognised stock exchange in which case their open market value is used, or there has been a more recent funding round in which case this value is used to value all investments made to the fund.

e) Property

Investment properties are included at open market valuation. An annual assessment was carried out by Carter Jonas as at 30 June 2024.

STOCKS

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making provision for slow moving and obsolete items.

PROVISIONS

Provisions are recognised when the College has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the College 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 College. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the College 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 College.

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

TAXATION

The College is a registered charity (number 1137455) and also a charity within the meaning of Section 467 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. Accordingly, the College is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within the categories covered by Sections 478 to 488 of the Corporation Tax Act 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 College receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax. The College is a partially exempt organisation for VAT purposes. With the approval of H M Revenue and Customs, it has adopted a methodology that enables it to recover part of the VAT on its expenses. Though recovered VAT significantly exceeds the VAT previously recoverable under the old CVCP Guidelines, input tax on purchases is, nevertheless, largely irrecoverable. In 2023-24, the College received £177,849 in refunds on purchases of £8.6 million.

The College's subsidiary companies, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited are not subject to these exemptions and are liable for Corporation Tax. However, all taxable profits of the subsidiaries are gift aided to the College, thereby extinguishing any corporation tax that may be assessable.

CONTRIBUTION UNDER STATUTE G,II

The College is liable to be assessed for Contribution under the provisions of Statute G,II of the University of Cambridge. Contribution is used to fund grants to colleges from the Colleges Fund. The liability for the year is as advised to the College by the University based on an assessable amount derived from the value of the College's assets as at the end of the previous financial year.

PENSION COSTS

The College participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme. The assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. 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 College 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 College therefore accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme. Since the College has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan) that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit, the College recognises a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit) with related expenses being recognised through the profit and loss account.

The College participates in the Cambridge Colleges Federated Pension Scheme (CCFPS), a defined benefit scheme which is externally funded and until 31 March 2017 was contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). As CCFPS is a federated scheme and the College is able to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities, the College values the fund as required by Section 28 Employee Benefits of FRS102 'Retirement Benefits'. As a result, the amount charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure represents the amount calculated under FRS102 guidelines.

The College also operates defined contribution pension schemes and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the College to the funds in respect of the year.



CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS

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 Universities Superannuation Scheme. 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) with the resulting expense charged through the profit or loss account in accordance with section 28 of FRS 102. The Council and Governing Body are satisfied that the Universities Superannuation Scheme meets the definition of a multi-employer scheme and has therefore recognised the discounted fair value of the contractual contributions under the recovery plan in existence at the date of approving these financial statements.

All other accounting judgements and estimates are detailed under the appropriate accounting policy.

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 College. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the College expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

RESERVES

Reserves are allocated between restricted and unrestricted reserves. Endowment reserves include balances which, in respect of endowment to the College, are held as permanent funds, which the College must hold to perpetuity.

Restricted reserves include balances in respect of which the donor has designated a specific purpose and therefore the College is restricted in the use of these funds.



PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	Note	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2024 Total £000	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2023 Total £000
Income									
Academic fees and charges	1	4,560	—	—	4,560	4,320	—	—	4,320
Accommodation, catering and conferences	2	8,390	—	—	8,390	7,119	—	—	7,119
Investment income	3	30	—	1,155	1,185	16	—	1,069	1,085
Endowment return transferred	3	1,549	1,597	(3,146)	—	1,392	1,480	(2,872)	—
Other income		394	—	—	394	277	—	—	277
Total income before donations and endowments		14,923	1,597	(1,991)	14,529	13,124	1,480	(1,803)	12,801
Donations		1,146	470	—	1,616	442	1,180	—	1,622
New endowments		—	1	1,103	1,104	—	1	833	834
Other capital grants for assets		—	8	—	8	—	9	—	9
Total income		16,069	2,076	(888)	17,257	13,566	2,670	(970)	15,266
Expenditure									
Education	4	5,764	2,170	—	7,934	4,927	1,975	—	6,902
Accommodation, catering and conferences	5	10,683	5	—	10,688	9,024	2	—	9,026
Other expenditure		582	73	59	714	521	1,477	(26)	1,972
Change in USS pension deficit recovery provision contributions	8,15	(1,118)	—	—	(1,118)	48	—	—	48
Total expenditure	7	15,911	2,248	59	18,218	14,520	3,454	(26)	17,948
(Deficit) / Surplus before other gains and losses		158	(172)	(947)	(961)	(954)	(784)	(944)	(2,682)
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gain on investments		657	49	3,284	3,990	(565)	(46)	648	37
(Deficit) / Surplus for the year		815	(123)	2,337	3,029	(1,519)	(830)	(296)	(2,645)
Other comprehensive income									
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of fixed assets	9	15,954	—	—	15,954	—	—	—	—
Actuarial gain / (loss) in respect of pension schemes	15	116	—	—	116	125	—	—	125
Total comprehensive income for the year		16,885	(123)	2,337	19,099	(1,394)	(830)	(296)	(2,520)

The notes on pages 56 to 80 form part of these accounts

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	Income and expenditure reserve			Revaluation	Total £000
	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	reserve £000	
Balance at 1 July 2023	128,365	4,392	43,873	47,342	223,972
(Deficit)/ surplus from income and expenditure statement	815	(123)	2,337	—	3,029
Other comprehensive income	116	—	—	15,956	16,072
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year	8	(8)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves	486	387	(388)	(485)	—
Balance at 30 June 2024	129,790	4,648	45,822	62,813	243,073

	Income and expenditure reserve			Revaluation	Total £000
	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	reserve £000	
Balance at 1 July 2022	129,266	5,288	44,112	47,826	226,492
(Deficit)/ surplus from income and expenditure statement	(1,519)	(830)	(296)	—	(2,645)
Other comprehensive income	125	—	—	—	125
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year	9	(9)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves	483	(57)	57	(483)	—
Balance at 30 June 2023	128,365	4,392	43,873	47,342	223,972

The notes on pages 55 to 80 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	Note	2024 £000	2023 £000
Non-current assets			
Fixed assets	9	198,491	181,399
Investments	10	81,913	79,257
Total non-current assets		280,404	260,656
Current assets			
Stocks		130	142
Trade and other receivables	11	1,446	1,043
Cash and cash equivalents	12	380	1,945
Total current assets		1,956	3,130
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(4,601)	(3,812)
Net current liabilities		(2,645)	(682)
Total assets less current liabilities		277,759	259,974
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(34,150)	(34,205)
Provisions			
Pension provisions	15	(536)	(1,797)
Total net assets		243,073	223,972
Restricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – endowment reserve	16	45,822	43,873
Income and expenditure reserve – restricted reserve	17	4,648	4,392
		50,470	48,265
Unrestricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – unrestricted		129,790	128,365
Revaluation reserve		62,813	47,342
		192,603	175,707
Total reserves		243,073	223,972

The financial statements were approved by the Governing Body on 18 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Graham Virgo, Master

The notes on pages 55 to 80 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	Note	2024 £000	2023 £000
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		3,029	(2,645)
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation		2460	2,406
Gain on Endowments, Donations and Investment Property		(3,931)	(63)
Decrease / (increase) in stocks		12	(2)
(Increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables		(383)	633
Increase in creditors		974	477
Pension costs less contributions payable		(1,145)	(19)
Adjustment for investing or financing activities			
Investment income		(1,185)	(1,085)
Interest payable		1,061	856
Profit of disposal of non-current fixed assets		—	—
Net cash inflow from operating activities		892	558
Proceeds from sales of non-current fixed assets		—	—
Non-current investment disposal		—	—
Investment income		3,292	2,838
Endowment funds invested		(1,045)	(2,567)
Withdrawal of deposits		—	—
Payments made to acquire non-current assets		(3,598)	(3,291)
Cash flows from investing activities		(1,351)	(3,020)
Interest received		30	16
Interest paid		(1,061)	(856)
New unsecured loan		—	4,000
New finance lease		—	—
Repayment of loans		(75)	(72)
Cash flows from financing activities		(1,106)	3,088
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(1,565)	626
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		1,945	1,319
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	12	380	1,945

The notes on pages 55 to 80 form part of these accounts

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Academic Fees and Charges

	2024 £000	2023 £000
College fees:		
Fee income received at the regulated undergraduate rate	1,865	1,865
Fee income received at the unregulated undergraduate rate	776	769
Fee income received at the graduate rate	1,491	1,362
	4,132	3,996
Cambridge Bursary Scheme income	306	220
Research/Teaching Grants	106	90
Other income	16	14
Total	4,560	4,320

2. Income from accommodation, catering and conferences

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Accommodation		
College Members	4,033	3,727
Conferences	2,015	1,326
International Programme	—	—
Catering		
College Members	895	820
Conferences	1,447	1,246
International Programme	—	—
Total	8,390	7,119

3. Endowment return and Investment Income

	2024 £000	2023 £000
3a. Analysis		
Total return contribution (see note 3b)	3,146	2,872
Other interest receivable	30	16
	3,176	2,888

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

3b. Summary of Total Return

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Income from:		
Land and buildings	979	980
Quoted and other securities and cash	176	89
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:		
Land & Buildings	-	(26)
Quoted and other securities and cash	3,990	63
Investment management costs (see note 3c)	(59)	26
Total return for year	5,086	1,132
Total return transferred to income and expenditure reserve	(3,146)	(2,872)
Unapplied total return for year included within Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure (see note 18)	1,940	(1,740)

3c. Investment Management Costs

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Land & Buildings	21	22
Quoted securities and other investments	38	(48)
	59	(26)

4. Education expenditure

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Teaching	3,212	2,887
Tutorial	1,179	1,038
Admissions	979	939
Research	356	312
Scholarships and awards	1,370	1,006
Other educational facilities	838	720
Total	7,934	6,902

Included within Scholarships and Awards are payments under the Cambridge Bursary Scheme amounting to £479,316 (2023 - £397,440).

5. Accommodation, catering and conferences expenditure

		2024 £000	2023 £000
Accommodation	College Members	5,424	4,553
	Conferences	2,414	1,891
Catering	College Members	1,684	1,314
	Conferences	1,166	1,268
Total		10,688	9,026

Conference expenditure above is on a fully-costed basis, which includes a significant contribution to the absorption of overheads.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

6. Other expenditure

	2024 £000	2023 restated £000
Investment management fees and administration	59	(26)
USS pension interest charge	26	38
FRS102 pension schemes interest charge	34	30
Other general and administrative	595	1,978
Total	714	2,020

7a. Analysis of 2023/2024 expenditure by activity

	Staff Costs (Note 8) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	3,417	3,861	656	7,934
Accommodation, catering and conferences	4,621	4,285	1,782	10,688
Other	305	387	22	714
Change in USS pension deficit recovery provision contributions	(1,118)	—	—	(1,118)
Totals	7,225	8,533	2,460	18,218

7b. Analysis of 2022/2023 expenditure by activity

	Staff Costs (Note 8) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	3,103	3,157	642	6,902
Accommodation, catering and conferences	4,127	3,156	1,743	9,026
Other	347	1,604	21	1,972
Change in USS pension deficit recovery provision contributions	48	—	—	48
Totals	7,625	7,917	2,406	17,948

The above expenditure includes £538,802 as the direct cost of fundraising (2023 - £533,794). This expenditure includes the costs of alumni relations.

7c. Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Other operating expenses include:		
Audit fees payable to the College's external auditors	34	24
Other fees payable to the College's external auditors	5	7

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

8. Staff Costs	College Fellows £000	Non-Academics £000	Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
Staff Costs				
Emoluments	1,458	5,808	7,266	6,623
Social security costs	121	465	586	525
Other pension costs	183	356	539	429
Net change in USS deficit recovery and subtotal of pension costs (see Note 8b.)	(735)	(431)	(1,166)	48
Sub-total pension costs	(552)	(75)	(627)	477
Total	1,027	6,199	7,225	7,625

Based on the 2023 valuation of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), the impact of the net change in the USS deficit recovery provision is a credit/charge of £1,166,000 (2023: £0). This comprises a non-cash credit resulting from the change in assumptions, including the discount rate, of £1,118,000 (2023: debit £37,000) and cash contributions made to reduce the deficit in the year of £48,000 (2023: £85,000).

Average staff numbers (full-time equivalents):				
Academic	51	—	51	48
Non-academic	4	165	169	156
Total	55	165	220	204

The Governing Body comprises 55 Fellows, of which 51 are stipendiary.

No officer or employee of the College, including the Head of House, received emoluments of over £100,000.

8a. Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the College. Therefore the Trustees who include the Master, Senior Bursar, Vice-Master, Secretary to the Governing Body and Senior Tutor are the key management personnel.

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Aggregate Emoluments	435	187

Trustees received no emoluments in their capacity as Trustees of the Charity.

8b. Pension costs

The total pension cost included in staff costs for the year (see note 8) was:

	Employer contributions 2023/24 £000	Provisions (Note 15) 2023/24 £000	Total 2023/24 £000	Employer contributions 2022/23 £000	Provisions (Note 15) 2022/23 £000	Total 2022/23 £000
USS	290	(1,166)	(876)	295	(48)	247
CCFPS	53	(39)	14	53	(39)	14
Other	235	—	235	216	—	216
Total	578	(1,205)	(627)	564	(87)	477

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	College Buildings and Site £000	Furniture fittings and equipment £000	Library Books £000	Total £000
Cost				
As at 1 July 2023	181,595	12,368	1,096	195,059
Additions at cost	2,779	785	35	3,599
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Revaluation	10,692	—	—	10,692
As at 30 June 2024	195,066	13,153	1,131	209,350
Depreciation				
As at 1 July 2023	3,477	9,585	598	13,660
Charge for the year	1,785	640	36	2,461
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Revaluation	(5,262)	—	—	(5,262)
As at 30 June 2024	—	10,225	634	10,859
Net book value				
As at 30 June 2024	195,066	2,928	497	198,491
As at 1 July 2023	178,118	2,783	498	181,399

The insured value of freehold land and buildings as at 30 June 2024 was £152,055,300 (2023 - £151,601,478).

The value of the land, included in College Buildings and Site, as at 30 June 2024 was £58,166,000 (2023 - £58,166,000).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

10. Investments

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Consolidated and College		
As at 1 July	79,257	78,302
Additions	11,663	13,762
Disposals	(11,823)	(12,275)
Gains	3,217	(1,030)
(Decrease)/increase in cash balances held at fund managers	(401)	498
As at 30 June	81,913	79,257

Represented by:

Property	16,642	16,961
Securities	55,482	52,134
Cash with agents	2,452	2,853
Works of art	6,142	6,142
Over distribution of market value of funds	735	707
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding Plc	5	5
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding II Plc	5	5
Land	450	450
	81,913	79,257

Subsidiary Company

At 30 June 2024 Downing College held an investment in the following companies:

Subsidiary Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights	Country of Incorporation
Downing College Developments Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
The May Ball Company Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom

Downing College Developments Limited was incorporated on 20 January 1999. The principal activity of the company is development of student accommodation and other facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited was incorporated on 2 April 2007. The principal activity of the company is the provision of non-educational conference facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

The May Ball Company Limited was incorporated on 28 July 2010. The principal activity of the company is to administer the operation of the biennial College May Ball. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

11. Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated 2024 £000	College 2024 £000	Consolidated 2023 £000	College 2023 £000
Members of the College	200	200	187	187
Amounts due from group companies	—	—	—	942
Other receivables	556	428	435	225
Prepayments	690	690	421	421
	1,446	1,318	1,043	1,775

12. Cash and cash equivalents

	Consolidated 2024 £000	College 2024 £000	Consolidated 2023 £000	College 2023 £000
Bank deposits	—	—	612	612
Current accounts	379	272	1,332	114
Cash in hand	1	1	1	1
	380	273	1,945	727

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Consolidated 2024 £000	College 2024 £000	Consolidated 2023 £000	College 2023 £000
Trade creditors	1,165	1,156	918	866
Members of the College	316	316	322	322
Amounts due to group companies	—	24	—	8
University fees	15	15	12	12
Other creditors	3,030	2,785	2,488	2,163
Obligations under finance leases	75	75	72	72
	4,601	4,371	3,812	3,443

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

14. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Consolidated 2024 £000	College 2024 £000	Consolidated 2023 £000	College 2023 £000
Long term bank loan	5,480	5,480	5,479	5,479
Other loans	28,612	28,612	28,593	28,593
Obligations under finance leases	58	58	133	133
	34,150	34,150	34,205	34,205

The long term bank loan is due for repayment in 2048 at a fixed interest rate of 4.64%.

During 2013-14 the College borrowed £5m from institutional investors in a private placement done collectively with other Colleges, although each College's loan is separate from those of the others. The loans are unsecured and repayable during the period 2043-53 and are at fixed interest rates of approximately 4.4%. The College has agreed a financial covenant of the ratio of borrowings to net assets, and has been in compliance with the covenant at all times since incurring the debt.

During 2019-20, the College borrowed £20m from an institutional investor in a private placement. The loan is unsecured and repayable in 2069 at a fixed interest rate of 2.05%.

During 2022-23, the College borrowed £4m from the bank. The loan is unsecured and repayable in 2028 at a floating rate of base rate plus 1%.

15. Pension provisions

Group and College	CCFPS £000	USS £000	2024 £000	2023 £000
Balance at beginning of year	657	1,140	1,797	1,941
Movement in year:				
Current service cost	14	—	14	15
Contributions	(53)	—	(53)	(54)
Change in expected contribution	—	—	—	—
Other finance cost	34	26	60	68
Actuarial (gain) / loss	(116)	—	(116)	(125)
Net change in underlying assumptions (see Note 8)				
Change in underlying assumptions		(1,118)	(1,118)	37
USS deficit contributions payable		(48)	(48)	(85)
Balance at end of year	536	—	536	1,797

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

16. Endowment funds

Restricted net assets relating to endowments are as follows:

Consolidated and College	Restricted permanent endowments £000	Unrestricted permanent endowments £000	2024 Total £000	2023 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year				
Capital	32,282	11,591	43,873	44,112
New donations and endowments	1,090	13	1,103	833
(decrease)/increase in market value of investments	936	299	1,235	(1,129)
Transfers between reserves	(389)	—	(389)	57
Balance at end of year	33,919	11,903	45,822	43,873
Analysis by type of purpose:				
Fellowship Funds	10,437	—	10,437	9,917
Scholarship Funds	7,999	618	8,617	8,373
Prize Funds	522	27	549	534
Hardship Funds	5,429	—	5,429	5,030
Bursary Funds	51	—	51	50
Grant Funds	5,990	11	6,001	5,882
Other Funds	3,491	1,838	5,329	4,919
General Funds	—	9,409	9,409	9,168
	33,919	11,903	45,822	43,873
Analysis by asset				
Property	8,051	2,825	10,876	10,880
Investments	25,325	8,887	34,212	31,108
Cash	543	191	734	1,885
	33,919	11,903	45,822	43,873

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

17. Restricted reserves

Consolidated and College	Capital grants unspent £000	Permanent unspent and other restricted income £000	Restricted expendable endowment £000	2024 Total £000	2023 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year					
Capital	—	2,710	—	2,710	3,562
Accumulated income	—	—	1,682	1,682	1,726
	—	2,710	1,682	4,392	5,288
New grants	8	—	—	8	9
New donations	—	391	80	471	1,181
Investment income	—	1,518	79	1,597	1,480
(decrease)/increase in market value of investments	—	—	49	49	(46)
Expenditure	—	(2,098)	(151)	(2,249)	(3,454)
Capital grants utilised	(8)	—	—	(8)	(9)
Transfer to/(from) reserves	—	396	(7)	389	(57)
Balance at end of year	—	2,917	1,732	4,649	4,392
Comprising Capital	—	2,917	—	2,917	2,710
Accumulated income	—	—	1,732	1,732	1,682
	—	2,917	1,732	4,649	4,392
Analysis of other restricted funds/donations by type of purpose					
Fellowship Funds	—	258	—	258	302
Scholarship Funds	—	168	218	386	347
Prize Funds	—	28	—	28	27
Hardship Funds	—	455	—	455	150
Grant Funds	—	1,379	1,058	2,437	2,607
Other Funds	—	629	456	1,085	959
	—	2,917	1,732	4,649	4,392

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

18. Memorandum of Unapplied Total Return

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Unapplied total return at beginning of year	22,705	24,445
Unapplied total return for the year	1,940	(1,740)
Unapplied total return at end of year	24,645	22,705

19. Reconciliation and analysis of net debt

	At 1 July 2023 £000	Cash Flows £000	New finance leases £000	Other non- cash changes £000	At 30 June 2024 £000
Cash and cash equivalents	1,945	(1,508)	—	—	437
Borrowings:					
Amount falling due within one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	(72)	72	—	(75)	(75)
Amount falling due after more than one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	(133)	—	—	75	(58)
Unsecured loans	(34,072)	—	—	(20)	(34,092)
Total net debt	(32,332)	(1,436)	—	(20)	(33,788)

20. Financial instruments

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Financial assets at fair value through Statement of Comprehensive income		
Listed equity investments (note 10)	56,823	52,134
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 10 and 12)	1,491	4,799
Other equity investments (note 10)	10	10
Other debtors (note 11)	566	629
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Loans (note 14)	34,092	34,633
Trade creditors (note 13)	1,187	902
Other creditors (note 13)	3,114	2,563

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

21. Capital commitments

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Capital commitments at 30 June 2024 are as follows -		
Authorised and contracted	368	14
Authorised but not yet contracted for	734	1,979

22. Financial Commitments

	2024	2023
	£000	£000

At 30 June 2024, the College had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Land and buildings:

Expiring within one year	281	153
Expiring between two and five years	83	205
Expiring in over 5 years	214	223

Other:

Expiring within one year	1	1
Expiring between two and five years	10	5

23. Pension Schemes

In addition to the defined contribution scheme for assistant staff the College participates in two defined benefit schemes, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), and the Cambridge Colleges Federation Pension Scheme (CCFPS). The total pension cost for the year ended 30 June 2024 was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
USS: Contributions	290	295
CCFPS: Charged to income and expenditure account	53	53
Other pension schemes: Contributions	235	216
	578	564

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

Universities Superannuation Scheme

The total (credit)/cost (released)/charged to the income and expenditure account is (£876k) (2023: charged to I&E £248k).

Deficit recovery contributions due within one year for the institution are £48k (2023: £Nil).

A deficit recovery plan was put in place as part of the 2020 valuation, which required payment of 6.2% of salaries over the period 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2024, at which point the rate would increase to 6.3%. As set out in Note 8, no deficit recovery plan was required under the 2023 valuation because the scheme was in surplus on a technical provisions basis. The institution was no longer required to make deficit recovery contributions from 1 January 2024 and accordingly released the outstanding provision to the profit and loss account.

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

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

The 2023 valuation was the seventh valuation for the scheme under the scheme-specific funding regime introduced by the Pensions Act 2004, which requires schemes to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover their technical provisions (the statutory funding objective). At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the scheme was £73.1 billion and the value of the scheme’s technical provisions was £65.7 billion indicating a surplus of £7.4 billion and a funding ratio of 111%.

The key financial assumptions used in the 2023 valuation are described below. More detail is set out in the Statement of Funding Principles.

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

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

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

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

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

Cambridge Colleges' Federated Pension Scheme

The College also operates a defined benefits plan for the College's employees of the Cambridge Colleges' Federation Pension Scheme.

The liabilities of the plan have been calculated, at 30 June 2024, for the purposes of FRS102 using a valuation system designed for the Management Committee, acting as Trustee of the Cambridge Colleges' Federated Pension Scheme, but allowing for the different assumptions required under FRS102 and taking fully into consideration changes in the plan benefit structure and membership since that date.

The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date were as follows:

	2024 % p.a.	2023 % p.a.
Discount rate	5.10	5.20
Increase in salaries	n/a	n/a
Retail Price Index (RPI) assumption	3.35	3.40*
Consumer Price Index (CPI) assumption to 2030	2.35	2.80
From 2031	3.25	2.80
Pension increases in payment (RPI max 5% p.a.)	3.15	3.30*
Pension increases in payment (CPI max 2.5% p.a.)	2.00	2.05*

*For 1 year only, we have assumed that RPI 9% and CPI will be 7%. The caps under the Rules are applied to assumed pension increases.

The underlying mortality assumption is based upon the standard table known as S3PA on a year of birth usage with CMI_2023 future improvement factors and a long-term rate of future improvement of 1.25% per annum, a standard smoothing factor (7.0) and no allowance for additional improvements (2023: S3PA with CMI_2022 future improvement factors and a long-term future improvement rate of 1.25% per annum, a standard smoothing factor (7.0) and no allowance for additional improvements). This results in the following life expectancies:

- Male aged 65 now has a life expectancy of 21.4 years (previously 21.4 years)
- Female age 65 now has a life expectancy of 23.9 years (previously 23.9 years)
- Male age 45 now and retiring in 20 years has a life expectancy of 25.3 years (previously 22.6 years)
- Female age 45 now and retiring in 20 years would have a life expectancy of 25.3 years (previously 25.3 years)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

Members are assumed to retire at their normal retirement age (65) apart from in the following cases:

	Male	Female
Active Members – Option 1 Benefits	64	64
Deferred Members – Option 1 Benefits	63	62

Allowance has been made at retirement for non-retired members to commute part of their pension for a lump sum on the basis of the current commutation factors in these calculations

Employee Benefit Obligations

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet as at 30 June 2024 (with comparative figures as at 30 June 2023) are as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Market value of scheme assets	4,103	4,075
Present value of scheme liabilities	(4,639)	(4,732)
Net defined benefit (liability)	(536)	(657)

The amounts recognised in the income and expenditure account for the year ending 30 June 2024 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2023) are as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Current service cost	14	14
Interest on net defined benefit liability	34	30
Total charge	48	44

Changes in the present value of the scheme liabilities for the year ending 30 June 2024 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2023) are as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Present value of scheme liabilities at beginning of period	4,732	5,664
Current service cost (including employee contributions)	—	—
Benefits paid	(277)	(196)
Interest on scheme liabilities	239	212
Actuarial (gains) / losses	(55)	(948)
Present value of Scheme liabilities at end of period	4,639	4,732

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets for the year ending 30 June 2024 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2023) are as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Market value of scheme assets at beginning of period	4,075	4,873
Contributions paid by the College	53	53
Benefits paid	(277)	(196)
Administration expenses paid	(16)	(17)
Interest on scheme assets	205	181
Return on assets, less interest included in profit and loss	64	(819)
Market value of Scheme assets at end of period	4,104	4,075
Actual return on scheme assets	268	(638)

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total Scheme assets at 30 June 2024 (with comparative figures at 30 June 2023) are as follows:

	2024	2023
Equities	46%	49%
Bonds & Cash	42%	38%
Properties	12%	13%
Total	100%	100%

The plan has no investments in property occupied by, assets used by or financial instruments issued by the College.

Analysis of the remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability recognised in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI) for the year ending 30 June 2024 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2023) are as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Actuarial return less expected return on scheme assets	64	(819)
Expected less actual plan expenses	(3)	(4)
Experience gains and losses arising on scheme liabilities	61	—
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of scheme liabilities	(6)	948
Remeasurement of net defined benefit liability recognised in OCI	116	125

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Pension Schemes continued

Movement in net defined benefit liability during the year ending 30 June 2024 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2023) are as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Deficit in scheme at beginning of year	(657)	(791)
Recognised in Profit and Loss	(48)	(44)
Contributions paid by the College	53	53
Actuarial gain recognised in SOCIE	116	125
Deficit in scheme at the end of the year	(536)	(657)

Funding Policy

Actuarial valuations are carried out every three years on behalf of the Management Committee, acting as the Trustee of the Scheme, by a qualified independent actuary. The actuarial assumptions underlying the actuarial valuation are different to those adopted under FRS102.

The last such actuarial valuation was as at 31 March 2023. This showed that the plan's assets were insufficient to cover the liabilities on the funding basis. A Recovery Plan has been agreed with the College, which commits the College to paying contributions to fund the shortfall. These deficit reduction contributions are incorporated into the Schedule of Contributions dated 4 June 2024 and are as follows:

- Annual contributions of not less than £39,105 p.a. payable for the period to 30 April 2027.

These payments are subject to review following the next funding valuation, due as at 31 March 2026.

Defined Contribution Pension Schemes

The College operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of certain employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the College amounting to £234,861 (2023 - £215,820) of which £nil (2023 - £nil) was outstanding at the year end.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

24. Contingent Liabilities

As disclosed in note 23, with effect from 16 March 2007, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) positioned itself as a “last man standing” scheme so that in the event of an insolvency of any of the participating employers in USS, the amount of any pension funding shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer will be spread across the remaining participant employers.

25. Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the College’s operations and the composition of its Governing Body, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Governing Body has an interest. All transactions involving organisations in which a member of the Governing Body may have an interest are conducted at arm’s length and in accordance with the College’s normal procedures.

The College maintains a register of interests for all College Council members and where any member of the College Council has a material interest in a College matter they are required to declare that fact.

During the year no fees or expenses were paid to Fellows in respect of their duties as Trustees.

Fellows are remunerated for teaching, research and other duties within the College. Fellows are billed for any private catering. The Trustees remuneration is overseen by a Remuneration Committee.

The salaries paid to Trustees in the year are summarised in the table below:

From	To	2023-24 Number	2022-23 Number
0	10,000	29	28
10,001	20,000	9	7
20,001	30,000	5	6
30,001	40,000	6	3
40,001	50,000	7	4
50,001	60,000	1	2
60,001	70,000	1	—
70,001	80,000	—	1
80,001	90,000	1	—
90,001	100,000	2	1
100,001	110,000	—	1
Total		61	53

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

25. Related Party Transactions continued

The total Trustee salaries were £1,218,604 for the year (2022/23 - £1,019,150).

The Trustees were also paid other taxable benefits (including associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer contributions to pensions) which totalled £319,377 for the year (2022/23 - £280,510).

The College has a number of trading subsidiary undertakings which are consolidated into these accounts. All subsidiary undertakings are 100% owned by the College and are registered and operating in England and Wales.

The College has taken advantage of the exemption within section 33 of FRS 102 not to disclose transactions with wholly owned group companies that are related parties.

26. Sir Mortimer Singer Fund

Other Unrestricted Funds includes the Sir Mortimer Singer Fund which was funded from a bequest of Sir Mortimer Singer, a Fellow Commoner of the College. The money was appointed to the College by Lady Singer upon the trusts declared by a deed dated 25 March 1952. The Pension Trust Fund was also set up from this bequest. Below are the movements on these Funds in the year.

	Singer Fund £000	Pension Trust £000
Opening Balance at 1 July 2023	8,233	288
Income	225	14
Expenditure	—	(14)
Change in Market Value of Investments	139	8
Closing Balance at 30 June 2024	8,597	296

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Alcan Prize Fund	—	13
Angharad John Fellowship	—	402
Alwyn W Heong Fund	—	339
Barry Moore Economics Prize Fund	—	19
Bathey Fund	—	12
Beinan Lu Fund	—	4
Bill Willetts Fund	—	—
B J Everitt Prize Fund	—	21
Blankenship Book Fund	—	16
Blankenship Law Fund	—	33
Bookbinder Travel Awards	3	13
Bradbrook Fund	—	16
Brammer Fellowship in Geography	10	1,179
Buchanan Fund	—	328
Charles Campbell Book Fund	—	5
S M and H Haniff Prize	—	46
Cockerell Fund	—	31
Collins Fund	—	257
Darley Fund	—	404
Darley Sands Postgraduate Studentship	—	131
Downing Association Fund	—	59
Downing Enterprise Fund	42	42
Edward Collins Fund	—	153
Ernest William Denham Fund	7	43
Everitt Fund	—	2
Everitt Butterfield Fund	1	1,456
Fahrenwaldt Fund	—	17
Ferreras Willetts Fund	—	371
Florence & David Jacobs Memorial Prize	—	10
Fritsch Fund	—	609
Carried forward	63	6,031

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	63	6,031
Formoso—Papalios	—	50
Fu Fund	—	7
Gamlingay Fund	—	103
Geoffrey Grimmett Prize	—	8
Gelber Bequest	—	14
Graystone Fund	—	233
Gulbenkian Fund	—	3
Hall Fund	—	14
Harold Hargreaves Prize	—	7
Harris Fund	—	589
Harrison Fund	—	—
Harrison Prize Fund	—	4
Hopkins Parry Fund	—	1,419
John Hopkins Fund	225	1,107
John Hopkins Supervision Fund	2	319
John Miller Scholarships	—	2,125
Hugh Brammer Fund	—	101
Ivor Evans Fund	—	26
Jan Hruska Fund	—	339
Jean Ruhman Fund	—	13
John Hawkins Mays Wild Fund	—	12
John Maples America Fund	—	201
Johnston Fund	—	2
Joseph Tcheng Prize	—	17
Judy Petty Book Prize & Scholarship	—	29
Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellowship	—	1,118
Silverman Chemistry Fund – Trfr to I&E	200	200
Percy Lander Research Fund	—	365
Lander Fund	—	15
Carried forward	490	14,471

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	490	14,471
Landrum & Brown Scholarship Fund	—	18
Lord Butterfield Fund	—	251
Mays Wild Fund	—	784
Matthews/McKinley Travel Fund	2	20
Alfred Monk Fund	—	322
John H Morrison Prize in Law	—	34
Moullin Fund	—	3
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Fund	—	591
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Prize Fund	—	167
Professor Gabriel Oon Prize	—	8
Osler Fund	—	132
Owens Fund	—	499
Pask Prize	—	—
Perry Fund	—	—
Peter Mathias Economics Prize Fund	—	3
Pilley Fund	—	—
Platt Fund	—	472
Poulton Fund	—	40
Professor Audus Botanical Fund	—	677
Purcell Fund	—	22
Richards Fund	—	69
Robertson Research Fellowship Fund	—	928
Robson Physics Prize	—	9
Robson Postgraduate Fund	—	392
Saint Fund	—	56
Saunders Fund	—	57
Savile Fund	—	175
Schreiner Fund	—	84
Seton Fund	—	99
Carried forward	492	20,383

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	492	20,383
Seton Cavendish Fund	—	2,751
Shallard Fund	—	—
Sir Arthur Watts Choral Awards	—	17
Stephen Peel Fellowship Fund	—	397
Stevens Fund	—	6
Susan & Geoffrey Eggington Scholarship	—	20
Sutcliffe Legacy	—	773
TG Jones Fund	—	968
Thomas Fund	—	25
Thrower Fund	5	93
Timothy Walton Remembrance Fund	—	80
Treherne Fund	—	149
Unwin Fund	—	77
Verjee Fellowship Fund	—	359
Verney Fund	—	2
Michael Waring Fund	—	109
Warner—Lambert Fund	—	282
Whitby Memorial Fund	—	523
White Fund	—	10
Whitelegg Fund	—	74
Whitworth Fund	—	2,738
Wicks Travel Fund	—	18
Williams Downing Fellowship	22	557
Wilsey & Lerch Scholarship in Economics	—	82
Wyatt Fund	—	2
Postgraduate Studentship Fund	1	8
Cranworth Law Society	—	4
Student Hardship Endowment	2	509
Student Support Endowment	250	1,478
Carried forward	772	32,494

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	772	32,494
1970's Grant Fund	—	97
Alumni Sport Fund	—	71
Fundraising - Teaching	7	230
Fundraising - Access	1	834
Catalysis - Teaching & Learning	37	260
Catalysis - Research & Discovery	—	19
Catalysis - Heritage & Environment	3	66
Catalysis - Support & Services	—	302
Catalysis - Culture & Community	—	14
Other	270	674
	1,090	35,061
<i>Restricted expendable</i>		
Bartram Fund	—	166
Colin Hill Fund	—	2
Lt. Colonel Anderson Trust Fund	—	135
Goodey Fund	—	218
Richens Fund	—	768
Treherne Prize Fund	—	13
Student Hardship (Spend Down)	30	—
The Great Tradition	1	121
Segreants Fund	79	129
Catalysis Conference Fund	—	—
Catalysis Research Fund	—	202
Downing Enterprise	—	—
1717 Fund	94	136
Voellm-Hruska Studentship	—	45
Tazaki Studentship	—	847
Fundraising - Buildings	—	64
Other	275	661
	479	3,507
Total Restricted Funds	1,569	38,568

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Unrestricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Clark Fund	—	3
French Fund	—	44
Goodey Fund	—	—
Jarvis Fund	—	53
Library Endowment Fund	—	1,468
Richmond Fund	—	275
Stenning Fund	—	74
Stevenson Fund	—	2
Whalley—Tooker Fund	—	22
Yates Fund	—	11
Young Fund	—	246
Singer Fund (Pension Trust)	—	297
Smyth Bequest	—	660
Fleet Bequest	—	70
Deryk Prosser Fund	—	567
Corporate Capital Fund	—	1,212
General Capital	—	6,898
	—	11,902
Total Restricted Reserves	1,569	50,470
<i>Unrestricted</i>		
Designated Buildings	-	132,244
Corporate Capital Fund	-	24,168
Singer Fund (Will Trust)	-	8,597
General Capital and Other	1,159	(39,994)
Revaluation Reserves	15,954	68,124
Pension Reserves	-	(536)
	17,113	192,603
Total Unrestricted Funds	17,113	192,603
Total Reserves	18,682	243,073



DOWNING COLLEGE | CAMBRIDGE | CB2 1DQ

DESIGN Nicholas Hawksworth 01223 693 082

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for the financial year ending 30 June 2023

DOWNING COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

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DOWNING COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE CB2 1DQ

Patron: HRH The Duchess of Kent, GCVO

Visitor: The Crown

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Master: Graham John Virgo MA BCL (Oxon) KC (Hon), University Professor of English Private Law

The Fellows of the College (in order of Election) as of 1 October 2023

David John Wales MA PhD ScD FRS FRSC, Fellow in Chemistry, University Professor of Chemical Physics (1989)
Christopher Allim Haniff MA PhD, *Fellows' Steward*, Fellow in Physics, University Professor of Physics (1993)
Nicholas Coleman BSc MB ChB (Bristol) PhD FRCPath FMed Sci, Verjee Fellow in Medicine,
University Professor of Molecular Pathology (1994)
Adam Noel Ledgeway BA (Salford) MA (Manchester) PhD (Manchester) FBA, Fellow in Italian,
University Professor of Italian and Romance Linguistics (1996)
Zoe Helen Barber MA PhD, *Vice-Master*, Fellow in Materials Science and Metallurgy,
University Professor of Materials Science (2000)
Sophia Demoulini BA (Wooster) MSc (Minnesota) PhD (Minnesota), Fellow in Pure Mathematics,
College Associate Professor (2000)
Ian Gareth Roberts BA (Wales, Bangor) MA (Salford) PhD (Southern California) LittD FBA, Fellow in Linguistics,
University Professor of Linguistics (2000)
Michael Trevor Bravo BEng (Carleton) MPhil PhD, Brammer Fellow in Geography,
University Associate Professor at the Scott Polar Research Institute (2001)
David Robert Pratt MA PhD FRHistS, *Fellow Archivist, Keeper of Art and Artefacts*, Fellow in History,
College Teaching Officer (2001)
Guy Barnett Williams MA PhD, *Senior Tutor, Safeguarding Officer*, Darley Fellow in Clinical Neurosciences,
University Professor of Imaging Science, Assistant Director of Information Processing at the
Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (2004)
Natalia Mora-Sitja BSc (Barcelona) MA (Barcelona) MSc (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), *Tutor*, Fellow in History,
University Associate Professor in Economic History (2005)
William O'Neill BSc (Essex) MSc (Essex) PhD (Imperial) FREng, *Tutor*, Stephen Peel Fellow in Engineering,
Professor of Laser Engineering (2006)
Amy Louise Milton MA PhD, Ferreras Willetts Fellow in Neuroscience, *Praelector*,
University Professor of Behavioural Neuroscience (2007)
Brigitte Steger MA MPhil (Vienna) PhD (Vienna), Fellow in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies,
University Associate Professor in Modern Japanese Studies (2007)
Jie Li BS (Wuhan) MS (Paris) PhD (Paris), Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Fluid Dynamics (2009)
Keith James Eyeons MA MA (Nottingham) PhD, *Chaplain and Dean of Chapel, Secretary to the Governing Body*,
SCR President, Fellow in Theology (2010)
Robert Keith Harle MA PhD, *Dean*, Fellow in Computer Science, University Professor in Computer Science (2010)
Timothy James Burton MA MB BChir PhD FRCP, *Tutor*, Oon Fellow in Clinical Medicine,
Clinical Lecturer in Translational Medicine & Therapeutics (2010)
Marta Morgado Correia BA (Lisbon) PhD, *Graduate Tutor, Internal Auditor*, Fellow in Biological Sciences,
Senior Investigator Scientist at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (2010)
Kamran Yunus BSc (Bath) MA PhD (Bath), *Admissions Tutor, Tutor*, Fellow in Chemical Engineering,
University Associate Teaching Professor (2012)
Sarah Lilian Kennedy BA (Melbourne) LLB (Melbourne) PhD, *Fellow Development Ambassador*,
Senior Treasurer of the Downing Dramatic Society, RJ Owens Fellow in English, College Associate Professor (2013)
Monica Moreno Figueroa BA (UIA Leon) MA (London) PhD (London) MA, Fellow in Social Sciences,
University Professor in Sociology (2014)

Brendan Plant BEc (Sydney) LLB (Sydney) MSc (LSE) PhD, Hopkins Parry Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2014)

Ewan James Jones BA MPhil PhD, *Graduate Tutor, Fellow Librarian, Fellow in English, University Associate Professor in Nineteenth-Century Literature* (2015)

Michael Crisp MEng PhD, *Tutor, Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Photonics and RF Systems* (2017)

Nicholas Rawlinson BSc (Monash) PhD (Monash) MA, Fellow in Earth Sciences, BP Foundation McKenzie Professor of Earth Sciences (2017)

Zoe Kourtzi BSc (Crete) MA (Rutgers) PhD (Rutgers) MA, Angharad Dodds John Fellow in Cognitive Neuroscience, Professor of Experimental Psychology (2017)

Joanne Claire Finnie Jones MA (Aberdeen), *Development Director* (2018)

Frisbee Candida Cheyenne Sheffield BA (Bristol) MPhil DPhil (Oxon), Octavius Augustus Glasier Collins Fellow in Classics, University Associate Professor in Classics (2019)

Joseph Webster MA (Edinburgh) MSc (Edinburgh) PhD (Edinburgh), Fellow in Anthropology, University Professor of the Anthropology of Religion (2019)

Gavin John Flynn MA (Oxon) MBA (INSEAD) MSc (LSE), *Senior Bursar, Senior Treasurer to the Boat Club* (2020).

Michael Ashby MA MPhil PhD, *Senior Treasurer of the Amalgamation Club, Silver Auditor, Internal Auditor, Williams Downing Fellow in Economics, College Associate Professor* (2020)

Neda Farahi BSc (Edinburgh) PhD, *Tutor, Fellow in Natural Sciences and Medical and Veterinary Sciences, College Associate Professor* (2020)

William Day BA (Durham) MA BCL (Oxon), Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2020)

Richard Justin Davies MA MB MChir LRCP (London) FRCS, Fellow in Clinical Medicine (2020)

Charlotte Christiane Hammer BA (Bonn) MA (Durham) MPh (Manchester) MSc (Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Robert Koch-Institut) PhD, Everitt Butterfield Fellow in Emerging Infectious Diseases (2021)

Nathan Rhys James MDc PhD, *Graduate Tutor, Mays Wild Research Fellow in Biological Sciences* (2021)

Alec Philip Christie BSc (St Andrews) PhD, Henslow Research Fellow in Zoology (2021)

John William Morgan BA MSci MA PhD, *Tutor, Praelector, Fellow in Chemistry, College Associate Professor* (2021)

Robert Todd Beardwell BSc (Sheffield), *Junior Bursar* (2022)

Francesco Muschitiello BSc (Venice) MSc (Perugia) PhD (Stockholm), Arnell Fellow in Climate Repair, Fellow in Geography (2022)

Helen Scott BA (Cape Town) LLB (Cape Town) BCL (Oxon) MPhil (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Law, Regius Professor of Civil Law (2022)

Maria Vera-Morales BEng (Carlos III de Madrid) VK Diploma (Von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynaics) PhD Fellow in Engineering, CDT Senior Fellow in Future Propulsion and Power (2022)

Dmitrij Szamozvancev BA MEng, Fellow in Computer Science and Technology, College Associate Professor (2022)

Bonnie Claire Lander Johnson BA (Sydney) MA (Melbourne) DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in English, College Associate Professor (2022)

Liesbeth François BA (KU Leuven) MA (KU Leuven) PhD (KU Leuven), Fellow in Spanish (2023)

Hugh Burton BA MSci MA PhD, Kim and Juliana Silverman Fellow (2023)

Stefania Fiorentino MSc (ENSA Paris) BEng (Rome) MEng (Rome) PhD (UCL), Fellow in Land Economy, University Senior Teaching Associate (2023)

Rebecca Freund BA (Cape Town) LLB (Cape Town) LLM, Parry-Anderson Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2023)

Rachel Coombes BA (Oxon) MA (Birmingham) DPhil (Oxon), Graham Robertson Research Fellow (2023)

Alice Sowton BA MRes PhD, Fellow in Natural Sciences (Biological), University Research Associate (2023)

Cédric Scheidegger Laemmle BA (St Andrews) MA (Basel) DPhil (Basel), College Associate Professor in Classics (2023)

Retirements and Resignations 1 July 2022–30 September 2023

Alan Peter Bookbinder BA (Oxon) MA (Harvard) MA, Master (2018–2023) *Retired 30 September 2023*

Ian Richard James MA MA (Warwick) PhD (Warwick), Fellow in Modern and Medieval Languages, Professor of Modern French Literature and Thought (1996–2023). *Resigned 25 April 2023*

Liping Xu BSc (Beijing) PhD, *Tutor, Fellow in Engineering, University Lecturer in Turbomachinery* (2004–2023). *Retired 30 September 2023.*

Lucy Winifred Whelan BA MSt (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), Graham Robertson Research Fellow in History of Art (2020–2023). *End of Research Fellowship 30 September 2023.*

Daniel Arnold Jolowicz BA (Oxon) MSt (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Classics, College Associate Professor (2022–2023). *Resigned 30 September 2023.*

OTHER FELLOWS

The Honorary Fellows

Giles Skey Brindley MA MD FRS
Sir Francis Graham Smith MA PhD FRS
Dame Janet Abbott Baker CH DBE
Sir Trevor Robert Nunn BA CBE
Martin John Kemp MA FBA
Richard John Bowring MA PhD LittD
David Stanley Ingram BSc MA PhD ScD OBE VMH FRSE
Sir Quentin Saxby Blake MA CBE FCSD FRSL RDI FRA
The Rt Hon Lord Collins of Mapesbury LLD FBA
Sir David Anthony King ScD HonFREng FRS
The Rt Rev'd Nicholas Thomas Wright MA DPhil DD
Sir John Pendry MA PhD FInstP FRS
Sir William Brian Vickers PhD DLitt FBA
Aitzaz Ahsan MA Barrister at Law
Professor John Lawrence Cardy MA PhD FRS
Howard Eric Jacobson MA
The Rt Hon Sir Kim Martin Jordan Lewison MA
Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach BA MPhil GBE KCB
ADC DL
The Rt Hon Lord Lloyd-Jones MA LLB
The Rt Hon Sir Richard George Bramwell McCombe MA
Professor Barry John Everitt BSc MA PhD ScD DSc
FRS FMedSci
Martin Baker MA FRCO
Stephen Chambers MA RA
Caroline Elizabeth Wilson MA MA CMG
Professor Geoffrey Grimmett MA DPhil DSc ScD FRS
Keith Ajegbo BA MA OBE
Martin Maiden MA MPhil PhD FBA
Ritchie Neil Ninian Robertson MA DPhil FBA
Victoria Susan Brignell MA
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Colin Birss BA KC
Farmida Bi MA CBE
Richard Snowden BA LLM
Alan Peter Bookbinder BA MA MA
Edward Bullmore MB PhD FRCP FRCPsych FMedSci
Emily Greenwood BA MA MPhil PhD
Ai Weiwei
Rachel O'Reilly MA PhD FRSC CChem CSci

The Emeritus Fellows

Ian Bonar Topping MA
Robert John Richards MA PhD
Charles Harpum MA LLB LLD
Martin Joshua Mays MA PhD
Philip Huson Rubery MA PhD ScD
Margery Ann Barrand BSc PhD
Richard Michael Smith BA MA PhD FBA
Stafford Withington BEng PhD
Peter James Duffett-Smith MA PhD
Peter David Evans MA PhD ScD
Paul Frederick Linden BSc MSc PhD FRS
Richard Keith Taplin BSc MA MBE
John Stuart Landreth McCombie MA MA PhD
Trevor William Robbins CBE MA PhD FRS
Kenneth McNamara BSc PhD
David John Feldman MA DCL PhD FBA FRSA
Trevor William Clyne MA PhD FREng
Paul Christopher Millett MA PhD *MCR Liaison Fellow*
William Mark Adams MA MSc PhD
Catherine Lynette Phillips BA MA PhD
Susan Elizabeth Lintott MA PhD
John Stuart Richer MA PhD
Ian Richard James MA MA PhD
Liping Xu BSc PhD

Foundation Fellows

Humphrey William Battcock MA MBA
Tadayoshi Tazaki MA
Alwyn Wai-Yin Heong MA BA BM BCh MBA
Kim Silverman MA PhD
Jonathan Howard MA
Julie Lambert BSc

The Wilkins Fellows

Richard Alexander Frischmann MA
Christian Flemming Heilmann MA
The Lord Verjee MA CBE
Richard Anthony Williams MA
Christopher John Bartram MA FRICS
Maria Ferreras Willetts MA
Robert John MA DLitt
Louise Arnell BA MA (Open) MA (Sussex)
Robert Markwick MA MBA (Manchester)
James Simon Edward Arnell MA
Stephen Mark Peel MA MAS (Yale)
Christopher Harborne MA MEng MBA
Gifford Combs AB (Harvard) MPhil

The Fellows Commoner

David Chambers BA (Oxon) MSc (LBS) MSc (LSE)
PhD (LSE)
Timothy Rawle MA
Gabrielle Bennett BA (Virginia) MA
Penny Furniss MA
Paul Jarvis MA
Sarah Pickard BA
Stephen Mannion MA MB BChir FRCP FRCPGlas Mchir
James Moore MA

Morgan Fellows

Max Bryant BA MPhil PhD
Konogan Beaufay BA (Namur, Belgium)
MA (Free, Brussels) MA (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon)
Rebecca Gill BA (Reading) MPhil (Bristol) PhD (Reading)

Bye-Fellows

Natalie Acton BA MPA
Marco A Aquino-Lopez
Jennifer Ashworth BA MA
Stephen Bennett BEd

Richard Berengarten MA
Jan-Moritz Bogdanovic MA
Toby Buttress
Sabine Cadeau BA MA PhD
Matthew Carter BA MA MB BChir
Samuel P Charlwood
Adrian Chung BSc MSc MPhil
Andrew Cockburn MSc PhD
Kate Daniels BA MA PhD
Elizabeth Deans BA (Maryland) MA PhD
Louisa Denby MA MMus *Acting Director of
College and Chapel Music*
Alistair Dunham BA MPhil PhD
Buffy Eldridge-Thomas BA
Paula Heister MA MSc DPhil
Vicky Jones MA MB BChir MRCS
Ange La Furcia BA
Patricia Laurenson PhD
Yongcan Liu BA (Guangdong) MA MPhil PhD
Deepti Marchment BA MA MChir
James McCaffrey
Katie McCallum BVMS RCVS
Arlie McCarthy MA BSc
Aram Mooradian AADIPL PGDIP ARCH ARB
Nuno Oliveira M BA MSc PhD
Joanna Page MA
Yeong Seo Park
Mykhailo Pivnenko MSc PhD
Prerona Prasad BA MA MPhil DPhil
Carolyn Sauer
William Schafer PhD FMedSci FRS
Nanase Shirota
Neal Spencer BA PhD
Victoria Stewart-Jolley LLB LLM MSt PhD
Gareth Taylor BA MA PhD
Claudia Tobin BA MA PhD
Thomas Towers BA VetMB MSc
Mark Vivian MSc MB BS FRCA
Lewis Wynn
Xin-She Yang MSc DPhil
Katharina Zülsdorff

OFFICERS AND PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Master: Graham John Virgo MA BCL (Oxon) KC (Hon)
Senior Tutor: Dr Guy Williams MA, PhD
Senior Bursar: Mr Gavin Flynn MA (Oxon) MBA (INSEAD) MSc (LSE)

Actuaries

Cartwright Consulting Ltd
Mill Pool House
Mill Lane
Godalming GU7 1EY

Architects

Robert Lombardelli Partnership
St. Luke's House
5 Walsworth Road
Hitchin, Herts SG4 9SP

Auditors

PEM
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge CB1 2LA

Bankers

Barclays Bank
9–11 St Andrew's Street
Cambridge CB2 3AA

Property Managers

Carter Jonas LLP
6–8 Hills Road
Cambridge CB2 1NH

Property Valuers

Carter Jonas LLP
6–8 Hills Road
Cambridge CB2 1NH

Securities Managers

Partners Capital LLP
5 Young Street
London W8 5EH

Solicitors

HCR Hewitsons
50–60 Station Road
Cambridge CB1 2JH

Inland Revenue Charity No: X2938
Charity Registration No: 1137455

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY



REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY

This Report provides the context within which to interpret the Accounts. The first section explains the College's charitable objective, its governance, its public benefit and the way it is funded. The second section reviews the specific activities and achievements of the year to 30 June 2023 and developments since the year end.

Charitable Objective

Downing is a self-governing, autonomous College within the University of Cambridge. Our charitable objective is to further the public good by promoting learning, study and teaching in a community of Fellows, students and staff. We believe in the transformative power of a world-class education. Downing is a place of welcome, of diversity and of inclusion.

Founded in 1800, the College takes its name from Sir George Downing, 3rd Baronet, who bequeathed his fortune to establish a new college in Cambridge. It is the 17th oldest of the University's 31 Colleges, the 'newest of the old and the oldest of the new'. Originally founded for the study of law, medicine, and moral and natural science, the College now accepts students in all subjects taught at the University.

Built in an elegant neo-classical style, Downing was the first College designed with an open campus layout, at that time a striking departure from the tradition of enclosed courtyards in the older Colleges. The spaciousness of the College encourages the open-mindedness necessary to prepare students to be good citizens; it also signals accessibility and a desire to reach out.

With over 200 years of history, set amidst 20 acres of magnificent grounds in the heart of the city, the College continues to be a community of committed scholars and students, current and future leaders in their fields.

Governance, Structure and Management

The College is a lay eleemosynary corporation established by Royal Charter. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 12 August 2010 (Registered Number: 1137455) following the removal of the exempt status of the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge on 1 June 2010. The arrangements for governance of the College are set out in the Statutes.

The trustees of the College are the Master and Fellows elected under Statute X who constitute the Governing Body. They are responsible for ensuring that the College meets its charitable objective to promote learning, study and teaching. Because the College is responsible for directing undergraduates' studies, arranging their supervisions and providing pastoral support for both undergraduates and postgraduates, the Governing Body focuses much of its attention on the students' academic experience and welfare, as well as overseeing the College's finances and premises. Through their membership of committees and their participation in Governing Body meetings, students are able to influence decision-making.

Members of the Governing Body are required to act with integrity, to act in the College's interests without regard to their own private interests and to manage the affairs of the College prudently, balancing long-term and short-term considerations. They are chosen, after interview, on the basis of excellence in their teaching and research, their commitment to providing direction of studies and supervisions across the subjects offered by the University and their



willingness to take a full part in the life of the College. Some Fellows take on additional roles as Tutors, advising students on pastoral matters. They serve until the earlier of retirement or the end of the academic year in which they reach 67 years of age. New Fellows are trained in the fulfilment of their duties.

The Master is Chairman of the Governing Body; the Senior Tutor has overall responsibility for the admission, education and welfare of students; the Senior Bursar has overall responsibility for the finances, the estate and the administration of the College. Both the Senior Tutor and the Senior Bursar are accountable to the Governing Body.

The Governing Body meets eight times per year and discharges its responsibilities through a network of standing committees dealing with Education, Finance, Buildings & Environment, Fellowships, Development, Investments, Information Management, HR and General Purposes. Representatives of the JCR and the MCR participate in these committees, with the exception of the Fellowships and HR Committees. Sub-committees deal with: Health & Safety, Diversity, the Heong Gallery, Student Facilities and Staff Consultation. A Remuneration Committee, consisting of five external members, decides on the remuneration of current and former members of the Governing Body. During periods of intense fundraising, a Campaign Board, including external members, acts as a steering group.

Although the College is a legally autonomous body, it operates within the federal structure of the University. Matters of common concern are discussed and acted on through a system of University-wide committees, such as the Colleges' Committee, of which all Heads of Houses are members, the Senior Tutors' Committee and the Bursars' Committee. These committees work through the building of consensus.

Public Benefit

The Governing Body has complied with its duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

In order to meet our charitable objective of furthering the public good by promoting learning, study, and teaching in a community of Fellows, students and staff, we seek to provide a world-class education to the students with the most potential in each subject, whatever their means, social background or nationality. We aim to attract the best applicants from the broadest range of schools and colleges, actively supporting the University's widening participation targets, as agreed with the Office for Students.

Downing students have access to several sources of financial support in case of hardship – to bursaries, including rent bursaries, as well as those for the purchase of books and equipment, attendance at conferences, travel and studentships. For students from low-income families, the Cambridge Bursary Scheme provides grants of up to £3,500 per year, tapering down to £100 for those with household incomes of £62,343. The College administers a scheme funded by the COSARAF Charitable Foundation to provide grants of up to £2,000 per year for Muslim students at Cambridge who are suffering financial hardship.

The College seeks to help meet the University's targets, agreed with the Office for Students as Cambridge's Access and Participation Plan, of admitting students from disadvantaged backgrounds and areas of low academic attainment. The programme includes visits to schools, fully funded residential courses in Cambridge, Open Days, Admissions Fairs and webinars. It encourages students who may not otherwise consider higher education to look at the university options available to them. Additionally, as part of the University's Area Links Scheme, Downing works with state secondary schools, Further Education Colleges and Sixth Form Colleges in Cornwall and Devon.

Increasingly, the College's outreach activities have focused on raising the aspirations of younger students. We recognise the importance of encouraging them to be enthusiastic about learning from an early age, helping to raise their aspirations and supporting them to apply to highly rated institutions with the confidence that they are capable of achieving the required grades.

College Funding

The College funds its activities from academic fees (approx. 25% of income), charges for student residences and catering, income from its conference and functions business, its investments and donations and bequests.

Since 2012–13, the undergraduate tuition fee has been paid either by the students themselves or through the Student Loan Company. The College collects these fees and passes half of their value to the University. The College admits, matriculates and accommodates undergraduates, provides supervisions for them, takes responsibility for their pastoral care and presents them for degrees. The University provides lectures and laboratories and examines and classifies students. The portion of the tuition fee that goes to the College only partly covers the real costs of offering the distinctive small-group teaching that Cambridge provides. The shortfall must be made up by other sources of income.

Since 2014–15, the fee due from postgraduates is a proportion of a single fee charged by the University. The fee is calculated according to a complex formula that assigns weightings to different categories of postgraduate student.

Students living in College accommodation pay rent and, if they wish, buy food and drink from College outlets. This stream of income typically amounts to just under 25% of the total.

Through its subsidiary, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited, the College has built a substantial commercial business, which consists of conferences, corporate functions and international summer schools. In a normal year, profits from this business amount to around 20% of the College's total income.

Donations and legacies from alumni and friends of the College typically amount to around 15–20% of our total income. Investment income from our relatively modest endowment normally contributes a further 15–20%. These percentages are based on total income excluding endowment donations but including all of the endowment spending rule income.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The impact on the College's finances of Covid-19 is still being felt, but in other respects the 2022–23 academic year saw Downing complete its recovery from the disruption caused by the pandemic. The student experience is once again rich and varied. The face-to-face small group supervision that distinguishes a Cambridge education returned to its prominent place in undergraduates' lives. The social life of the College, full Halls for dinners, music recitals, sports events, theatrical performances, chapel services – all the things that make for a vibrant, dynamic community – were fully revived. For the second year running over 2,500 guests enjoyed a night of entertainment and refreshment at the May Ball.

Financial recovery is a longer process, but the picture is steadily brightening. Our bookings for conferences and corporate functions have nearly returned to pre-pandemic levels, and a new programme of summer schools was particularly successful in generating income. The high price of energy and food hit us hard, however, and we continue to suffer from the prolonged government-imposed freeze on tuition fees. As a result, we are entering our fifth year with a deficit budget and hence will once again have to defer some areas of major expenditure.

Downing 360, our fundraising campaign launched in 2022, is making steady progress. It is the fruit of the Fellows' strategic review of the College's priorities. We are over halfway to raising a total of £40 million over five years, with a particular focus on expanding our teaching capacity; enhancing the student experience through bursaries; providing new resources for wellbeing and mental health; and improving study space and student accommodation. Alumni are responding well to this pivot away from the physical capital of bricks and mortar to the human capital of teaching and learning.

The national labour shortage in the wake of Brexit and Covid has eased a little, but we still struggle to fill posts in some areas, especially catering and housekeeping. Retention bonuses have helped to address some staff shortages, and we continue to be grateful to existing, stretched staff for filling gaps and covering Covid-related absences.

Master

Alan Bookbinder completed his five-year stint as Master on 30 September 2023, leaving the post after he reached the statutory retirement age of 67. Professor Graham Virgo, a Downing alumnus, Fellow in Law and the Governing Body's Senior Fellow, succeeded him as the 19th Master of Downing College on 1 October 2023.

Fellows

To help fulfil the College's ambition to build the Fellowship and fill important teaching gaps, eight new Fellows were admitted in the course of the year:

- Dr Bonnie Lander Johnson, Fellow in English, writes literary essays, fiction, journalism and academic books about Shakespeare and Renaissance culture.
- Dr Francesco Muschitiello, Arnell Fellow in Climate Repair, researches the physical and chemical evidence preserved in geological archives in order to reconstruct the past climate.
- Prof Helen Scott joined Downing and the University Faculty of Law as the Regius Professor of Civil Law.
- Dr Maria Vera-Morales, Fellow in Engineering, works in the Turbomachinery Group at the Whittle Laboratory, and is a Senior Fellow in the Centre for Doctoral Training in Future Propulsion and Power.



- Dr Dmitrij Szamozvancev, Fellow in Computer Science and a Downing alumnus, is a member of a research group that investigates the formalisation and implementation of metaprogramming features in *OCaml*.
- Dr Liesbeth Francois, Fellow in Modern Languages, works on contemporary Latin American literature and culture.
- Dr Hugh Burton, Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellow, studies theoretical chemistry.
- Dr Daniel Jolowicz, Fellow in Classics, teaches Greek and Latin language and literature, resigned within the year to take up a similar post at Oxford.

Dr Liping Xu retired on 30 September 2023 after many years of distinguished service as a Fellow in Engineering and a Graduate Tutor.

The Governing Body admitted three new Honorary Fellows: alumna Prof Emily Greenwood, who holds the Chair of Classics and Comparative Literature at Harvard University; research psychiatrist Prof Ed Bullmore, who is Deputy Head of the School of Clinical Medicine and Director of the Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre; and the acclaimed Chinese artist and activist Ai Weiwei. We were delighted to welcome Kim Silverman as a Foundation Fellow. Sadly, Honorary Fellow Godfrey Bradman passed away on Christmas Day 2022.

The many achievements of members of the Fellowship were widely recognised within the University, their professional societies and beyond.

Undergraduates

At the beginning of the 2022–23 academic year, there were 458 undergraduates across all years at Downing; 51% were men and 47% were women (2% were ‘other’); 81% were from the UK, 3% were from the EU and 16% from the rest of the world; of those schooled in the UK, 62.5% were from state schools and 37.5% from the independent sector.

Downing’s popularity with applicants has continued to grow: 1,027 candidates applied for entry in 2023. Across most subjects, competition for our 128 undergraduate places grows ever more intense.

In considering whether to make an offer to applicants, the College notes contextual data (‘flags’), including Output Area Classification (OAC) and Participation of Local Areas (POLAR) (the record on progression to higher education); data on the school’s performance at GCSE and previous success in sending students to Cambridge or Oxford; and individual circumstances. All candidates must meet the terms of the standard offer or equivalent. The number of students admitted to Downing with ‘flags’ continues to grow steadily.

Downing is one of 11 Cambridge colleges taking part in the Foundation Year pilot, a scheme for students of high academic potential whose education has been disrupted by illness, social disadvantage or difficult family circumstances. Five of the first group of 48 Foundation Year students spent a preparatory year at Downing, learning the academic skills needed to compete for a full undergraduate place. Three of the five met the standard necessary to join the next cohort of freshers in October 2023. The other two won places at University College London and the University of Manchester.

A national Marking and Assessment Boycott initiated by the University and Colleges Union resulted in long delays to many students receiving their Tripos results. The absence of final grades for around half of the graduating cohort was frustrating, but in almost all cases the College was able to provide enough information about students’ academic standing to allow them to progress to their next destination. Graduation ceremonies were reframed as a celebration of completion of studies – the Latin phrase *studia perfecta* a fitting recognition of the students’ achievements, even if in many cases the actual conferral of degrees was delayed.

More than one-quarter of all results were First Class degrees. Eight students graduated at the top of their Triposes: Alexander Hulton (Architecture), Libby Harris and Emily Finston (English), Lawrence Brown (Modern and Medieval Languages), Alessandra Moon (Psychological and Behavioural Sciences), Harry Barker, Francesco de Batte and Hyung Jin (Natural Sciences).

This year's Richmond Lecture, organised by and for the undergraduate student body, was given by Emeritus Professor Trevor Robbins on 'the mysterious frontal lobes of the brain'. The JCR President reports an important new initiative this year: the funding of free prescriptions for students.

Postgraduates

At the beginning of the 2022–23 academic year, Downing had a total of 537 postgraduate students. Of these, 52% were men and 48% were women; 44% were from the UK, 7% from the EU and 49% from the rest of the world; 172 were studying for a PhD and 125 following one-year courses (comprising 70 MPhils, 21 full-time MBAs, 7 PGCEs, 3 LLMs and 24 others), while 52 were clinical medics and vets. In 2022–23, 41 students were awarded PhDs.

Twice each term the MCR holds a seminar evening at which three postgraduate students present their research to an audience of their peers in the Howard Theatre. The annual Graduate Conference in May allows a larger group of MPhil and PhD candidates to speak about the outcomes of their research. The custom of six MCR members at a time being invited to dine with Fellows at High Table is now well established.

Student Wellbeing

The mental health of our students continues to be a significant priority. Among the factors that continue to distress some students are the intensity of the eight-week terms, the very high standards that they set themselves, the stresses of living away from home, pre-existing mental health conditions, relationship difficulties, struggles with deadlines, loneliness, feelings of missing out or falling short, and imposter syndrome.

Downing was one of the first Colleges to recruit its own Head of Student Wellbeing, a qualified psychotherapist who can ensure that all cases are referred for the right treatment, and offer professional back-up for the College tutors, who are often the first people to whom students turn in distress. The Head of Wellbeing also runs sessions to help students to build their resilience and find coping strategies that work for them. A purpose-built wellbeing centre has been created on the ground floor of the Howard Lodge, providing a dedicated and accessible space for students in need of help. Downing's beautiful grounds continue to be a source of solace and relaxation.

Equality and Inclusion

All 19 Masters since the College was founded in 1800 have been white men. However, we have our first female Vice Master, Professor Zoe Barber, and many other positions of responsibility are currently held by women: Director of Development, Academic Registrar, College Secretary, Accommodation Officer, Director of Engagement and Development Operations, College Archivist, College Librarian, Communications Officer, Domus Manager, Heong Gallery Curator and HR Manager.

The College remains committed to rejecting discrimination of all kinds, as shown in our policy published on the Downing College website: 'The Fellows, staff and students of Downing College believe that all forms of discrimination and racism are unacceptable. Not only do they divide communities and undermine social cohesion, but also they prevent individuals from achieving their full potential, to all of our detriments. We acknowledge that the responsibility lies with each of us robustly to challenge discrimination and to assert the positive value of diversity. We stand together with any of our Fellows, staff and students who are adversely affected by discrimination.'

We offer racial awareness training for students and staff, clear procedures for reporting incidents and taking disciplinary action, where appropriate, and positive actions to support the ethnic minority community. The Racial Justice Forum, chaired by an external facilitator, continues to provide an opportunity for ethnic minority students to raise concerns about their experience in Cambridge and to put forward ideas that help Downing to realise its aspiration to be a truly anti-racist place to live and study.

To celebrate the LGBTQ+ community, rainbow formal halls are a regular feature of College life. An all-gay adaptation of *Carmen* was a notably successful production in the Howard Theatre.

With the close involvement of the JCR's Disability Officer, the College has reviewed and improved its access provision. A lift has been installed in the Butterfield café.

The Arts

The revival since Covid of the Arts in College has been impressive.

The Downing Dramatic Society broke new ground in the Howard Theatre this year with its reimagined and entirely LGBTQ+ production of *Carmen*. The annual fixtures – the Freshers' Play and Festival of New Writing – continue to thrive; the former drawing on fully 25% of the year's intake for *Shakespeare's Sister* and the latter enhancing its reputation as the leading showcase in Cambridge for aspiring student playwrights. The year concluded with *Much Ado About Nothing* in the Master's Lodge Garden.

On the music front, the choir sang at College services to mark the death of Queen Elizabeth II and to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. They performed at Ely Cathedral and Great St Mary's and sang at several venues on their summer tour in Paris. The Music Society put on recitals at several venues in Downing. In addition to the classical repertoire, these included contemporary experimental compositions and open mic nights in the bar, where the Jazz Band can also be found performing their termly Week 5 Blues jam.

The Heong Gallery hosted Gavin Turk's *In Search of Ariadne*, which explored what public art means to the public, while the photographic exhibition, *Picturing the Invisible*, reflected the devastating fallout of the Fukushima nuclear disaster of 2011. *Wang Dongling: Ink. Space. Time* showcased the renowned Chinese artist's floor-to-ceiling modern calligraphy, including masterclasses and demonstrations given by the artist himself. Students displayed their entries for the Twining Egginton Fine Art Prize and, through regular student-run 'Arts After Dark' events, the Gallery was home to myriad creative projects throughout the year. It also was the venue for the launch of Downing's first literary magazine, *The Leaves*, written and edited by students.

Downing's connection with the Chinese artist Ai Weiwei led him to design for us a tree sculpture made from the magnificent, but diseased, blue atlas cedar tree that had stood in the East Lodge Garden for more than 200 years. 'Cedar' can be seen in First Court, just outside the gallery.

Student Societies

The Blake Society's popular craft evenings included life-drawing, clay-sculpting and lino-printing. Among the eminent speakers to address societies were biochemist Professor Nick Lane (Danby), Professor Richard Rex (Maitland) and Dr Maarten de Ridder (Mathias). The Board Games Society continues to draw students away from their smartphones for a few hours. New this year were the Millett Society (Classics), Downamix (entrepreneurship) and the Wine Society.

It is a measure of Downing alumni's penetration of the upper reaches of the legal profession that the Cranworth Society was able to organise a trip to London for a Q&A session with Lord David Lloyd-Jones at the Supreme Court, a tour of the House of Commons with Attorney General Victoria Prentis, a discussion of life at the Bar with Edward Cumming KC and an account of a career as a solicitor at Norton Rose Fulbright. All in a single day!

Sport

This year our racquet sports teams had notable successes: the Men's badminton team won cuppers and both the women's and the mixed teams reached their finals; the 1st and 2nd squash teams topped their leagues, and the 1st tennis team won the 1st Division title. There were promotions to the 1st Division for Men's football and hockey, and to the 2nd Division for Women's football and Ladies' netball. Most pleasing of all, Downing was one of the very few colleges to field a team in every university sport.

Blues were awarded to Jamie Benson (Rugby Union), Rudi Bruijn-Yard (Fencing and Modern Pentathlon), Jacinta Chin (Tennis), Juliana Ganendra (Tennis and Squash), Emily Mann and Will Silver (Hockey), Thomas Masding, Panav Patel and Tim Wallace (Cricket), Paul McKinley (Cross Country), Lemuel Osei-Binny, Tim Wallace and Brody Wooding (Football) and Georgia Weeks (Lacrosse and Ski Racing).

The Estate

We continue to seek planning permission to convert 19–35 Regent Street into student accommodation, which we hope will extend from the corner opposite the University Arms as far as The Regent Hotel. 98 Regent Street opened as graduate accommodation on 1 October 2023, and work is progressing on 4–5 Bene't Place, a large building on the corner of Lensfield Road and Tennis Court Road, which is being converted into teaching and study spaces and Fellows' accommodation, due to be completed by January 2024.

The Environment

Downing was the first College to sign the Cambridge Climate Change Charter in 2008 and has remained at the forefront of environmental initiatives. In 2018, the College committed to divest itself of direct holdings in carbon and offsets its indirect holdings with investments in sustainable energy. In 2019–20, we developed an environmental strategy that committed Downing to:

- Minimising the consumption of carbon-rich energy and water;
- Operating effective waste-management and recycling procedures;
- Encouraging modes of transport that minimise adverse environmental impact;
- Applying environmentally sustainable purchasing policies; and
- Participating in energy-conservation programmes, such as Green Impact, and Student Switch-Off.

This year, the Senior Bursar and Estates Director obtained a substantial government grant to develop a detailed sustainable buildings plan.

New features in the gardens include some colourful tropical planting at the main entrance, and new herbaceous borders, a bog garden and a laburnum archway in the Fellows' Garden. The gardeners designed a wellbeing garden for the BBC Gardeners' World Autumn Fair at Audley End House, which won a platinum award, the highest accolade possible. It will be recreated in College as a permanent fixture.

Development and Alumni Relations

Donations to the College recorded in the accounts totalled £2.47 million this financial year. Gifts from Downing alumni and our volunteers' time make a vital contribution to the life of the College.

In June 2022, we launched the Downing 360 Campaign, which aims to raise £40 million by 2027 to support three key areas: extending the Fellowship to fill important gaps in our teaching provision; expanding our student bursaries and wellbeing programmes; and creating new teaching, study and accommodation spaces.

By summer 2023 we were over halfway to our target, allowing us to establish five new named student bursaries, new postgraduate travel scholarships and emergency grants for students facing unexpected financial difficulties. Thanks to generous gifts from our law alumni, the new Parry-Anderson Fellowship in Law is now fully endowed. Dr Rebecca Freund will join us as the first post-holder in October 2023.

The College is grateful to the 410 members of the 1749 Society for committing a legacy to Downing; to the members of the 1717 Society, who support the Heong Gallery; and to those who support music, drama and sport, all of which make a huge contribution to student life at Downing.

Downing is also thankful to all alumni who contribute to the College by giving their time, advice and support to its activities, helping it to continue to nurture, challenge and inspire.

Plans for the Future

As we look to the future, with a new Master in post from 1 October 2023, the priority remains to implement the recommendations of our 2022 strategic review. The expansion of the fellowship continues, through a combination of new University-employed Fellows, new College Associate Professors and new Research Fellows. A new Head of Academic Skills Development will be tasked with improving students' performance. A revised Masterplan to look at our long-term space planning will be created. A special Giving Day in November 2023 will boost the Downing 360 fundraising campaign. A yet more profitable set of summer schools is planned from 2024. We will continue to devote resources to the Foundation Year and maintain our focus on outreach to students from disadvantaged backgrounds.



THE FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts that follow consolidate those of the College and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited. Also included is a linked charity that is invested as part of the College's endowment, The John Miller Scholarships, the fund value of which is disclosed in note 26 of the accounts.

Significant Policies

Reserves

1. Total Net Assets stood at £224.0 million at 30 June 2023. Of this amount, £178.1 million represents the net book value of the buildings, including the Revaluation Reserve of £47.3 million. As functional fixed assets, they cannot be spent as income. Continuing investment by the College in its buildings, in excess of depreciation, has caused this figure to increase and correspondingly reduce free reserves. However, opportunities, such as the acquisition of property on the College borders, do not always arise when they are affordable, but are nevertheless strategically necessary. Of the remaining £45.9 million, £48.3 million consists of Permanent Restricted Endowment, and £5.3 million is attributable to the revaluation of works of art. At 30 June 2023, therefore, free reserves (General Reserve less pension liability of £1.8 million) stood at negative £7.7 million (2022: negative £5.2 million).
2. In formulating the reserves policy, the Governing Body has taken into account the guidance offered by the Charity Commission in its publication Charity reserves: building resilience (CC19) and has carefully considered the factors that cause variations in income and sudden calls on cash. These are: student numbers; changes in the funding of higher education and the apportionment of tuition fees; the susceptibility of the conference business to corporate cutbacks and geopolitical events; the volatility of the investment portfolio caused by movements in world markets and unanticipated rental voids; and the variability of donations and benefactions. The Governing Body has also considered examples of historical unanticipated expenditure, in particular those that have arisen from problems in the fabric of the buildings, e.g. drainage, dry rot, and responses to changes in the law. The Reserves also support any liability arising under FRS 102, Section 28 from the USS and CCFPS final salary pension scheme for staff (2023: £1,797,061; 2022: £1,940,752).
3. The Governing Body therefore considers that the assessment of whether the College has sufficient reserves should take into account a range of factors: annual operating expenditure met from unrestricted funds, capital expenditure, working capital needs, unanticipated expenditure on repairs, known cash needs (e.g. refurbishment projects), the level of essential expenditure that can be supported by returns from restricted funds, the level of unapplied total return, liquidity within the investment portfolio, the cash flow effect of the pension liability, and the likelihood of increased employer pension contributions.
4. Recommendations to the Governing Body for the adoption of the annual budget or major incremental expenditure take into account these factors. The current level of free reserves at negative £7.7 million is due to the completion of the conversion of 90–92 Regent Street and the purchase of 4-5 Bene't Place last year and the purchase of 98 Regent Street and continuing building improvements this year; however, the Governing Body does not consider this currently to be a problem, as the College has access to various sources of liquidity, including raising loan finance, raising funds in fundraising campaigns and realising unrestricted investment assets which stand at £11.6 million. Furthermore, the reserves that represent the net book value of the buildings are designated by the College as such; however, *in extremis*, apart from the inalienable listed buildings on the Domus, the remainder of these reserves could be realisable. Given this complexity, and the wide range of funding options, the Governing Body has not defined a formal reserves policy, preferring a flexible approach as the situation requires.

Investments

1. The College may invest in securities and in real or personal property. (See Statute XLVII, approved by Her Majesty in Council on 19 July 2005, and superseded by the full set of statutes approved on 9 May 2006 and updated subsequently). Since 1 August 1957, the College has operated an Amalgamated Fund made under the Universities and Colleges (Trusts) Act 1943, in which permanent capital, expendable capital, restricted funds (including trusts), and unrestricted funds hold units. Since 1 July 2010, the units of the Amalgamated Fund have also been invested in the College's commercial property portfolio.
2. The Investment Committee sets the overall asset allocation and appoints advisors and managers. On 1 August 2009, the College appointed Partners Capital to advise on and manage the securities portfolio. Such appointments are reviewed at five-yearly intervals or in response to specific problems or opportunities. The review considers the risk/return parameters that have been given to the managers, whether these parameters still accord with the College's investment objectives, the performance benchmark resulting from these parameters, and the long-term investment objective. Following a review in 2014, the College decided to retain Partners Capital, but adjust the risk levels within the portfolio. The five-yearly review which should have occurred in 2019 to renew Partners Capital's appointment was carried out in early 2023. Following this review, the Investment Committee opted to reappoint Partners Capital for a further five years.
3. Given the relatively small size of its investment portfolio, the College must balance the need for stability in value with that for superior long-term returns. The College has adopted a strategic asset allocation designed to reduce the volatility of returns through a diversified portfolio of non-correlated assets, embracing some illiquidity in order to provide a suitable trade-off between risk and return. The asset allocation, liquidity, and the expected risk/return profile of the portfolio are regularly reviewed by the Investment Committee. Although the portfolio is well diversified and takes into account the risk-adjusted returns of each asset class and its role within the portfolio (e.g. volatility reduction, return enhancement, deflation hedge, or inflation hedge), the turmoil in the financial markets towards the end of 2008 resulted in most asset classes being affected negatively with assets with long historical trends of low correlation to each other moving in tandem. The College responded by conducting a detailed and careful analysis and concluded that its strategy is sound, but that implementation should be through the use of a third party specialising in multi-asset class investing. During more-recent financial turbulence, the portfolio has behaved according to the modelling that informed its construction.
4. The College's spending rule is designed to smooth spending and reduce the effect on income of fluctuations in market performance. The amount of spend recognised in the *Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure* is equal to the weighted average of the prior year's spending adjusted for inflation measured by RPI + 1% (70% weight) plus the amount that would have been spent using 4.5% of the prior year's closing value of the investments (30% weight). The unapplied total return stands at £22,7104,000, and, since 1 July 2007, has included returns from commercial property. The Committee reviewed the spending rule in May 2023.
5. All investments, including the parameters for the investment of cash, are overseen by the Investments Committee, with day-to-day management delegated to the Senior Bursar. Membership of the Investment Committee currently consists of three members of the Finance Committee and six external members with professional expertise. The Investment Committee reports to the Governing Body, which is responsible for authorising major changes of strategy, the appointment of fund managers and all direct holdings of property.

Investment Policy

1. The College manages its investments in securities and property to produce the highest return consistent with the preservation of capital value in real terms for the long term, net of costs and withdrawals to support its operating needs. A subsidiary aim is to enhance the value of the capital for future beneficiaries.
2. For the securities portfolio, the goal implies a time-weighted net return target, comprising inflation plus 1%, plus a spending rate of c. 4%, measured on a five-year trailing basis. The target return is therefore 8.5%. The Investment Committee has set an additional goal of outperforming, net of all investment expenses, a composite benchmark, which comprises the sum product of the Strategic Asset Allocation and performance of each constituent asset class benchmark.
3. Risk in the securities portfolio is measured by a) Equity-Like Risk and b) the volatility of returns. Both of these metrics are assessed against the composite Strategic Asset Return benchmark. That benchmark currently reflects an expected return of 8.7% with a standard deviation of 11.9% and an Equity-Like Risk of 75%.
4. The Investment Committee monitors the liquidity in the securities portfolio and has set a limit on illiquid financial assets. New agreements to purchase such assets will not be executed if the aggregate market value of all such illiquid assets exceeds 58% of the aggregate market value of the value of the securities portfolio.
5. All traditional and alternative asset classes are acceptable within defined liquidity and risk limits, along with specific asset class constraints. Direct positions are expected to be 3-7% in size and pooled vehicles and passive investments may be in excess of 7%.
6. The currency hedging policy is managed through foreign currency forward contracts. In 2023, it was decided to reduce the target Sterling exposure from 60% to 50%, which will be done gradually over the next two years. The 50% remaining unhedged foreign currency exposure is a combination of US dollars, Euro, Yen and Emerging Market Currencies. The currency hedging policy is applied across the entire securities portfolio.
7. Actual performance is judged against the strategic asset allocation benchmarks and the performance of the underlying asset classes and asset managers is reviewed on a quarterly basis.
8. Portfolio rebalancing is normally undertaken on a quarterly basis to re-align asset allocations to targets.
9. The College continues to keep under review its duty in regard to the ethical investment of its funds. In line with the findings of the Harries case (Bishop of Oxford v. Church Commissioners, 1992), the overriding principle guiding the College's investments is the financial return of the portfolio, unless such investments are contrary to the charity's aims. However, the Charity Commission (CC14) also acknowledges that, in some instances, a charity might accept lower returns if it might 'lose supporters or beneficiaries if it does not invest ethically'. The judgment passed in a more-recent case (Butler-Sloss v. the Charity Commission, 2022) concluded that as long as the trustees exercise good judgment and balance all relevant factors resulting in a reasonable and proportionate investment policy, they have complied with their legal duties. Categories of exclusion that may fall within the definition of activities that are contrary to the charity's aims are companies whose activities violate human rights, the environment, and best practice in social and stakeholder matters. In 2018, the College adopted a policy of Controlled Divestment of investments in companies engaged in fossil fuel extraction, investing only in tracker funds that exclude those companies and offsetting any residual exposure in illiquid funds with investments in clean technology.



10. Since February 2019, the portfolio has not had any direct exposure to fossil fuels and, as of 30 June 2023, the College's estimated indirect exposure to fossil fuels (including companies involved in the extraction of fossil fuels) is 0.6% of the total portfolio. Nor has it directly held any energy-focused public equity managers since February 2019 and all passive equity holdings have tracked indices excluding fossil fuels. At 30 June 2023, 1.8% (£1.0 million) of the College's securities portfolio was invested in renewable energy assets. The equities allocation of the College at 30 June 2023 is estimated to have a carbon intensity of 115 (Tco2/\$1M sales), which compares favourably to the MSCI All Countries World Index carbon intensity of 150.
11. The College has adopted considered positions for several other sectors, along with key metrics arising from policies and positions. These will be updated on an ad-hoc basis as issues arise and reviewed every two years by the Investment Committee.
12. The custodian for the majority of the securities is Union Bancaire Privee (London) S.A.
13. The College's property portfolio is managed by Carter Jonas LLP. Routine decisions are taken by the Senior Bursar, acting on advice from Carter Jonas and the law firm Hewitsons. In the case of commercial property, the investment analysis must demonstrate an acceptable commercial yield. For any investment in external residential property for use by the College's students, the net yield must be positive, with the prospect of an appropriate capital gain. For investment in operational property without any material income generation, the related cost must be approved by the Governing Body as being a component of the College overall strategy. Such purchases must also take account of the College's overall liquidity and income requirements.
14. This statement was last revised in November 2023.

Tax

As a UK charity, the College is not subject to taxes on income or capital gains. It also holds 501(c) (3) status in the USA, which means that it is recognised as a non-profit organisation and, therefore, exempt from US Federal Income Tax. To the extent that it holds investment assets in offshore vehicles, it does so to reduce the administrative costs of portfolio management, but only in jurisdictions that have signed up to the Common Reporting Standard, an information standard for the automatic exchange of tax and financial information on a global level.

Borrowings

The amount of borrowings at 30 June 2023 is £34.2 million (note 13 to the financial statements). The level of borrowings of the College must adhere to any financial covenants set by lenders and currently the College is well within those limits. The Governing Body is comfortable with the amount of borrowings, as it considers the interest can be serviced from operations. Any additional borrowings would need to be recommended by Finance Committee and then approved by the Governing Body with a view to the long-term benefit of the College.

Risk Management

The Governing Body's Risk Management Register is kept under active review. Each committee routinely considers the risks inherent in its area of responsibility and has advised the Governing Body on the probability of occurrence and the likely impact, together with the steps taken in mitigation. Although risks can be identified and plans to deal with such risks formulated, the College is nevertheless exposed to a variety of risks, some of which cannot be addressed through insurance. The age of the estate, parts of which are 200 years old, means that problems inevitably occur, sometimes without warning and often at great expense. Annual results can be affected by large swings in student numbers, principally in the postgraduate community and mainly because of multiple applications and the uncertainty of funding. Many of the College's operations are affected by volatility in the financial markets and by recession in the real economy, the effects of which are hard to mitigate. All operations have been, and would be again, impacted by a pandemic. The College has made an appropriate plan to minimise anticipated problems, based on the learnings from the recent pandemic. An increasing dependence on cloud-based systems brings with it known and unknown risks, which will require a greater emphasis on cyber security. Harm to the fabric of the buildings from atypical weather is a harbinger of the longer-term damage and disruption caused by changes in the climate.

Underpinning the sustainability of all activities is the need for financial resilience. The relatively small size of the endowment leaves the College's funding for operations vulnerable to disruption in the stock market and the world economy, as well as the immediate risks posed after Brexit and Government challenges to tuition fees. Lack of resources could inhibit the attraction of high-quality staff and the research-active academics who are essential to the proper provision of teaching, as well as further reducing required investments to achieve our mission. The ongoing cost of living crisis makes recruiting and retaining staff problematic, further risking our delivery of core objectives.



THE FINANCIAL REVIEW



FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income and Expenditure

The total deficit for the year was £2.52 million, compared with a £0.9 million surplus last year; this figure includes new endowments and restricted donations, as well as gains on investments. The Unrestricted column in the accounts measures the efficiency of operations and this year showed a loss of £1.0 million (2022: £1.9 million), resulting from high energy prices, general inflation and conference and catering income not having returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Unrestricted Income and Expenditure

The unrestricted income of the College before donations is made up of academic fees (33%), charges to students for accommodation and meals (35%), conference income (20%), income from the College's investment assets (11%) and other sources (1%). This income amounted to £13.1 million (2022: £10.9 million), up 21%. This increase was largely a result of the recovery of the conference business for the year.

Income from student accommodation and catering was £4.5 million (2022: £4.3 million). Income from conference activity recovered to about 90% of pre-pandemic levels, at £2.6 million (2022: £1.2 million). The profit and cash flow from the conference business helps to mitigate the overhead costs of providing the College infrastructure and thus to reduce the costs to students.

Expenditure is made up of staff costs, including academic stipends, of 43%, of which non-academic salaries represent 39%; operating costs make up a further 44%; and depreciation is 13%. Staff costs increased by £0.7 million, although last year included a movement between years in the provision to fund the deficit in the USS pension scheme of £0.6 million. Underlying staff costs increased by 22% as staff were recruited, particularly in housekeeping and catering, to service the increased post-pandemic activity. Operating costs increased by £1.6 million to £7.9 million, again reflecting the increased business activity and also including £1.1 million paid to the University as a result of the transfer from the College of the Centre for Climate Repair, the amount being the net of donations received less costs incurred for the Centre since 2020.

Income from academic fees increased slightly to £4.3 million, while the corresponding expenditure increased to £6.9 million (2022: £6.1 million); this resulted in the Education account being in deficit by £2.7 million (2022: £2.1 million). The College must, therefore, bear the expense of this subsidy, not all of which can be met from trust funds. The cost of an undergraduate education increased from £9,805 to £10,871 for the 2022–23 year, as both fixed costs and direct costs increased. The regulated Home/EU undergraduate tuition fee has remained frozen since 2012, apart from a small increase in 2017, so in real terms the College's half-share of £9,250 has declined in value. The cost of providing academic and pastoral support for each postgraduate increased from £5,006 to £5,849.

Unrestricted donation income was £0.4 million (2022: £0.4 million). Endowment return was £1.4 million, based on the spending rule under the Total Return policy.



Restricted Income and Expenditure

Restricted income arises from expendable donations for specific purposes and the income from any endowed funds to support specific projects. The income is matched against the eligible expenditure and any surplus is carried forward to restricted reserves.

The restricted income was £2.7 million (2022: £2.9 million), of which £1.5 million is endowment return, and the associated expenditure was £3.5 million (2022: £2.3 million).

Conference Services

The year finished with income of £2.57 million, representing a strong return to pre-pandemic business levels. It would have been higher but for the noticeable absence of summer schools from China and Japan on account of travel restrictions, historically worth about £0.4 million. This did, however, allow College departments to work within the confines of staff challenges, which continue to constrain business opportunities. A not insubstantial number of private dining and meeting enquiries were turned down due to lack of staffing capacity, rather than event space capacity. We secured £0.2 million of confirmed business through Meet Cambridge.

Larger conferences and programmes were all run in-person with high delegate numbers or at capacity. Whilst virtual-only events are on the decline industry wide, an estimated 90% of all meetings and conferences now have some hybrid or digital element. This represents an opportunity for Downing to continue to invest in AV and streaming facilities in the Theatre, in other facilities, and in staff training, in order to maintain a competitive edge on the venues in the area.

Bed and breakfast revenues were relatively modest in 2022–23; this was possibly due to an increase in international travel over domestic, although significant steps were made over the winter to increase coverage from on-line travel agents by featuring on the far larger-scaled sites Booking.com and Expedia.com. The benefits of these changes were seen in spring and summer of 2023 and are anticipated to increase further throughout the next year. This revenue stream should continue to increase and be lucrative with some further operational streamlining.

There has been an increasing trend of clients requesting information about green and sustainability policies from suppliers. An evidence-based roadmap clearly outlining the College's commitment in this area will provide benefit from a marketing and financial perspective. There are a number of initiatives currently taking place in all departments which need to be communicated simply to the wider audience.

Investments

The total investment portfolio stood at £71.9 million at 30 June 2023 (2022: £70.7 million), consisting of £55.0 million in securities and £16.9 million in property. The overall total return was 2.15% (securities 1.1%, property 5.7%).

The College operates a Total Return policy for its endowment investments whereby all capital gains and income are allocated to an unapplied total return 'pot'. A spending rule is then used to transfer some of the return to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. The College's spending rule is designed to smooth spending and reduce the effect on income of fluctuations in market performance. The rule protects operations from the

volatility of returns and ensures that the amount available for spending is known in advance. It is usually possible to net outflows against inflows so that the actual investments remain undisturbed. In setting the spending rule, the Committee is conscious of the need to achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries and aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distribution.

Since 2009, the College's investment adviser has been Partners Capital, an outsourced investment office which performs the same functions as the in-house investment teams at the large global endowments, offering access to the same range of asset classes through a feeder-fund structure. The firm has over 200 employees and seven offices covering all major regions. Partners Capital's mandate is discretionary within risk levels set by the College.

The securities portfolio is invested across the different asset classes using the Endowment Model, an approach that is expected to return 2% above the traditional mix of stocks and bonds. As the strategy includes investments in private equity and other relatively illiquid assets, the Investment Committee, acting on advice from Partners Capital, sets limits on illiquidity and monitors daily, monthly, and quarterly liquidity to ensure that, in an emergency, funds can be easily accessed, even in the conditions experienced in the financial crisis of 2008.

Distributions for Spending

Through the spending rule, the Amalgamated Fund delivered an overall £2.9 million (or 4.0% of the portfolio) in support of current operations, an increase of 13.7% on last year's drawdown. The Amalgamated Fund consists of units held by each unrestricted and restricted fund, with each receiving a share of the overall income. For 2021-22, each unit was valued at £31.00, and received income for spending ('the dividend') of £1.39, a dividend increase of 11.5% on last year's levels.

To achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries, the Committee aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distributions. Given the rate of educational inflation versus investment returns, the preservation of purchasing power has proved difficult. In the interests of consistency, the Spending Rule has remained the same since its introduction, although its output has been routinely compared with that of other methodologies. With the prospect of lower future returns, the Committee considered whether or not the rule needed revision. It decided to retain the current formula, noting that the College was mindful of the need to restrain spending.

Securities Performance

The securities portfolio returned +1.1% in 2022-23 after deducting all costs and fees. The portfolio slightly lagged its Strategic Asset Allocation composite benchmark which returned +1.8% over the same period, primarily due to the non-Sterling exposure as the US dollar weakened over the period. Excluding the impact of foreign currency, the portfolio returned 3.0% with outperformance versus the Strategic Asset Allocation composite benchmark driven by the allocation to private debt which stands to benefit from the higher interest rate environment. A similar risk equity/ bond benchmark returned +5.1% in the period, driven by a strong rally in global equities (+17.3%), whilst fixed income declined -14.5% in the same period due to rising rates.

From inception in 2009, when the mandate for the portfolio was given to Partners Capital, to 30 June 2023, the securities portfolio has returned 8.1% per annum, ahead of the Strategic Asset Allocation composite benchmark, which has returned 7.6% per annum.

At 30 June 2023, 60% of the £55.0 million securities portfolio was in Sterling, 24% in USD and 16% in other currencies. Of the securities portfolio, 49% was invested in illiquid assets (37% Private Equity, 12% Private Debt). Of the securities portfolio, 34% has quarterly or better liquidity, of which 22% has daily liquidity. At 30 June 2023, the Equity-Like Risk of the securities portfolio stood at 75%.

Property

The property portfolio returned 5.7% in 2022–23. With the exception of a small investment in a residential property fund, the property portfolio consists almost exclusively of the shops and offices on the Regent Street border. Owned for opportunistic and defensive purposes, these properties are classified as part of the investment portfolio, yet share only some of the characteristics of financial investments. Despite being the main route between the station, the Ring Road and the City Centre, Regent Street remains a tertiary location for shops it is, therefore, difficult to attract tenants with strong covenants. During the year, two properties were purchased, 98 Regent Street and 33–35 Regent Street for a combined amount of £1.8 million. The property portfolio stood at £16.7 million as at 30 June 2023 (some 23% of the total portfolio of £71.9 million), an increase of 11.5%. The rental income yield was 6.0%.

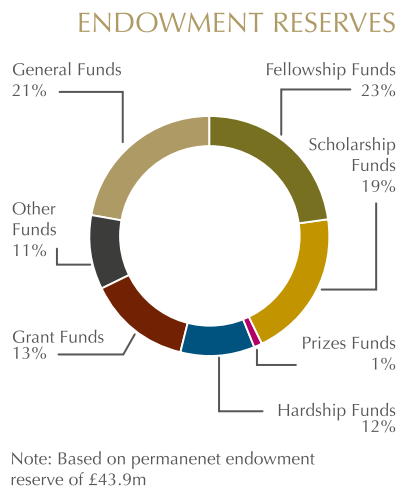
Further information is shown in section 4 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

Capital and Reserves

The College’s capital base decreased by £2.5 million (1.1%) to £224.0 million. Continuing investment in the College buildings, including the £1.8 million investment in student accommodation, helps to underpin the success of the conference business. This investment in hard assets, however, means that free reserves are under pressure: £1.6 million, representing the increase in the net book value of the operational buildings, was transferred to the internal designated buildings reserve. The College has had success in the past in attracting donations for buildings, but the timing or nature of some projects, which are nevertheless strategically necessary, does not always make this possible.

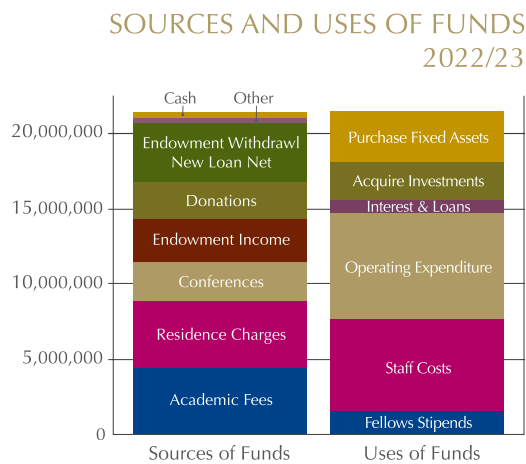
Free reserves were decreased by the unrestricted deficit of £1.0 million. This led to a year-end position of free reserves of negative £7.7 million, which is likely to worsen slightly next year due to the continual general improvement works across the Domus.

As well as Capital and Reserves decreasing as a result of the change in free reserves, there was an increase due to the combined return of 2.2% in the Securities and Property portfolio, and restricted and capital donations of £2.0 million.



Cash Flow

Cash flows from all activities resulted in an increase of £0.6 million in cash balances, with cash of £1.9 million held at year end. Cash consumed by operating activities¹ before the effects of working capital amounted to £2.6 million, an increase from £1.7 million last year. Endowment income, less interest payable, contributed £2.0 million of cash. The capital expenditure during the year of £3.3 million included £1.8 million for the acquisition of 98 Regent Street. A short-term loan of £4 million was taken out during the year to fund the acquisition of 98 Regent Street, 33-35 Regent Street and the refurbishment of 45 Bene't Place.



On behalf of the Governing Body:

Graham Virgo, Master

Gavin Flynn, Senior Bursar

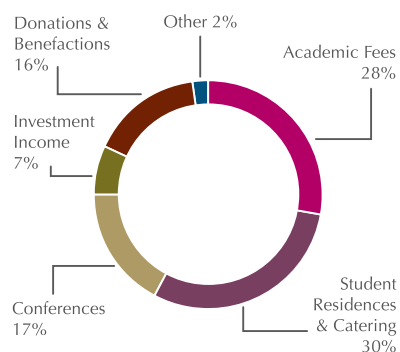
Date: 20th December 2023

¹ Surplus before other gains and losses before depreciation, interest payable, investment income, changes in working capital and restricted and endowment donations.

COLLEGE STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

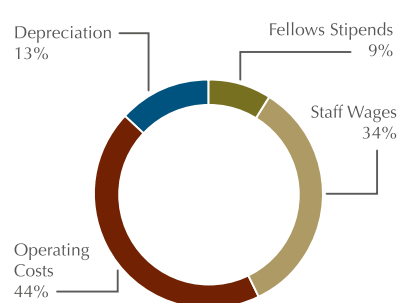
	2023	2022	2021
Income and Expenditure			
Total Income	15,266,352	14,055,689	10,907,126
Donations and Benefactions Received	2,466,039	3,287,586	2,996,379
Conference Services Income	2,571,338	1,157,063	139,765
Total Expenditure	17,947,805	15,615,349	12,370,824
Total Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(2,681,453)	(1,559,660)	(1,463,697)
Unrestricted Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(953,796)	(1,889,781)	(981,336)
Capital Expenditure			
Total Capital Expenditure	3,291,076	6,816,442	4,566,308
Investment in Buildings	2,843,664	5,949,946	3,569,543
Other Capital Expenditure	447,412	866,496	996,765
Assets			
Free Reserves	(7,718,701)	(5,204,760)	553,667
Investment Portfolio	71,947,345	70,681,272	73,112,150
Spending Rule Amount	2,872,414	2,525,485	2,243,774
Net Assets	223,973,919	226,492,843	225,605,802

BREAKDOWN OF INCOME
2022/23

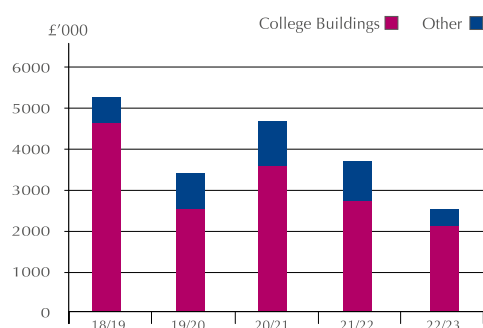


Note: Based on SOCIE income

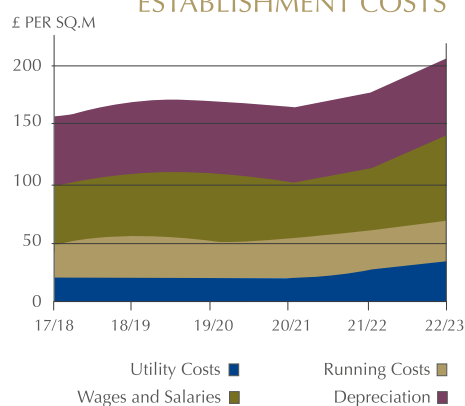
BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2022/23



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



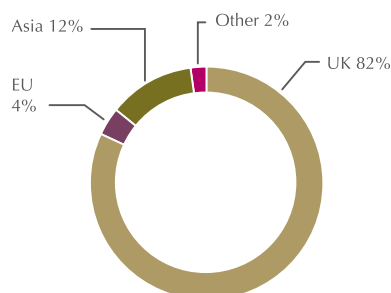
ESTABLISHMENT COSTS



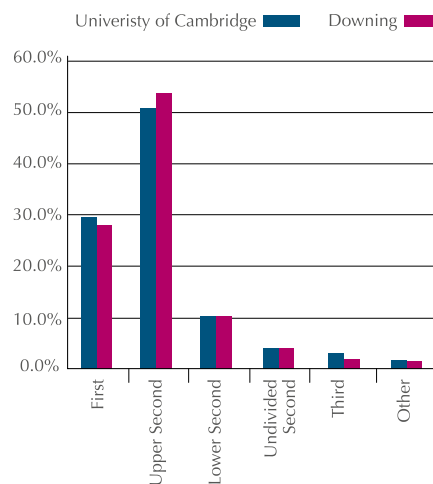
1. UNDERGRADUATE NUMBERS 2022–23 AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2022

Subject	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Years 5–6	Total 2022–23	Total 2021–22
Anglo-Saxon	—	—	—	—	—	0	1
Archaeology	2	—	1	—	—	3	2
Architecture	2	2	4	—	—	8	6
Asian & Middle Eastern Studies	2	1	—	4	—	7	7
Chemical Engineering	—	1	—	2	—	3	4
Chemical Engineering via Engineering	2	—	—	—	—	2	1
Chemical Engineering via Natural Science	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Classics	3	3	4	—	—	10	11
Classics – 4yr	2	3	3	3	—	11	11
Computer Science	5	6	3	1	—	15	12
Economics	4	4	4	—	—	12	13
Education	1	1	1	—	—	3	3
Engineering	11	13	11	15	—	50	51
English	7	5	11	—	—	23	20
Geography	3	5	8	—	—	16	16
History	5	6	6	—	—	17	17
History with Modern Languages	1	1	—	1	—	3	2
History with Politics	1	1	2	—	—	4	3
History of Art	0	2	2	—	—	4	6
Human, Social and Political Science	6	7	8	—	—	21	22
Land Economy	4	1	3	—	—	8	5
Law	13	14	11	—	—	38	32
Linguistics	2	2	1	—	—	5	4
Management Studies	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Manufacturing Engineering	—	—	3	—	—	3	1
Mathematics	5	8	4	3	—	20	18
Medical Sciences	15	15	12	12	30	84	90
Modern & Medieval Languages	2	3	7	4	—	16	19
Music	1	1	1	—	—	3	5
Natural Sciences (Biological)	11	9	13	3	—	36	31
Natural Sciences (Physical)	5	10	13	7	—	35	41
Philosophy	2	1	2	—	—	5	3
Psychological and Behavioural Sciences	5	4	7	—	—	16	13
Theology	1	1	—	—	—	2	2
Theology BTh	—	—	—	—	—	0	—
Veterinary Medicine	2	2	3	1	5	13	15
Total	126	132	148	57	35	498	488

UNDERGRADUATES
BY REGION



UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREE CLASSIFICATIONS



2. PHD THESES SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED BY DOWNING POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS 2022–23

Medicine	Investigating the role of mitochondria in the hypoxia response using in vitro and in vivo models
Engineering	Welding using metal powder in the solid-state
English	Midwestern Americanism: fiction of the 'middle border', 1900–1930
Psychology	Neuropsychological and biological mechanisms of checking in OCD and clozapine induced SchizoOCS
Archaeology	The functional adaptation of mandibular trabecular bone and its association with diet: inter- and intraspecific comparisons among Homo Sapiens, cercopithecoids and mice
Medical Science at Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute	Identification of centrosomal proteomes using COMPACT, a novel tool for purification of centrosomes
Physics	Plasmonic sensing via surface-enhanced spectroscopies
Education	Creativity through oracy: a mixed methods study of creativity in L2 talk
Management Studies	Three essays on dynamic corporate finance in continuous time
Education	Families and the state: relations of dependency, responsibility and educational inequality in Singapore
Clinical Neurosciences	Early synaptic changes in experimental glaucoma
Medical Science at the MRC Cancer Unit	Mechanisms of human RAD51 regulation by RAD52 and BRCA2
Psychology (BBSRC)	Cross-modality profiling of high-content microscopy images using deep learning
Biochemistry	A Metabolomics-based analysis of Acyl-homoserine lactone quorum sensing in <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>
Chemistry	The development of asymmetric palladium-catalysed transformations using chiral sulfonated phosphine ligands
German	Analysing contemporary German-language literature through a translingual-intermedial framework
Applied Mathematics at Cambridge Centre for Analysis	Accelerated optimisation algorithms for machine learning and image processing
Medicine	Developing novel therapies for <i>Mycobacterium abscessus</i>
Chemistry	Using vibrational laser spectroscopy to study biologically relevant interfaces
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies	Producing and using codices in Tenth century Dunhuang
Medicine	Biomechanical analysis of human coronary atherosclerotic plaques in response to pharmacotherapy, and in predicting adverse clinical events
Chemistry	Studies towards controlling selectivity in Minisci reactions
Physiology, Development and Neuroscience	The role of inherited determinants and embryonic–extraembryonic cell interactions in models of mammalian embryogenesis
Chemistry (BBSRC)	Using biological and chemical information to improve understanding of drug mechanism of action on the systems—level
Physics	Developing ternary bismuth chalcogenide nanocrystals for photovoltaics and photodetectors
Pathology	The transcriptional programme of natural killer (NK) cell functional maturation and maintenance
Economics	Essays on Networks and Industrial Organization
Biological Science at the Sanger Institute	Germline mutation in rare disease
Genetics	Genetic interactors of the SWI/SNF chromatin remodelling complex in <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>
Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics	Dynamically induced uncertainty in stratified turbulent mixing models
Clinical Biochemistry	The role of thada in energy homeostasis
Psychology	The long-term effectiveness of inoculation against misinformation: an integrated theory of memory, threat, and motivation
Physics	Dynamics of frustrated magnetic systems: emergent fractals and anomalous noise in spin ice
Medical Science at the MRC Cancer Unit	The molecular mechanisms of BRCA2 in tumourigenesis: a novel idehyde/proteasome axis
Genetics	Ancestral Paths: Redefining local genetic ancestry and its inference with application to Europeans
Politics and International Studies	Standing up for the nations? devolution and the changing dynamics of territorial representation in the UK House of Commons, 1992–2019
Plant Sciences (BBSRC)	Understanding C4 photosynthesis through quantitative genetics
Engineering	Zinc oxide nanowire field effect transistors for sensor applications

3. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS BY DOWNING FELLOWS

Burton, Dr Hugh

Burton, H. G. A., Marti-Dafcik, D., Tew, D.P. and Wales, D.J. (2023), 'Exact electronic states with shallow quantum circuits from global optimisation', *npj Quantum Inf*, Vol 9, Article number 75.
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41534-023-00744-2>

Christie, Dr Alec

Miller, J., White, T.B. and Christie, A.P. (2023), 'Parachute conservation: Investigating trends in international research', *Conservation Letters*, Vol 16, e12947.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/conl.12947>

Crisp, Dr Michael

Xia, J., Li, T., Cheng, Q., Glick, M., Crisp, M., Bergman, K. and Penty, R. (2023) 'A Future Proof Reconfigurable Wireless and Fixed Converged Optical Fronthaul Network Using Silicon Photonic Switching Strategies', *Journal of Lightwave Technology*, Vol 41 (6), pp. 1610–1618.
doi: 10.1109/jlt.2022.3188773.

Davies, Mr Justin

Ellis and Calne's Lecture Notes in General Surgery (14th Edition), Watson, C. and Davies, J. (eds.), Wiley-Blackwell (Hoboken, 2023).

Day, Mr William

Day, W., *Key Ideas in Commercial Law*, Hart (Oxford, 2023).

Farahi, Dr Neda

Writing Committee for the REMAP-CAP Investigators et al. (2023) 'Effect of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitor and Angiotensin Receptor Blocker Initiation on Organ Support-Free Days in Patients Hospitalized With COVID-19: A Randomized Clinical Trial', *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, Vol 329 (14), pp.1183–1196.
doi:10.1001/jama.2023.4480

Fiorentino, Dr Stefania

Fiorentino, S., Livingstone, N., McAllister, P. and Cooke, H. (2022), 'The future of the corporate office? Emerging trends in the post-Covid city', *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*, Vol 15 (3), pp. 597–614.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rsac027>

Francois, Dr Liesbeth

François, L., 'Shaping the Right to the Megalopolis: Earthquake Crónicas in Mexico City', in *Routledge Companion to Literary Urban Studies*, Ameen, L. (ed.) Routledge (London, 2023).

Hammer, Dr Charlotte

Brainard, J., Jones, N.R., Harrison, F.C.D., Hammer, C.C. and Lake, I.R. (2023), 'Super-spreaders of novel coronaviruses that cause SARS, MERS and COVID-19: A systematic review', *Annals of Epidemiology*, Vol 82, pp. 66-76.e6.
doi: 10.1016/j.annepidem.2023.03.009

Jones, Dr Ewan

Jones, E., 'Poetic Vigils, Rhythmical Vigilance' in *Zeiten der Wachsamkeit*, Bredebecke, A. and Reichlin, S. (eds.), De Gruyter (Berlin, 2022).

Kennedy, Dr Sarah

Kennedy, S., 'Eliot among the Rag-Pickers: Waste, Hope, and the Ecocritical Imagination in The Waste Land' in *The T. S. Eliot Studies Annual Volume 5*, Dickey, F. and Daniel, J.E. (eds.), Liverpool University Press (Liverpool, 2023).

Kourtzi, Professor Zoe

Michael, E., Santamaria Covarrubias, L., Leong, V. and Kourtzi, Z. (2022), 'Learning at your brain's rhythm: individualized entrainment boosts learning for perceptual decisions', *Cerebral Cortex*, Vol 33 (9), pp. 5382–5394.
bhac426, doi.org/10.1093/cercor/bhac426

Lander Johnson, Dr Bonnie

Lander Johnson, B. 'Fairy Bowers' and 'Precious Flowers' in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Elizabethan Court Culture', in *Floral Culture and the Tudor and Stuart Courts*, Lyon-Whaley, S. (ed.), Amsterdam University Press (Amsterdam, publication due Feb 2024).

Ledgeway, Professor Adam

The Cambridge Handbook of Romance Linguistics, Ledgeway, A. and Maiden, M. (eds.), Cambridge University Press (Cambridge, 2022).

Milton, Professor Amy

Milton, A.L., Das, R.K. and Merlo, E. (2023), 'The challenge of memory destabilisation: from prediction error to prior expectations and biomarkers', *Brain Research Bulletin*, Vol 194, pp. 100–104.

Moreno Figueroa, Dr Mónica G

Contra o Racismo: Mobilização Para a Mudança Social Na América Latina, Moreno Figueroa, M.G. and Wade, P. (eds.), *Latin America Research Commons* (2023).
<https://doi.org/10.2307/jj.3355124>

Morgan, Dr John

Wesołowski, P.A., Sieradzan, A.K., Winnicki, M.J., Morgan, J.W.R and Wales, D.J. (2023), 'Energy landscapes for proteins described by the UNRES coarse-grained potential', *Biophysical Chemistry*, Vol 303 (107107).
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<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41597-023-02024-2>

Pratt, Dr David

English Coronation Ordines in the Ninth and Early Tenth Centuries, Pratt, D. (ed.), Henry Bradshaw Society Vol 125, Boydell Press (London, 2023).

Scheidegger Laemmle, Dr Cedric

Cicero: Opera omnia. Ed. Andreas Cratander, Basel 1528. Facsimile of the copy of the University Library in Basel, with an introductory essay, Scheidegger Laemmle, C. and Manuwald, G. (eds.) Schwabe Verlagsgruppe AG (Basel, 2022).

Sheffield, Dr Frisbee

Sheffield, F., 'Dover and Plato's Symposium: Attraction, Aversion and Intemperance' in *Scholarship and Controversy: Centenary Essays on the Life and Work of Kenneth Dover*, Halliwell, S. and Stray, C. (eds.), Bloomsbury Publishing (London, 2023).

Virgo, Professor Graham

Virgo, G., *The Principles of Equity and Trusts (5th ed)*, Oxford University Press (Oxford, 2023).

Wales, Professor David

Csányi, G., Morgan, J.W.R. and Wales, D.J. (2023), 'Global analysis of energy landscapes for materials modeling: A test case for C60', *The Journal of Chemical Physics*, Vol 159 (10) 104107. <https://pubs.aip.org/aip/jcp/article/159/10/104107/2910708>

4. INVESTMENTS

Composition of Investment Portfolio

1. Securities

	30 June 2023 £	30 June 2022 £	30 June 2021 £
Core Portfolio Cash	2,853,446	2,355,607	5,289,442
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedges	598,304	(1,674,741)	(352,835)
Fixed Income	875,699	—	—
Credit	6,539,731	8,218,234	5,530,926
Absolute Return	2,389,950	1,410,581	1,844,869
Hedged Equities	2,173,557	5,592,234	6,666,934
Global Equities	17,161,700	16,867,513	21,225,542
Private Equity	20,408,416	20,720,037	14,851,047
Inflation Linked Bonds	1,421,454	1,324,645	1,654,638
Commodity Fund	564,630	653,772	1,692,127
Total	54,986,886	55,467,881	58,402,691
Other Private Equity*	—	—	—
TOTAL SECURITIES	54,986,886	55,467,881	58,402,691

2. Property

Office	4,730,000	4,700,000	4,270,000
Retail	11,741,000	10,005,000	9,950,000
Property Development	489,459	508,391	489,459
TOTAL PROPERTY	16,960,459	15,213,391	14,709,459

TOTAL PORTFOLIO

Securities Equity Like Risk

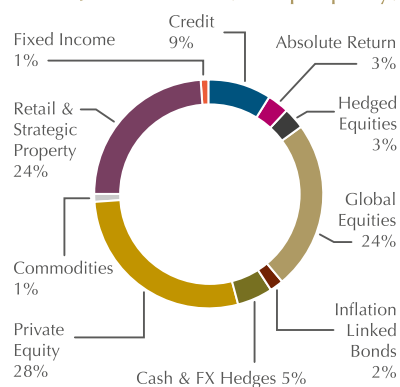
71,947,345

75%

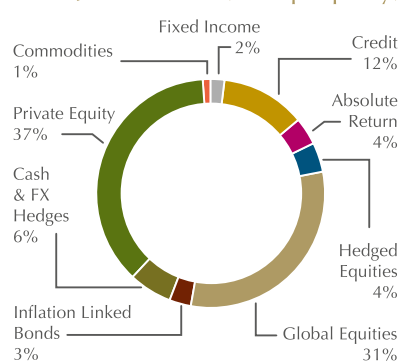
75%

75%

ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2023 (inc. property)



ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2023 (exc. property)



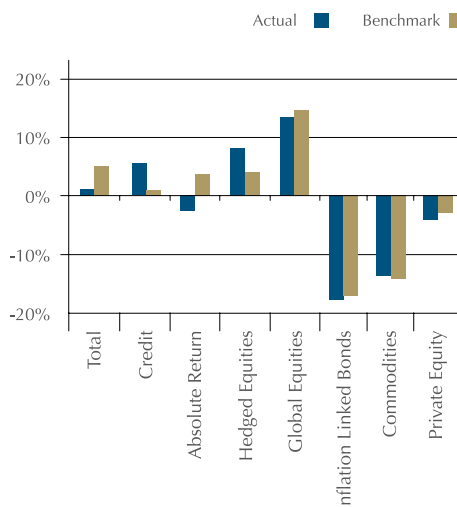
* Includes donated shares in seven new ventures, held at nil value.

ENDOWMENT & TOTAL RETURN

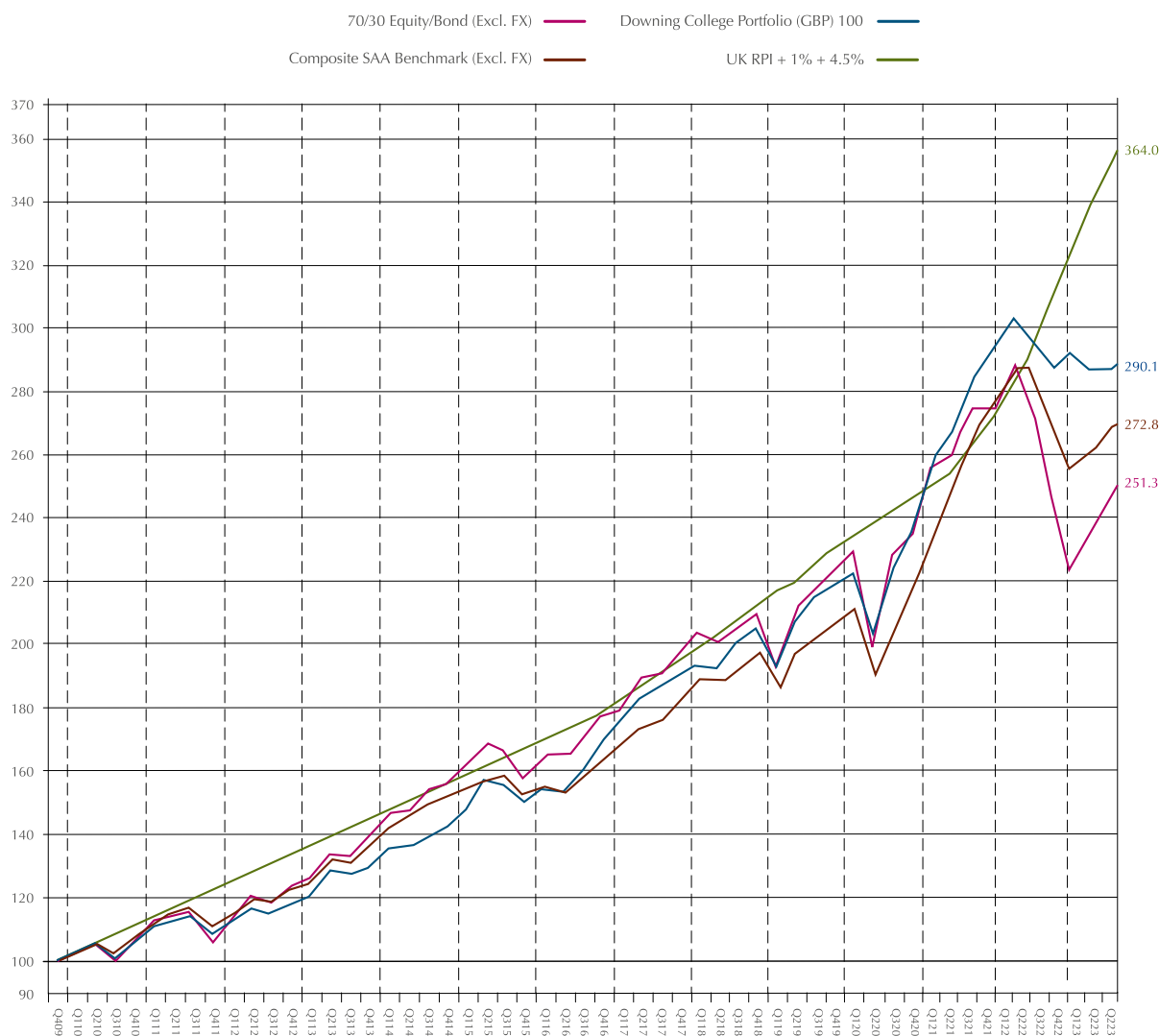


Note: £9 million added to endowment in 2019/20 from private placement and £3.25 million withdrawn in 2021/22

SECURITIES RETURN AGAINST BENCHMARKS 2022/23



CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION - value of £100 invested



Inception is from 2009 when the mandate for the portfolio was transferred to Partners Capital

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COLLEGE'S GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The College's Statutes and the Statutes and Ordinances of the University of Cambridge require that financial statements are prepared for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of the surplus or deficit of the College for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Governing Body is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the College will continue in operation.

The Governing body is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the College and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statutes of the University of Cambridge. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the College and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF DOWNING COLLEGE

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Downing College (the 'College') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 30 June 2023 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Reserves, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and College's affairs as at 30 June 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the Statutes of the University of Cambridge.



BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

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

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

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

OTHER INFORMATION

The Governing Body are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The contribution due from the College to the University has been computed as advised in the provisional assessment by the University of Cambridge and in accordance with the provisions of Statute G,II, of the University of Cambridge.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and College and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in Report of the Governing Body.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNING BODY

As explained more fully in the responsibilities of the Governing Body statement set out on page XX, the Governing Body are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governing Body 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 Governing Body are responsible for assessing the Group's and College'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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the Group or the College or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Group through discussions with Trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the education sector;
- we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Group and how the Group is complying with that framework;
- we obtained an understanding of the Group's policies and procedures on compliance with laws and regulations, including documentation of any instances of non-compliance;
- we identified which laws and regulations were significant in the context of the Group. The Laws and regulations we considered in this context were Charities Act 2011, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and taxation legislation. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items;
- in addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Group's ability to operate or to avoid material penalty; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Group's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we;

- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policy were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and the College's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or 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. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the College's Governing Body as a body, in accordance with College's statutes, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and the Charities Act 2011. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Governing Body those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the College and the College's Governing Body as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

PETERS ELWORTHY & MOORE



Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
CAMBRIDGE

Date: 20th December 2023

Peters Elworthy & Moore is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes of the College and of the University of Cambridge and applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. In addition, the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Further and Higher Education (the SORP).

The Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure includes activity analysis in order to demonstrate that all fee income is spent for educational purposes. The analysis required by the SORP is set out in note 6.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified in respect of the treatment of investments and operational properties which are included at valuation.

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements include the College and its subsidiary undertakings. Details of the subsidiary undertakings included are set out in note 9. Intra-group balances are eliminated on consolidation.

The consolidated financial statements do not include the activities of student societies as these are separate bodies in which the College has no financial interest and over whose policy decisions it has no control.

RECOGNITION OF INCOME

Academic fees

Academic fees are recognised in the period to which they relate and include all fees chargeable to students or their sponsors. The costs of any fees waived or written off by the College are included as expenditure.

Grant income

Grants received from non-government sources (including research grants from non-government sources) are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College 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.

Donations and endowments

Non exchange transactions without performance related conditions are donations and endowments. Donations and endowments with donor imposed restrictions are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income. Income is retained within restricted reserves until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions at which point the income is released to general reserves through a reserve transfer.

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

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 College.
3. Restricted expendable endowments – the donor has specified a particular objective and the College can convert the donated sum into income.
4. Restricted permanent endowments – the donor has specified that the fund is to be permanently invested to generate an income stream to be applied to a particular objective.

Donations with no restrictions are recorded within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income.

Investment income and change in value of investment assets

Investment income and change in value of investment assets is recorded in income in the year in which it arises and as either restricted or unrestricted income according to the terms or other restrictions applied to the individual endowment fund.

Total return

The College operates a total return policy with regard to its endowment assets (including property). The endowment spending policy is specifically designed to stabilise annual spending levels and to preserve the real value of the endowment portfolio over time. The spending policy attempts to achieve these two objectives by using a long-term targeted spending rate combined with a smoothing rule, which adjusts spending gradually to changes in the endowment market value. The actual rate of spending for 2023 when measured against the previous year's market value was 4.5%.

Other Income

Income is received from a range of activities including accommodation, catering conferences and other services rendered.

Cambridge Bursary Scheme

In 2022–23, payment of the Cambridge Bursaries has been made by the College to eligible students via the Student Loans Company (SLC) and the University of Cambridge has reimbursed the College for their portion. The College has shown the gross payment made to eligible students via the SLC and a contribution from the University as Income under “Academic Fees and Charges”.

The net payment of £177,763 is shown within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure as follows:

Income (see note 1)	£219,677
Expenditure (see note 4)	£397,440

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at year end rates or, where there are forward foreign exchange contract, at contract rates. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the determination of the comprehensive income and expenditure for the financial year.

FIXED ASSETS

Land and Buildings

Buildings are stated at valuation, the aggregate surplus or deficit is transferred to a revaluation reserve included within Reserves.

Where parts of a fixed asset have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of fixed assets.

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

Freehold land is not depreciated as it is considered to have an indefinite useful life. A full asset valuation of the operational estate for accounts purposes was carried out by Gerald Eve LLP, Surveyors, as at 30 June 2021. Freehold buildings are depreciated on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives of 100, 50, or 20 years. The

earliest buildings, designed by William Wilkins, form a significant part of the Domus and are listed as Grade I¹. All other buildings on the Domus come within the curtilage of those buildings and are therefore subject to some of the same restrictions. The Listing imposes an obligation to repair and restore. All repairs that restore value are capitalised, as are improvements. Other repairs are charged against income. For insurance purposes, the replacement cost of the buildings has been valued at £156.2 million.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a fixed asset may not be recoverable.

Buildings under construction are valued at cost, based on the value of architects' certificates and other direct costs incurred. They are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

Land held specifically for development, investment and subsequent sale is included in current assets at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

The cost of additions to operational property shown in the balance sheet includes the cost of land. All other assets are capitalised and depreciated over their expected useful life as follows:

Library books	30 years
Furniture and equipment	10 years
Catering equipment	5 years
Information Technology	3 years

Leased assets

Leases in which the College 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 leases 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. Lease payments are accounted for as described below.

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.

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 minimum lease term.

Heritage assets

The College does not hold any assets that should be classed as heritage assets.

1 Details of the listing can be found at: <http://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/results?q=Downing+College>

INVESTMENTS

Fixed asset investments are included in the balance sheet as follows:-

a) Securities

Securities are included at their open market value.

b) Works of Art

Works of art and silver are shown in the accounts at their market value as assessed by Townley Valuation Services Limited on 18 October 2022. A review for impairment of works of art is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a fixed asset may not be recoverable.

c) Subsidiary Undertakings

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are recorded at costs less any provision for impairment in value, and eliminated on consolidation.

d) Unlisted investments

Unlisted investments are carried at costs less any provision for permanent diminution in value, unless they are listed as a recognised stock exchange in which case their open market value is used, or there has been a more recent funding round in which case this value is used to value all investments made to the fund.

e) Property

Investment properties are included at open market valuation. An annual assessment was carried out by Carter Jonas as at 30 June 2023.

STOCKS

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making provision for slow moving and obsolete items.



PROVISIONS

Provisions are recognised when the College has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the College 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 College. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the College 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 College.

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

TAXATION

The College is a registered charity (number 1137455) and also a charity within the meaning of Section 467 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. Accordingly, the College is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within the categories covered by Sections 478 to 488 of the Corporation Tax Act 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 College receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax. The College is a partially exempt organisation for VAT purposes. With the approval of H M Revenue and Customs, it has adopted a methodology that enables it to recover part of the VAT on its expenses. Though recovered VAT significantly exceeds the VAT previously recoverable under the old CVCP Guidelines, input tax on purchases is, nevertheless, largely irrecoverable. In 2022-23, the College received £172,537 in refunds on purchases of £7.6 million.

The College's subsidiary companies, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited are not subject to these exemptions and are liable for Corporation Tax. However, all taxable profits of the subsidiaries are gift aided to the College, thereby extinguishing any corporation tax that may be assessable.

CONTRIBUTION UNDER STATUTE G,II

The College is liable to be assessed for Contribution under the provisions of Statute G,II of the University of Cambridge. Contribution is used to fund grants to colleges from the Colleges Fund. The liability for the year is as advised to the College by the University based on an assessable amount derived from the value of the College's assets as at the end of the previous financial year.

PENSION COSTS

The College participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme. The assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. 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 College 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 College therefore accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme. Since the College has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan) that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit, the College recognises a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit) with related expenses being recognised through the profit and loss account.

The College participates in the Cambridge Colleges Federated Pension Scheme (CCFPS), a defined benefit scheme which is externally funded and until 31 March 2017 was contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). As CCFPS is a federated scheme and the College is able to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities, the College values the fund as required by Section 28 Employee Benefits of FRS102 'Retirement Benefits'. As a result, the amount charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure represents the amount calculated under FRS102 guidelines.

The College also operates defined contribution pension schemes and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the College to the funds in respect of the year.



CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS

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 Universities Superannuation Scheme. 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) with the resulting expense charged through the profit or loss account in accordance with section 28 of FRS 102. The Council and Governing Body are satisfied that Universities Superannuation Scheme meets the definition of a multi-employer scheme and has therefore recognised the discounted fair value of the contractual contributions under the recovery plan in existence at the date of approving these financial statements.

All other accounting judgements and estimates are detailed under the appropriate accounting policy.

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 College. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the College expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

RESERVES

Reserves are allocated between restricted and unrestricted reserves. Endowment reserves include balances which, in respect of endowment to the College, are held as permanent funds, which the College must hold to perpetuity.

Restricted reserves include balances in respect of which the donor has designated a specific purpose and therefore the College is restricted in the use of these funds.



PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2023 Total £000	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2022 Total £000
Income									
Academic fees and charges	1	4,320	—	—	4,320	4,040	—	—	4,040
Accommodation, catering and conferences	2	7,119	—	—	7,119	5,450	—	—	5,450
Investment income	3	16	—	1,069	1,085	2	—	1,147	1,149
Endowment return transferred	3	1,392	1,480	(2,872)	—	1,248	1,277	(2,525)	—
Other income		277	—	—	277	129	—	—	129
Total income before donations and endowments		13,124	1,480	(1,803)	12,801	10,869	1,277	(1,378)	10,768
Donations		442	1,180	—	1,622	412	1,527	—	1,939
New endowments		—	1	833	834	—	1	1,289	1,290
Other capital grants for assets		—	9	—	9	—	59	—	59
Total income		13,566	2,670	(970)	15,266	11,281	2,864	(89)	14,056
Expenditure									
Education	4	4,927	1,975	—	6,902	4,504	1,582	—	6,086
Accommodation, catering and conferences	5	9,024	2	—	9,026	7,629	7	—	7,636
Other expenditure		569	1,477	(26)	2,020	1,038	742	114	1,894
Total expenditure	6	14,520	3,454	(26)	17,948	13,171	2,331	114	15,616
(Deficit) / Surplus before other gains and losses		(954)	(784)	(944)	(2,682)	(1,890)	533	(203)	(1,560)
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gain on investments		(565)	(46)	648	37	693	(9)	1,278	1,962
(Deficit) / Surplus for the year		(1,519)	(830)	(296)	(2,645)	(1,197)	524	1,075	402
Other comprehensive income									
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of fixed assets	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Actuarial gain / (loss) in respect of pension schemes	14	125	—	—	125	485	—	—	485
Total comprehensive income for the year		(1,394)	(830)	(296)	(2,520)	(712)	524	1,075	887

The notes on pages 57 to 83 form part of these accounts

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Income and expenditure reserve				Total £000
	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	Revaluation reserve £000	
Balance at 1 July 2022	129,266	5,288	44,112	47,826	226,492
(Deficit)/ surplus from income and expenditure statement	(1,519)	(830)	(296)	—	(2,645)
Other comprehensive income	125	—	—	—	125
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year	9	(9)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves	483	(57)	57	(483)	—
Balance at 30 June 2023	128,365	4,392	43,873	47,342	223,972

	Income and expenditure reserve				Total £000
	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	Revaluation reserve £000	
Balance at 1 July 2021	129,436	4,811	43,049	48,309	225,605
(Deficit)/ surplus from income and expenditure statement	(1,197)	524	1,075	—	402
Other comprehensive income	485	—	—	—	485
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year	59	(59)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves	483	12	(12)	(483)	—
Balance at 30 June 2022	129,266	5,288	44,112	47,826	226,492

The notes on pages 57 to 83 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 £000	2022 £000
Non-current assets			
Fixed assets	8	181,399	180,514
Investments	9	79,257	78,302
Total non-current assets		260,656	258,816
Current assets			
Stocks		142	140
Trade and other receivables	10	1,043	1,545
Cash and cash equivalents	11	1,945	1,319
Total current assets		3,130	3,004
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(3,812)	(3,099)
Net current liabilities		(682)	(95)
Total assets less current liabilities		259,974	258,721
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(34,205)	(30,288)
Provisions			
Pension provisions	14	(1,797)	(1,941)
Total net assets		223,972	226,492
Restricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – endowment reserve	15	43,873	44,112
Income and expenditure reserve – restricted reserve	16	4,392	5,288
		48,265	49,400
Unrestricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – unrestricted		128,365	129,266
Revaluation reserve		47,342	47,826
		175,707	177,092
Total reserves		223,972	226,492

The financial statements were approved by the Governing Body on 24th November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Graham Virgo, Master

The notes on pages 57 to 83 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 £000	2022 £000
(Deficit) / Surplus for the year		(2,645)	402
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation		2,406	2,387
Gain on Endowments, Donations and Investment Property		(63)	(1,848)
(Increase) / decrease in stocks		(2)	11
Decrease in trade and other receivables		633	644
Increase in creditors		477	3
Pension costs less contributions payable		(19)	613
Adjustment for investing or financing activities			
Investment income		(1,085)	(1,149)
Interest payable		856	752
Profit of disposal of non-current fixed assets		—	—
Net cash inflow from operating activities		558	1,815
Proceeds from sales of non-current fixed assets		—	—
Non-current investment disposal		—	—
Investment income		2,838	2,639
Endowment funds invested		(2,567)	(1,182)
Withdrawal of deposits		—	3,250
Payments made to acquire non-current assets		(3,291)	(6,817)
Cash flows from investing activities		(3,020)	(2,110)
Interest received		16	2
Interest paid		(856)	(752)
New unsecured loan		4,000	—
New finance lease		—	—
Repayment of loans		(72)	(68)
Cash flows from financing activities		3,088	(818)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		626	(1,113)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		1,319	2,432
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	11	1,945	1,319

The notes on pages 57 to 83 form part of these accounts

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Academic Fees and Charges

	2023 £000	2022 £000
College fees:		
Fee income received at the regulated undergraduate rate	1,865	1,851
Fee income received at the unregulated undergraduate rate	769	658
Fee income received at the graduate rate	1,362	1,331
	3,996	3,840
Cambridge Bursary Scheme income	220	118
Research/Teaching Grants	90	65
Other income	14	17
Total	4,320	4,040

2. Income from accommodation, catering and conferences

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Accommodation		
College Members	3,727	3,577
Conferences	1,326	572
International programmes	—	—
Catering		
College Members	820	716
Conferences	1,246	585
International programmes	—	—
Total	7,119	5,450

3. Endowment return and Investment Income

	2023 £000	2022 £000
3a. Analysis		
Total return contribution (see note 3b)	2,872	2,525
Other interest receivable	16	2
	2,888	2,527

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

3b. Summary of Total Return

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Income from:		
Land and buildings	980	871
Quoted and other securities and cash	89	276
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:		
Land & Buildings	(26)	485
Quoted and other securities and cash	63	673
Investment management costs (see note 3c)	26	(114)
Total return for year	1,132	2,191
Total return transferred to income and expenditure reserve	(2,872)	(2,525)
Unapplied total return for year included within Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure (see note 17)	(1,740)	(334)

3c. Investment Management Costs

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Land & Buildings	22	18
Quoted securities and other investments	(48)	96
	(26)	114

4. Education expenditure

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Teaching	2,887	2,565
Tutorial	1,038	930
Admissions	939	801
Research	312	313
Scholarships and awards	1,006	805
Other educational facilities	720	672
Total	6,902	6,086

Included within Scholarships and Awards are payments under the Cambridge Bursary Scheme amounting to £397,440 (2022 - £282,073).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

5. Accommodation, catering and conferences expenditure

		2023 £000	2022 £000
Accommodation	College Members	4,553	4,082
	Conferences	1,891	1,571
Catering	College Members	1,314	1,196
	Conferences	1,268	787
Total		9,026	7,636

Conference expenditure above is on a fully-costed basis, which includes a significant contribution to the absorption of overheads.

6a. Analysis of 2022/2023 expenditure by activity

	Staff Costs (Note 7) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	3,103	3,157	642	6,902
Accommodation, catering and conferences	4,127	3,156	1,743	9,026
Other	395	1,604	21	2,020
Totals	7,625	7,917	2,406	17,948

6b. Analysis of 2021/2022 expenditure by activity

	Staff Costs (Note 7) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	2,714	2,747	625	6,086
Accommodation, catering and conferences	3,219	2,676	1,741	7,636
Other	958	915	21	1,894
Totals	6,891	6,338	2,387	15,616

The above expenditure includes £533,794 as the direct cost of fundraising (2022 - £490,030). This expenditure includes the costs of alumni relations.

6c. Auditors' remuneration

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Other operating expenses include:		
Audit fees payable to the College's external auditors	24	22
Other fees payable to the College's external auditors	7	4

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

7. Staff Costs	College Fellows £000	Non-Academics £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Staff Costs				
Emoluments	1,302	5,321	6,623	5,374
Social Security Costs	102	423	525	410
Other Pension Costs	137	340	477	1,107
	1,541	6,084	7,625	6,891
Average staff numbers (full-time equivalents):				No
Academic	48	—	48	46
Non-academic	3	153	156	134
Total	51	153	204	180

The Governing Body comprises 51 Fellows, of which 47 are stipendiary.

The number of officers and employees of the College, including the Head of House, who received emoluments in the following range was:

From	To	2022-23 Number	2021-22 Number
100,001	110,000	1	—
Total		1	—

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the College. Therefore the Trustees who include the Master, Senior Bursar, Vice-Master, Secretary to the Governing Body and Senior Tutor are the key management personnel.

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Aggregate Emoluments	187	182

Trustees received no emoluments in their capacity as Trustees of the Charity.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

8. Tangible Fixed Assets

Consolidated and College	College Buildings and Site £000	Furniture fittings and equipment £000	Library Books £000	Total £000
Cost				
As at 1 July 2022	178,751	11,962	1,055	191,768
Additions at cost	2,844	406	41	3,291
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Revaluation	—	—	—	—
As at 30 June 2023	181,595	12,368	1,096	195,059
Depreciation				
As at 1 July 2022	1,762	8,928	564	11,254
Charge for the year	1,715	657	34	2,406
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Revaluation	—	—	—	—
As at 30 June 2023	3,477	9,585	598	13,660
Net Book value				
As at 30 June 2023	178,118	2,783	498	181,399
As at 1 July 2022	176,989	3,034	491	180,514

The insured value of freehold land and buildings as at 30 June 2023 was £151,601,478 (2022 - £156,193,568).

The value of the land, included in College Buildings and Site, as at 30 June 2023 was £58,166,000 (2022 - £56,866,000).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

9. Investments

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Consolidated and College		
As at 1 July	78,302	79,763
Additions	13,762	16,401
Disposals	(12,275)	(20,231)
Gains	(1,030)	5,174
Increase / (decrease) in cash balances held at fund managers	498	(2,805)
As at 30 June	79,257	78,302

Represented by:

Property	16,961	15,213
Securities	52,134	53,112
Cash with agents	2,853	2,356
Works of art	6,142	6,131
Over distribution of market value of funds	707	1,030
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding Plc	5	5
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding II Plc	5	5
Land	450	450
	79,257	78,302

Subsidiary Company

At 30 June 2023 Downing College held an investment in the following companies:

Subsidiary Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights	Country of Incorporation
Downing College Developments Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
The May Ball Company Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom

Downing College Developments Limited was incorporated on 20 January 1999. The principal activity of the company is development of student accommodation and other facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited was incorporated on 2 April 2007. The principal activity of the company is the provision of non-educational conference facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

The May Ball Company Limited was incorporated on 28 July 2010. The principal activity of the company is to administer the operation of the biennial College May Ball. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

10. Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated 2023 £000	College 2023 £000	Consolidated 2022 £000	College 2022 £000
Members of the College	187	187	220	220
Amounts due from group companies	—	942	—	1,127
Other receivables	435	225	710	413
Prepayments	421	421	615	615
	1,043	1,775	1,545	2,361

11. Cash and cash equivalents

	Consolidated 2023 £000	College 2023 £000	Consolidated 2022 £000	College 2022 £000
Bank deposits	612	612	462	462
Current accounts	1,332	114	856	166
Cash in hand	1	1	1	1
	1,945	727	1,319	629

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Consolidated 2023 £000	College 2023 £000	Consolidated 2022 £000	College 2022 £000
Trade creditors	918	866	1,099	985
Members of the College	322	322	318	318
Amounts due to group companies	—	8	—	120
University fees	12	12	5	5
Other creditors	2,488	2,163	1,608	1,260
Obligations under finance leases	72	72	69	69
	3,812	3,443	3,099	2,757

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

13. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Consolidated 2023 £000	College 2023 £000	Consolidated 2022 £000	College 2022 £000
Long term bank loan	5,479	5,479	5,478	5,478
Other loans	28,593	28,593	24,606	24,606
Obligations under finance leases	133	133	204	204
	34,205	34,205	30,288	30,288

The long term bank loan is due for repayment in 2048 at a fixed interest rate of 4.64%.

During 2013-14 the College borrowed £5m from institutional investors in a private placement done collectively with other Colleges, although each College's loan is separate from those of the others. The loans are unsecured and repayable during the period 2043-53 and are at fixed interest rates of approximately 4.4%. The College has agreed a financial covenant of the ratio of borrowings to net assets, and has been in compliance with the covenant at all times since incurring the debt.

During 2019-20, the College borrowed £20m from an institutional investor in a private placement. The loan is unsecured and repayable in 2069 at a fixed interest rate of 2.05%.

During 2022-23, the College borrowed £4m from the bank. The loan is unsecured and repayable in 2028 at a floating rate of base rate plus 1%.

14. Pension provisions

Group and College	CCFPS £000	USS £000	2023 £000	2022 £000
Balance at beginning of year	791	1,150	1,941	1,813
Movement in year:				
Current service cost	15	(672)	(657)	15
Contributions	(54)	(26)	(80)	(80)
Change in expected contribution	—	650	650	650
Other finance cost	30	38	68	28
Actuarial (gain) / loss	(125)	—	(125)	(485)
Balance at end of year	657	1,140	1,797	1,941

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

15. Endowment funds

Restricted net assets relating to endowments are as follows:

Consolidated and College	Restricted permanent endowments £000	Unrestricted permanent endowments £000	2023 Total £000	2022 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year				
Capital	32,258	11,854	44,112	43,049
New donations and endowments	818	15	833	1,289
(decrease/increase in market value of investments)	(851)	(278)	(1,129)	(214)
Transfers between reserves	57	—	57	(12)
Balance at end of year	32,282	11,591	43,873	44,112
Analysis by type of purpose:				
Fellowship Funds	9,917	—	9,917	10,161
Scholarship Funds	7,773	600	8,373	8,588
Prize Funds	508	26	534	547
Hardship Funds	5,030	—	5,030	4,754
Bursary Funds	50	—	50	51
Grant Funds	5,871	11	5,882	6,025
Other Funds	3,133	1,786	4,919	4,621
General Funds	—	9,168	9,168	9,365
	32,282	11,591	43,873	44,112
Analysis by asset				
Property	8,006	2,874	10,880	9,910
Investments	22,889	8,219	31,108	32,614
Cash	1,387	498	1,885	1,588
	32,282	11,591	43,873	44,112

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

16. Restricted funds

Consolidated and College	Capital grants unspent £000	Permanent unspent and other restricted income £000	Restricted expendable endowment	2023 Total £000	2022 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year					
Capital	—	3,562	—	3,562	3,081
Accumulated income	—	—	1,726	1,726	1,730
	—	3,562	1,726	5,288	4,811
New grants	9	—	—	9	59
New donations	—	1,157	24	1,181	1,528
Investment income	—	1,405	75	1,480	1,277
Decrease in market value of investments	—	—	(46)	(46)	(9)
Expenditure	—	(3,363)	(91)	(3,454)	(2,331)
Capital grants utilised	(9)	—	—	(9)	(59)
Transfer to/(from) reserves	—	(51)	(6)	(57)	12
Balance at end of year	—	2,710	1,682	4,392	5,288
Comprising Capital	—	2,710	—	2,710	3,562
Accumulated income	—	—	1,682	1,682	1,726
	—	2,710	1,682	4,392	5,288
Analysis of other restricted funds/donations by type of purpose					
Fellowship Funds	—	302	—	302	281
Scholarship Funds	—	135	212	347	361
Prize Funds	—	27	—	27	26
Hardship Funds	—	150	—	150	22
Grant Funds	—	1,579	1,028	2,607	3,677
Other Funds	—	517	442	959	921
	—	2,710	1,682	4,392	5,288

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

17. Memorandum of Unapplied Total Return

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Unapplied total return at beginning of year	24,445	24,779
Unapplied total return for the year	(1,740)	(334)
Unapplied total return at end of year	22,705	24,445

18. Reconciliation and analysis of net debt

	At 1 July 2022 £000	Cash Flows £000	New finance leases £000	Other non- cash changes £000	At 30 June 2023 £000
Cash and cash equivalents	1,319	626	—	—	1,945
Borrowings:					
Amount falling due within one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	(69)	77	—	(80)	(72)
Amount falling due after more than one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	(204)	—	—	71	(133)
Unsecured loans	(30,084)	(4,000)	—	12	(34,072)
Total net debt	(29,038)	(4,309)	—	3	(32,332)

19. Financial instruments

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Financial assets at fair value through Statement of Comprehensive income		
Listed equity investments (note 9)	52,134	53,112
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 9 and 11)	4,799	3,675
Other equity investments (note 9)	10	10
Other debtors (note 10)	629	1,126
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Loans (note 13)	34,633	30,500
Trade creditors (note 12)	902	1,099
Other creditors (note 12)	2,563	1,677

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

20. Capital commitments

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Capital commitments at 30 June 2023 are as follows -		
Authorised and contracted	14	670
Authorised but not yet contracted for	1,979	202

21. Financial Commitments

	2023 £000	2022 £000

At 30 June 2023, the College had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Land and buildings:

Expiring within one year	153	153
Expiring between two and five years	205	349
Expiring in over 5 years	223	232

Other:

Expiring within one year	1	3
Expiring between two and five years	5	5

22. Pension Schemes

In addition to the defined contribution scheme for assistant staff the College participates in two defined benefit schemes, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), and the Cambridge Colleges Federation Pension Scheme (CCFPS). The total pension cost for the year ended 30 June 2023 was as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
USS: Contributions	295	274
CCFPS: Charged to income and expenditure account	53	54
Other pension schemes: Contributions	216	196
	564	524

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Universities Superannuation Scheme

The latest available complete actuarial valuation of the Retirement Income Builder is as at 31 March 2020 (the valuation date), and was carried out using the projected unit method.

Since the College 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 2020 valuation was the sixth valuation for the scheme under the scheme-specific funding regime introduced by the Pensions Act 2004, which requires schemes to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover their technical provisions. At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the scheme was £66.5 billion and the value of the scheme's technical provisions was £80.6 billion indicating a shortfall of £14.1 billion and a funding ratio of 83%.

The key financial assumptions used in the 2020 valuation are described below. More detail is set out in the Statement of Funding Principles.

CPI assumption	Term dependent rates in line with the difference between the Fixed Interest and Index Linked yield curves less: 1.1% p.a. to 2030, reducing linearly by 0.1% p.a. to a long-term difference of 0.1% p.a. from 2040
Pension increase (subject to a floor of 0%)	CPI assumption plus 0.05%
Discount rate (forward rates)	Fixed interest gilt yield curve plus: Pre-retirement: 2.75% p.a. Post retirement: 1.00% p.a.

The main demographic assumptions used relate to the mortality assumptions. These assumptions are based on analysis of the scheme's experience carried out as part of the 2020 actuarial valuation. The mortality assumptions used in these figures are as follows:

	2020 valuation
Mortality base table	101% of S2PMA "light" for males and 95% of S3PFA for females
Future improvements to mortality	CMI 2019 with a smoothing parameter of 7.5, an initial addition of 0.5% p.a. and a long-term improvement rate of 1.8% p.a. for males and 1.6% p.a. for females

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

The current life expectancies on retirement at age 65 are:

	2023	2022
Males currently aged 65 (years)	24.0	23.9
Females currently aged 65 (years)	25.6	25.5
Males currently aged 45 (years)	26.0	25.9
Females currently aged 45 (years)	27.4	27.3

A deficit recovery plan was put in place as part of the 2020 valuation, which requires payment of 6.2% of salaries over the period 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2024, at which point the rate will increase to 6.3%. The 2023 deficit recovery liability reflects this plan. The liability figures have been produced using the following assumptions:

	2023	2022
Discount rate	5.52%	3.31%
Pensionable salary growth	5.00%	2.00%

Cambridge Colleges' Federated Pension Scheme

The College also operates a defined benefits plan for the College's employees of the Cambridge Colleges' Federation Pension Scheme.

The liabilities of the plan have been calculated, at 30 June 2023, for the purposes of FRS102 using a valuation system designed for the Management Committee, acting as Trustee of the Cambridge Federated Pension Scheme, but allowing for the different assumptions required under FRS102 and taking fully into consideration changes in the plan benefit structure and membership since that date.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date were as follows:

	2023 % p.a.	2022 % p.a.
Discount rate	5.20	3.80
Increase in salaries	n/a	3.25
Retail Price Index (RPI) assumption	3.40*	3.45*
Consumer Price Index (CPI) assumption	2.80*	2.75*
Pension increases in payment (RPI max 5% p.a.)	3.30*	3.30*
Pension increases in payment (CPI max 2.5%)	2.05*	2.05*

*For 1 year only, we have assumed that RPI 9% and CPI will be 7%. The caps under the Rules are applied to assumed pension increases.

The underlying mortality assumption is based upon the standard table known as S3PA on a year of birth usage with CMI_2022 future improvement factors and a long-term rate of future improvement of 1.25% per annum, a standard smoothing factor (7.0) and no allowance for additional improvements (2021: S3PA with CMI_2021 future improvement factors and a long-term future improvement rate of 1.25% per annum, a standard smoothing factor (7.0) and no allowance for additional improvements). This results in the following life expectancies:

- Male aged 65 now has a life expectancy of 21.4 years (previously 21.9 years)
- Female age 65 now has a life expectancy of 23.9 years (previously 24.3 years)
- Male age 45 now and retiring in 20 years has a life expectancy of 22.6 years (previously 23.2 years)
- Female age 45 now and retiring in 20 years would have a life expectancy of 25.3 years (previously 25.7 years)

Members are assumed to retire at their normal retirement age (65) apart from in the following cases:

	Male	Female
Active Members – Option 1 Benefits	64	64
Deferred Members – Option 1 Benefits	63	62

Allowance has been made at retirement for non-retired members to commute part of their pension for a lump sum on the basis of the current commutation factors in these calculations.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Employee Benefit Obligations

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet as at 30 June 2023 (with comparative figures as at 30 June 2022) are as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Market value of scheme assets	4,075	4,873
Present value of scheme liabilities	(4,732)	(5,664)
Net defined benefit (liability)	(657)	(791)

The amounts recognised in the income and expenditure account for the year ending 30 June 2023 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2022) are as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Current service cost	14	15
Interest on net defined benefit liability	30	23
Total charge	44	38

Changes in the present value of the scheme liabilities for the year ending 30 June 2023 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2022) are as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Present value of scheme liabilities at beginning of period	5,664	7,173
Current service cost (including employee contributions)	—	2
Benefits paid	(196)	(244)
Interest on scheme liabilities	212	127
Actuarial (gains) / losses	(948)	(1,394)
Present value of Scheme liabilities at end of period	4,732	5,664

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets for the year ending 30 June 2023 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2022) are as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Market value of scheme assets at beginning of period	4,873	5,881
Contributions paid by the College	53	54
Benefits paid	(196)	(244)
Administration expenses paid	(17)	(16)
Interest on scheme assets	181	104
Return on assets, less interest included in profit and loss	(819)	(906)
Market value of Scheme assets at end of period	4,075	4,873
Actual return on scheme assets	(638)	(802)

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total Scheme assets at 30 June 2023 (with comparative figures at 30 June 2022) are as follows:

	2023	2022
Equities	49%	52%
Bonds & Cash	38%	34%
Properties	13%	14%
Total	100%	100%

The plan has no investments in property occupied by, assets used by or financial instruments issued by the College.

Analysis of the remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability recognised in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI) for the year ending 30 June 2023 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2022) are as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Actuarial return less expected return on scheme assets	(819)	(906)
Experience gains and losses arising on scheme liabilities	(4)	(535)
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of scheme liabilities	948	1,926
Actuarial gain / (loss) recognised in OCI	125	485

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Movement in net defined benefit liability during the year ending 30 June 2023 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2022) are as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Deficit in scheme at beginning of year	(791)	(1,292)
Recognised in Profit and Loss	(44)	(38)
Contributions paid by the College	53	54
Actuarial gain recognised in SOCIE	125	485
Deficit in scheme at the end of the year	(657)	(791)

Funding Policy

Actuarial valuations are carried out every three years on behalf of the Management Committee, acting as the Trustee of the Scheme, by a qualified independent actuary. The actuarial assumptions underlying the actuarial valuation are different to those adopted under FRS102.

The last such actuarial valuation was as at 31 March 2020. This showed that the assets were insufficient to cover the liabilities on the funding basis. A Recovery Plan has been agreed with the College, which commits the College to paying contributions to fund the shortfall. These deficit reduction contributions are incorporated into the Schedule of Contributions dated 21 May 2021 and are as follows:

- Annual contributions of not less than £39,105 p.a. payable for the period to 31 August 2025.

These payments are subject to review following the next funding valuation, due as at 31 March 2023.

Defined Contribution Pension Schemes

The College operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of certain employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the College amounting to £215,820 (2022 - £195,565) of which £nil (2022 - £30,864) was outstanding at the year end.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Contingent Liabilities

As disclosed in note 21, with effect from 16 March 2007, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) positioned itself as a “last man standing” scheme so that in the event of an insolvency of any of the participating employers in USS, the amount of any pension funding shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer will be spread across the remaining participant employers.

24. Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the College’s operations and the composition of its Governing Body, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Governing Body has an interest. All transactions involving organisations in which a member of the Governing Body may have an interest are conducted at arm’s length and in accordance with the College’s normal procedures.

The College maintains a register of interests for all College Council members and where any member of the College Council has a material interest in a College matter they are required to declare that fact.

During the year no fees or expenses were paid to Fellows in respect of their duties as Trustees.

Fellows are remunerated for teaching, research and other duties within the College. Fellows are billed for any private catering. The Trustees remuneration is overseen by a Remuneration Committee.

The salaries paid to Trustees in the year are summarised in the table below:

From	To	2022-23 Number	2021-22 Number
0	10,000	28	28
10,001	20,000	7	7
20,001	30,000	6	6
30,001	40,000	3	1
40,001	50,000	4	4
50,001	60,000	2	2
60,001	70,000	—	—
70,001	80,000	1	—
80,001	90,000	—	1
90,001	100,000	1	1
100,001	110,000	1	—
Total		53	50

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

24. Related Party Transactions continued

The total Trustee salaries were £1,019,150 for the year (2021/22 - £817,327).

The Trustees were also paid other taxable benefits (including associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer contributions to pensions) which totalled £280,510 for the year (2021/22 - £239,194).

The College has a number of trading subsidiary undertakings which are consolidated into these accounts. All subsidiary undertakings are 100% owned by the College and are registered and operating in England and Wales.

The College has taken advantage of the exemption within section 33 of FRS 102 not to disclose transactions with wholly owned group companies that are related parties.

25. Sir Mortimer Singer Fund

Other Unrestricted Funds includes the Sir Mortimer Singer Fund which was funded from a bequest of Sir Mortimer Singer, a Fellow Commoner of the College. The money was appointed to the College by Lady Singer upon the trusts declared by a deed dated 25 March 1952. The Pension Trust Fund was also set up from this bequest. Below are the movements on these Funds in the year.

	Singer Fund £000	Pension Trust £000
Opening Balance at 1 July 2022	8,149	296
Income	214	13
Expenditure	—	(13)
Change in Market Value of Investments	(130)	(8)
Closing Balance at 30 June 2023	8,233	288

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Alcan Prize Fund	—	12
Angharad John Fellowship	5	391
Alwyn W Heong Fund	—	329
Barry Moore Economics Prize Fund	—	18
Batley Fund	—	12
Beinan Lu Fund	—	4
Bill Willetts Fund	—	—
B J Everitt Prize Fund	—	20
Blankenship Book Fund	—	16
Blankenship Law Fund	—	32
Bookbinder Travel Awards	10	10
Bradbrook Fund	—	15
Brammer Fellowship in Geography	—	1,136
Buchanan Fund	—	319
Charles Campbell Book Fund	—	5
S M and H Haniff Prize	—	43
Cockerell Fund	—	30
Collins Fund	—	253
Darley Fund	—	392
Darley Sands Postgraduate Studentship	—	168
Downing Association Fund	10	60
Edward Collins Fund	—	148
Ernest William Denham Fund	—	35
Everitt Fund	—	2
Everitt Butterfield Fund	2	1,414
Fahrenwaldt Fund	—	17
Ferreras Willetts Fund	—	360
Florence & David Jacobs Memorial Prize	—	10
Fritsch Fund	—	598
Carried forward	27	5,849

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	27	5,849
Formoso—Papalios	—	49
Fu Fund	—	7
Gamlingay Fund	—	100
Geoffrey Grimmett Prize	—	8
Gelber Bequest	—	13
Graystone Fund	—	226
Gulbenkian Fund	—	3
Hall Fund	—	14
Harold Hargreaves Prize	—	7
Harris Fund	—	573
Harrison Fund	—	—
Harrison Prize Fund	—	4
Hopkins Parry Fund	—	1,380
John Hopkins Fund	399	858
John Hopkins Supervision Fund	2	308
John Miller Scholarships	8	2,019
Hugh Brammer Fund	—	96
Ivor Evans Fund	—	26
Jan Hruska Fund	—	330
Jean Ruhman Fund	—	12
John Hawkins Mays Wild Fund	—	11
John Maples America Fund	—	195
Johnston Fund	—	2
Joseph Tcheng Prize	—	16
Judy Petty Book Prize & Scholarship	—	28
Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellowship	—	1,096
Percy Lander Research Fund	—	349
Lander Fund	—	13
Carried forward	436	13,592

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	436	13,592
Landrum & Brown Scholarship Fund	—	17
Lord Butterfield Fund	—	233
Mays Wild Fund	—	784
Matthews/McKinley Travel Fund	2	20
Alfred Monk Fund	—	308
John H Morrison Prize in Law	—	33
Moullin Fund	—	3
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Fund	—	571
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Prize Fund	—	164
Professor Gabriel Oon Prize	—	7
Osler Fund	—	129
Owens Fund	—	485
Pask Prize	—	—
Perry Fund	—	—
Peter Mathias Economics Prize Fund	—	2
Pilley Fund	—	459
Platt Fund	—	39
Poulton Fund	—	629
Professor Audus Botanical Fund	—	21
Purcell Fund	—	—
Richards Fund	—	67
Robertson Research Fellowship Fund	—	925
Robson Physics Prize	—	9
Robson Postgraduate Fund	—	381
Saint Fund	—	54
Saunders Fund	—	55
Savile Fund	—	170
Carried forward	438	19,157

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	438	19,157
Schreiner Fund	—	82
Seton Fund	—	96
Seton Cavendish Fund	—	2,674
Shallard Fund	—	—
Sir Arthur Watts Choral Awards	—	16
Stephen Peel Fellowship Fund	—	386
Stevens Fund	—	5
Susan & Geoffrey Eggington Scholarship	—	20
Sutcliffe Legacy	—	751
TG Jones Fund	—	941
Thomas Fund	—	24
Thrower Fund	5	91
Timothy Walton Remembrance Fund	—	78
Treherne Fund	—	141
Unwin Fund	—	75
Verjee Fellowship Fund	—	348
Verney Fund	—	2
Michael Waring Fund	—	106
Warner—Lambert Fund	—	263
Whitby Memorial Fund	—	509
White Fund	—	9
Whitelegg Fund	—	72
Whitworth Fund	12	2,661
Wicks Travel Fund	—	18
Williams Downing Fellowship	17	520
Wilsey & Lerch Scholarship in Economics	—	79
Wyatt Fund	—	2
Carried forward	472	29,126

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	472	29,126
Postgraduate Studentship Fund	1	7
Student Hardship Endowment	53	493
Student Support Endowment	135	1,194
1970's Grant Fund	—	94
Alumni Sport Fund	—	68
Fundraising - Teaching	10	223
Fundraising - Access	2	803
Catalysis - Teaching & Learning	4	217
Catalysis - Research & Discovery	—	18
Catalysis - Heritage & Environment	3	61
Catalysis - Support & Services	—	293
Catalysis - Culture & Community	—	13
Other	136	311
	816	32,921
<i>Restricted expendable</i>		
Bartram Fund	-	162
Colin Hill Fund	-	2
Lt. Colonel Anderson Trust Fund	-	131
Goodey Fund	-	212
Richens Fund	-	746
Treherne Prize Fund	-	14
Student Hardship (Spend Down)	159	158
The Great Tradition	1	117
Segreants Fund	22	120
Catalysis Conference Fund	-	-
Catalysis Research Fund	-	196
Downing Enterprise	13	95
1717 Fund	151	112
Voellm-Hruska Studentship	-	66
Tazaki Studentship	-	932
Fundraising - Buildings	-	61
Other	845	629
	1,191	3,753
Total Restricted Funds	2,007	36,674

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Unrestricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Clark Fund	—	3
French Fund	—	42
Goodey Fund	—	—
Jarvis Fund	—	52
Library Endowment Fund	—	1,427
Richmond Fund	—	267
Stenning Fund	—	72
Stevenson Fund	—	2
Whalley-Tooker Fund	—	21
Yates Fund	—	11
Young Fund	—	239
Singer Fund (Pension Trust)	—	288
Smyth Bequest	—	642
Fleet Bequest	—	68
Deryk Prosser Fund	—	551
Corporate Capital Fund	—	1,179
General Capital	—	6,727
	—	11,591
Total Restricted Reserves	2,007	48,265
<i>Unrestricted</i>		
Designated Buildings	—	130,775
Corporate Capital Fund	—	22,956
Singer Fund (Will Trust)	—	8,233
General Capital and Other	457	(37,126)
Revaluation Reserves	—	52,653
Pension Reserves	—	(1,797)
	457	175,694
Total Unrestricted Funds	457	175,694
Total Reserves	2,464	223,959



DOWNING COLLEGE | CAMBRIDGE | CB2 1DQ

DESIGN Nicholas Hawksworth 01223 693 082

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for the financial year ending 30 June 2022

DOWNING COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE



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DOWNING COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE CB2 1DQ

Patron: HRH The Duchess of Kent, GCVO

Visitor: The Crown

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Master: Mr Alan Peter Bookbinder BA (Oxon) MA (Harvard) MA

The Fellows of the College (in order of Election) as of 1 October 2022

Graham John Virgo MA BCL (Oxon) KC (Hon), Fellow in Law, Professor of English Private Law (1989)
David John Wales MA PhD ScD FRS FRSC, Fellow in Chemistry, Professor of Chemical Physics (1989)
Christopher Allim Haniff MA PhD, *Fellows' Steward*, Fellow in Physics, Professor of Physics (1993)
Nicholas Coleman BSc MB ChB (Bristol) PhD FRCPath FMed Sci, Verjee Fellow in Medicine, Professor of Molecular Pathology (1994)
Adam Noel Ledgeway BA (Salford) MA (Manchester) PhD (Manchester) FBA, Fellow in Italian, Professor of Italian and Romance Linguistics (1996)
Ian Richard James MA MA (Warwick) PhD (Warwick), Fellow in Modern and Medieval Languages, Professor of Modern French Literature and Thought (1996)
Zoe Helen Barber MA PhD, *Vice Master*, Fellow in Materials Science and Metallurgy, Professor of Materials Science (2000)
Sophia Demoulini BA (Wooster) MSc (Minnesota) PhD (Minnesota), Fellow in Pure Mathematics, College Associate Professor (2000)
Ian Gareth Roberts BA (Wales, Bangor) MA (Salford) PhD (Southern California) LittD FBA, Fellow in Linguistics, Professor of Linguistics (2000)
Michael Trevor Bravo BEng (Carleton) MPhil PhD, Brammer Fellow in Geography, University Associate Professor at the Scott Polar Research Institute (2001)
David Robert Pratt MA PhD FRHistS, *Fellow Archivist, Keeper of Art and Artefacts*, Fellow in History, College Teaching Officer (2001)
Liping Xu, BSc (Beijing) PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Engineering, University Lecturer in Turbomachinery (2004)
Guy Barnett Williams MA PhD, *Senior Tutor, Safeguarding Officer*, Darley Fellow in Clinical Neurosciences, University Professor of Imaging Science, Assistant Director of Information Processing at the Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (2004)
Natalia Mora-Sitja BSc (Barcelona) MA (Barcelona) MSc (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), *Tutor*, Fellow in History, University Associate Professor in Economic History (2005)
William O'Neill BSc (Essex) MSc (Essex) PhD (Imperial), *Tutor*, Stephen Peel Fellow in Engineering, Professor of Laser Engineering (2006)
Amy Louise Milton MA PhD, Ferreras Willetts Fellow in Neuroscience, *Praelector*, University Associate Professor in Experimental Psychology (2007)
Brigitte Steger MA MPhil (Vienna) PhD (Vienna), Fellow in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University Associate Professor in Modern Japanese Studies (2007)
Jie Li BS (Wuhan) MS (Paris) PhD (Paris), Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Fluid Dynamics (2009)
Keith James Eyeons MA MA (Nottingham) PhD, *Chaplain, Secretary to the Governing Body*, Fellow in Theology (2010)
Robert Keith Harle MA PhD, *Dean*, Fellow in Computer Science, University Professor in Computer Science (2010)
Timothy James Burton MA MB BChir PhD FRCP, *Tutor*, Oon Fellow in Clinical Medicine, Clinical Lecturer in Translational Medicine & Therapeutics (2010)

Marta Morgado Correia BA (Lisbon) PhD, *Graduate Tutor, Internal Auditor*, Fellow in Biological Sciences, Senior Investigator Scientist at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (2010)

Kamran Yunus BSc (Bath) MA PhD (Bath), *Admissions Tutor, Tutor*, Fellow in Chemical Engineering, Associate Teaching Professor (2012)

Sarah Lilian Kennedy BA (Melbourne) LLB (Melbourne) PhD, *Fellow Development Ambassador, Senior Treasurer of the Downing Dramatic Society*, RJ Owens Fellow in English (2013)

Monica Moreno Figueroa BA (UIA Leon) MA (London) PhD (London) MA, Fellow in Social Sciences, University Associate Professor in Sociology (2014)

Brendan Plant BEc (Sydney) LLB (Sydney) MSc (LSE) PhD, Hopkins Parry Fellow in Law, College Associate Professor (2014)

Ewan James Jones BA MPhil PhD, *Graduate Tutor, Fellow Librarian*, Fellow in English, University Associate Professor in Nineteenth-Century Literature (2015)

Michael Crisp MEng PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Photonics and RF Systems (2017)

Nicholas Rawlinson BSc (Monash) PhD (Monash) MA, Fellow in Earth Sciences, BP Foundation McKenzie Professor of Earth Sciences (2017)

Zoe Kourtzi BSc (Crete) MA (Rutgers) PhD (Rutgers) MA, Angharad Dodds John Fellow in Cognitive Neuroscience, Professor of Experimental Psychology (2017)

Joanne Claire Finnie Jones MA (Aberdeen), *Development Director* (2018)

Frisbee Candida Cheyenne Sheffield BA (Bristol) MPhil DPhil (Oxon), Octavius Augustus Glasier Collins Fellow in Classics, University Associate Professor in Classics (2019)

Joseph Webster MA (Edinburgh) MSc (Edinburgh) PhD (Edinburgh), Fellow in Anthropology (2019)

Gavin John Flynn MA (Oxon) MBA (INSEAD) MSc (LSE), *Senior Treasurer to the Boat Club, Senior Bursar* (2020).

Michael Ashby BA MA MPhil PhD, *Senior Treasurer of the Amalgamation Club, Silver Auditor, Internal Auditor*, Williams Downing Fellow in Economics, College Associate Professor (2020)

Neda Farahi BSc (Edinburgh) PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Natural Sciences and Medical and Veterinary Sciences (2020)

William Day BA (Durham) MA BCL (Oxon), Fellow in Law (2020)

Lucy Winifred Whelan BA MSt (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), Graham Robertson Research Fellow in History of Art (2020)

Richard Justin Davies MA MB MChir LRCP (London) FRCS, Fellow in Clinical Medicine (2020)

Charlotte Christiane Hammer BA (Bonn) MA (Durham) MPh (Manchester) MSc (Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Robert Koch-Institut) PhD, Everitt Butterfield Fellow in Emerging Infectious Diseases (2021)

Nathan Rhys James MDc PhD, *Graduate Tutor*, Mays Wild Research Fellow in Biological Sciences (2021)

Alec Philip Christie BSc (St Andrews) PhD, Henslow Research Fellow in Zoology (2021)

John William Morgan BA MSci MA PhD, *Tutor, Praelector*, Fellow in Chemistry, College Associate Professor (2021)

Robert Todd Beardwell BSc (Sheffield), *Junior Bursar* (2022)

Francesco Muschitiello BSc (Venice) MSc (Perugia) PhD (Stockholm), Arnell Fellow in Climate Repair, Fellow in Geography (2022)

Helen Scott BA (Cape Town), LLB (Cape Town), BCL (Oxon), MPhil (Oxon), DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Law, Regius Professor of Civil Law at Cambridge (2022)

Maria Vera-Morales BEng (Carlos III de Madrid), VK Diploma (Von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics), PhD, Fellow in Engineering, CDT Senior Fellow in Future Propulsion and Power (2022)

Dmitrij Szamozvancev BA, MEng, Fellow in Computer Science and Technology, College Associate Professor (2022)

Daniel Arnold Jolowicz BA (Oxon), MSt (Oxon), DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Classics, College Associate Professor (2022)

Bonnie Claire Lander Johnson BA (Sydney), MA (Melbourne), DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in English (2022)

Retirements and Resignations 1 July 2021–30 September 2022

John Stuart Richer MA PhD, *Tutor, Internal Auditor*, Fellow in Physics, Professor of Physics (2013–2022). *Retired 30 September 2022*

Paul Derek Barker BSc (Imperial College London) MA DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Chemistry, University Senior Lecturer in Chemistry (2004–2022). *Resigned 30 September 2022*

Alison Deirdre Jane Scadden MSc (Otago) PhD, Fellow in Biochemistry (2020–22). *Resigned 30 September 2022*

Bjoern Neumann BSc (Würzburg) PhD (Würzburg), Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellow in Biomedicine (2020–2022). *Resigned 30 April 2022*

OTHER FELLOWS

The Honorary Fellows

Giles Skey Brindley MA (London) MD FRS
Sir Francis Graham Smith MA PhD FRS
Dame Janet Abbott Baker CH DBE
Sir Trevor Robert Nunn BA CBE
Godfrey Michael Bradman FCA
Martin John Kemp MA FBA
Richard John Bowring MA PhD LittD
David Stanley Ingram BSc MA PhD ScD OBE VMH FRSE
Sir Quentin Saxby Blake MA CBE FCSD FRSL RDI FRA
The Rt Hon Lord Collins of Mapesbury LLB FBA
Sir David Anthony King ScD HonFREng FRS
The Rt Rev'd Nicholas Thomas Wright MA DPhil DD
Sir John Pendry MA PhD FInstP FRS
Sir William Brian Vickers PhD DLitt FBA
Aitzaz Ahsan MA Barrister at Law
Professor John Lawrence Cardy MA PhD FRS
Howard Eric Jacobson MA
The Rt Hon Sir Kim Martin Jordan Lewison MA
Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach BA MPhil GBE KCB
ADC DL
The Rt Hon Lord Lloyd-Jones MA LLB
The Rt Hon Sir Richard George Bramwell McCombe MA
Professor Barry John Everitt BSc (Hull) MA PhD
(Birmingham) ScD DSc FRS FMedSci
Martin Baker MA FRCO
Stephen Chambers MA RA
Caroline Elizabeth Wilson MA MA (Bruxelles) CMG
Professor Geoffrey Grimmett MA (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon)
DSc (Oxon) ScD FRS
Sir Keith Ajegbo BA MA OBE
Martin Maiden MA MPhil PhD FBA
Ritchie Neil Ninian Robertson MA DPhil FBA
Victoria Susan Brignell MA
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Colin Birss BA KC
Farmida Bi MA CBE
Richard Snowden BA LLM

The Emeritus Fellows

Alfred Thomas Grove MA
Ian Bonar Topping MA
Robert John Richards MA PhD
Charles Harpum MA LLB LLD
Martin Joshua Mays MA PhD
Philip Huson Rubery MA PhD ScD
Margery Ann Barrand BSc (London) PhD (London)
Richard Michael Smith BA (London) MA (Oxon)
PhD FBA
Stafford Withington BEng (Bradford) PhD (Manchester)
Peter James Duffett-Smith MA PhD
Peter David Evans MA PhD ScD
Paul Frederick Linden BSc (Adelaide) MSc (Flinders)
PhD FRS
Richard Keith Taplin BSc (LSE) MA MBE
John Stuart Landreth McCombie MA MA (McMaster)
PhD
Trevor William Robbins CBE MA PhD FRS
Kenneth McNamara BSc (Aberdeen) PhD
David John Feldman MA DCL (Oxon) PhD FBA FRSA
Trevor William Clyne MA PhD FREng
Paul Christopher Millett MA PhD, *MCR Liaison Fellow*
William Mark Adams MA MSc (London) PhD
Catherine Lynette Phillips BA (Queen's) MA (Toronto)
PhD
Susan Elizabeth Lintott MA PhD (Kent),
Director of the Heong Gallery
John Stuart Richer MA PhD

Foundation Fellows

Humphrey William Battcock MA MBA
(London Business School)
Tadayoshi Tazaki MA
Alwyn Wai-Yin Heong MA BA BM (Oxon) BCh (Oxon)
MBA (Chicago)
Kim Silverman MA PhD
Jonathan Howard MA
Julie Lambert BSc (Southampton) PG Dip (London)

The Wilkins Fellows

Richard Alexander Frischmann MA
Christian Flemming Heilmann MA
The Lord Verjee MA CBE
Richard Anthony Williams MA
Christopher John Bartram MA FRICS
Maria Ferreras Willetts MA (Oxon)
Robert John MA DLitt (Swansea)
Louise Arnell BA MA (Open) MA (Sussex)
Robert Markwick MA MBA (Manchester)
James Simon Edward Arnell MA
Stephen Mark Peel MA MAS (Yale)
Christopher Harborne MA MEng MBA
Gifford Combs AB (Harvard) MPhil

The Fellows Commoner

David Chambers BA (Oxon) MSc (LBS) MSc (LSE)
PhD (LSE)
Timothy Rawle MA
Gabrielle Bennett BA (Virginia) MA
Penny Furniss MA
Paul Jarvis MA

Morgan Fellows

Max Bryant BA MPhil PhD
Konogan Beaufay BA (Namur, Belgium)
MA (Free, Brussels) MA (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon)
Rebecca Gill BA (Reading) MPhil (Bristol)
PhD (Reading)

Bye-Fellows

Natalie Acton BA (Oxon)
MPA (Harvard Kennedy School, USA)
Stephen Bennett BEd
Richard Berengarten MA
Sabine Cadeau BA MA PhD
Matthew Carter BA MA MB BChir

Adrian Chung BSc (Warwick) MSc (UCL) MPhil
Andrew Cockburn MSci PhD
Jasmine Cooper MA MA (UCL) PhD
Andrej Corovic MA MB BChir MRCP
Elizabeth Deans BA (Maryland)
MA (New York School of Design) PhD (York)
Louisa Denby MA MMus
Assistant Director of Chapel Music
Eoin Devlin BA (Dublin) MLitt (Dublin) MPhil PhD
Alistair Dunham BA MPhil PhD
Buffy Eldridge-Thomas BA
Sebastian Gorgon BSc (UCL) MRes PhD
Paula Heister MA MSc DPhil
Vicky Jones MA MB BChir MRCS
Joshua Kaggie BSc MSc PhD
Patricia Laurenson PhD
Max Leventhal BA (Durham) MPhil PhD
Daniel Ng MA MPhil (Bath) MRes (Bath)
Yongcan Liu BA (Guangdong) MA (Guangdong)
MPhil PhD
David Lowe MA ARAM,
Director of College and Chapel Music
Rakoen Maertens BSc (Ghent) MSc (Ghent)
Deepti Marchment BA MA MChir
Arlie McCarthy MA (Tasmania) BSc (Melbourne)
Aram Mooradian AADIPL PGDIP ARCH ARB
Lisa Mullen PhD
Joanna Page MA
Mykhailo Pivnenko MSc (Ukraine) PhD (Ukraine)
Prerona Prasad BA MA MPhil DPhil
William Schafer PhD FMedSci FRS
Neal Spencer BA PhD
Victoria Stewart-Jolley LLB (Sussex) LLM (Edinburgh)
MSt PhD
Gareth Taylor BA MA PhD
Thomas Towers BA VetMB MSc (Liverpool)
Paola Velasco-Herrejon BA (ITESM, Guadalajara,
Mexico), MA (Family and Individual Development
Institute, Mexico), MA (Sussex), PhD
Mark Vivian MSci (Imperial) MB BS FRCA
Xin-She Yang MSc (USTC) DPhil (Oxon)

OFFICERS AND PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Master: Mr Alan Peter Bookbinder BA (Oxon) MA (Harvard) MA

Senior Tutor: Dr Guy Williams MA, PhD

Senior Bursar: Mr Gavin Flynn MA (Oxon) MBA (INSEAD) MSc (LSE)

Actuaries

Cartwright Consulting Ltd
Mill Pool House
Mill Lane
Godalming GU7 1EY

Architects

Caruso St John
1 Coate Street
London E2 9AG

Robert Lombardelli Partnership
St. Luke's House
5 Walsworth Road
Hitchin, Herts SG4 9SP

Auditors

PEM
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge CB1 2LA

Bankers

Barclays Bank
9–11 St Andrew's Street
Cambridge CB2 3AA

Property Managers

Carter Jonas LLP
6–8 Hills Road
Cambridge CB2 1NH

Property Valuers

Carter Jonas LLP
6–8 Hills Road
Cambridge CB2 1NH

Securities Managers

Partners Capital LLP
5 Young Street
London W8 5EH

Solicitors

HCR Hewitsons
50–60 Station Road
Cambridge CB1 2JH

Inland Revenue Charity No: X2938

Charity Registration No: 1137455



REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY



REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY

This Report provides the context within which to interpret the Accounts. The first section explains the College's charitable objective, its governance, its public benefit and the way it is funded. The second section reviews the specific activities and achievements of the year to 30 June 2022 and developments since the year end.

CHARITABLE OBJECTIVE

Downing is a self-governing, autonomous College within the University of Cambridge. Our charitable objective is to further the public good by promoting learning, study and teaching in a community of Fellows, students and staff. We believe in the transformative power of a world-class education. Downing is a place of welcome, of diversity and of inclusion.

Founded in 1800, the College takes its name from Sir George Downing, 3rd Baronet, who bequeathed his fortune to establish a new college in Cambridge. It is the 17th oldest of the University's 31 Colleges, the 'newest of the old and the oldest of the new'. Originally founded for the study of law, medicine, and moral and natural science, the College now accepts students in all subjects taught at the University.

Built in an elegant neo-classical style, Downing was the first College designed with an open campus layout, at that time a striking departure from the tradition of enclosed courtyards in the older Colleges. The spaciousness of the College encourages the open-mindedness necessary to prepare students to be good citizens; it also signals accessibility and a desire to reach out.

With over 200 years of history, set amidst 20 acres of magnificent grounds in the heart of the city, the College continues to be a community of committed scholars and students, current and future leaders in their fields.

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The College is a lay eleemosynary corporation established by Royal Charter. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 12 August 2010 (Registered Number: 1137455) following the removal of the exempt status of the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge on 1 June 2010. The arrangements for governance of the College are set out in the Statutes.

The trustees of the College are the Master and Fellows elected under Statute X who constitute the Governing Body. They are responsible for ensuring that the College meets its charitable objective to promote learning, study and teaching. Because the College is responsible for directing undergraduates' studies, arranging their supervisions and providing pastoral support for both undergraduates and postgraduates, the Governing Body focuses much of its attention on the students' academic experience and welfare, as well as overseeing the College's finances and premises. Through their membership of committees and their participation in Governing Body meetings, students are able to influence decision-making.

Members of the Governing Body are required to act with integrity, to act in the College's interests without regard to their own private interests and to manage the affairs of the College prudently, balancing long-term and short-term considerations. They are chosen, after interview, on the basis of excellence in their teaching and research, their



commitment to providing direction of studies and supervisions across the subjects offered by the University and their willingness to take a full part in the life of the College. Some Fellows take on additional roles as Tutors, advising students on pastoral matters. They serve until the earlier of retirement or the end of the academic year in which they reach 67 years of age. New Fellows are trained in the fulfilment of their duties.

The Master is Chairman of the Governing Body; the Senior Tutor has overall responsibility for the admission, education and welfare of students; the Senior Bursar has overall responsibility for the finances, the estate and the administration of the College. Both the Senior Tutor and the Senior Bursar are accountable to the Governing Body.

The Governing Body meets eight times per year and discharges its responsibilities through a network of standing committees dealing with Education, Finance, Buildings & Environment, Fellowships, Development, Investments, Information Management, HR and General Purposes. Representatives of the JCR and the MCR participate in these committees, with the exception of the Fellowships and HR Committees. Sub-committees deal with: Health & Safety, Diversity, the Heong Gallery, Student Facilities and Staff Consultation. A Remuneration Committee, consisting of five external members, decides on the remuneration of current and former members of the Governing Body. During periods of intense fundraising, a Campaign Board, including external members, acts as a steering group.

Although the College is a legally autonomous body, it operates within the federal structure of the University. Matters of common concern are discussed and acted on through a system of University-wide committees, such as the Colleges' Committee, of which all Heads of Houses are members, the Senior Tutors' Committee and the Bursars' Committee. These committees work through the building of consensus.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Governing Body has complied with its duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

In order to meet our charitable objective of furthering the public good by promoting learning, study, and teaching in a community of Fellows, students and staff, we seek to provide a world-class education to the students with the most potential in each subject, whatever their means, social background or nationality. We aim to attract the best applicants from the broadest range of schools and colleges, actively supporting the University's widening participation targets, as agreed with the Office for Students.

Downing students have access to several sources of financial support in case of hardship – to bursaries, including rent bursaries, as well as those for the purchase of books and equipment, attendance at conferences, travel and studentships. For students from low-income families, the Cambridge Bursary Scheme provides grants of up to £3,500 per year, tapering down to £100 for those with household incomes of £62,286. The College administers a scheme funded by the COSARAF Charitable Foundation to provide grants of up to £2,000 per year for Muslim students at Cambridge who are suffering financial hardship.

The College seeks to help meet the University's targets, agreed with the Office for Students as Cambridge's Access and Participation Plan, of admitting students from disadvantaged backgrounds and areas of low academic attainment. As part of the University's Area Links Scheme, Downing works with state secondary schools, Further Education Colleges and Sixth Form Colleges in Cornwall and Devon. The programme includes visits to schools, residential courses in Cambridge, Open Days, Admissions Fairs and webinars. It encourages students who may not otherwise consider higher

education to look at the university options available to them.

Increasingly, the College's outreach activities have focused on raising the aspirations of younger students. We recognise the importance of encouraging them to be enthusiastic about learning from an early age, helping to raise their aspirations and supporting them to apply to highly rated institutions with the confidence that they are capable of achieving the required grades.

COLLEGE FUNDING

The College funds its activities from academic fees, charges for student residences and catering, income from its conference and functions business, its investments and donations and bequests.

Since 2012–13, the undergraduate tuition fee has been paid either by the students themselves or through the Student Loan Company. The College collects these fees and passes half of their value to the University. The College admits, matriculates and accommodates undergraduates, provides supervisions for them, takes responsibility for their pastoral care and presents them for degrees. The University provides lectures and laboratories and examines and classifies students. The portion of the tuition fee that goes to the College only partly covers the real costs of offering the distinctive small-group teaching that Cambridge provides. The shortfall must be made up by other sources of income.

Since 2014–15, the fee due from postgraduates is a proportion of a single fee charged by the University. The fee is calculated according to a complex formula that assigns weightings to different categories of postgraduate student.

Students living in College accommodation pay rent and, if they wish, buy food and drink from College outlets. This stream of income typically amounts to just under 30% of the total.

Through its subsidiary, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited, the College has built a substantial commercial business, which consists of conferences, corporate functions and international summer schools. In a normal year, profits from this business amount to around 19% of the College's total income.

Donations and legacies from alumni and friends of the College typically amount to around 20% of our total income. Investment income from our relatively modest endowment normally contributes a further 7–8%.







THE YEAR IN REVIEW



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2021-22 academic year was marked by a rapid recovery from the disruption caused by Covid-19. The College community sprang back into life with impressive enthusiasm. Supervisions and exams largely took place in person. Matriculation and graduation events were restored to normal. The social life of the College, full Halls for dinners, music recitals, sports events, theatrical performances, chapel services – all the things that make for a vibrant, dynamic community – returned. After a gap of three years, we welcomed over 2,500 guests to a thrilling May Ball.

Our series of major lectures returned too – Professors John Walker and Patrick Chinnery delivered the Oon Lecture on mitochondria, alumnus Professor Ravi Gupta gave the Richmond Lecture on his work on Covid and HIV, and two of our Fellows, Professor Zoe Kourtzi and Professor Guy Williams, opened our new fund-raising campaign with a lecture about their pioneering work on the early diagnosis of Alzheimer's.

Financial recovery from Covid is a longer process. The income on which we depend from conferences, corporate functions and summer schools is gradually recovering, and we now have a thriving bed and breakfast business in the vacations. However, we face headwinds from the long, government-imposed freeze on tuition fees and from the enormous hike in energy prices and food costs. We are entering our fourth year of a deficit budget and, consequently, have had heavily to reduce our capital expenditure.

This is why Downing 360, our new fundraising campaign, is so vital. It is the fruit of the Fellows' strategic review of the College's priorities. We aim to raise £40 million over the next five years, with a particular focus on expanding our teaching capacity, enhancing the student experience through bursaries, providing new resources for wellbeing and mental health and improving study space and student accommodation. It is hoped that many alumni will support these initiatives, as we pivot away from the physical capital of bricks and mortar to the human capital of teaching and learning.

The national labour shortage in the wake of Brexit and Covid has proved difficult to manage. Catering and housekeeping have been particularly hard hit. Recruitment campaigns and retention bonuses have helped to address staff shortages, and existing staff have been heroic in covering gaps and Covid-related absences, but filling staff vacancies remains a challenge.

FELLOWS

In the course of the year, five new Fellows were admitted:

- Dr Charlotte Hammer, Everitt-Butterfield Research Fellow, works on understanding the origins of epidemics by identifying drivers of the initial stages of infectious diseases
- Dr Nathan James, Mays Wild Research Fellow, investigates the circadian control of gene expression and protein homeostasis in mammalian cells
- Dr Alec Christie, Henslow Research Fellow, seeks to understand how we can rigorously synthesise evidence that varies in its reliability and relevance, to better inform conservation policy and practice
- Dr John Morgan, College Teaching Officer in Chemistry, will focus largely on teaching, while continuing his research into machine learning
- Mr Rob Beardwell is the College's Junior Bursar.



The Governing Body admitted three alumni as Honorary Fellows: Richard Snowden and Colin Birss, both recently appointed to the Court of Appeal, and Farmida Bi, the first woman to chair a major law firm. We were delighted to welcome Jon Howard and his sister Julie Lambert as Foundation Fellows, in recognition of the Howard Foundation's transformational support for the College. Sadly, two Honorary Fellows passed away this year: Sir Colin Blakemore and Sir Arnold Burgen.

The achievements of members of the Fellowship were recognised within the University, their professional societies and beyond.

UNDERGRADUATES

At the beginning of the 2021-22 academic year, there were 439 undergraduates across all years at Downing; 50% were men and 49% were women (1% were 'other'); 80% were from the UK, 4% were from the EU and 15% from the rest of the world; of those schooled in the UK, 60.5% were from state schools and 39.5% from the independent sector.

Downing's popularity with applicants has continued to grow: 1,058 candidates applied for entry in 2022. In Law, 16% of all candidates applying to Cambridge put Downing as their first choice. Across most subjects, competition for our 128 undergraduate places grows ever more intense.

In considering whether to make an offer to applicants, the College notes contextual data ('flags'), such as demographic data, including Output Area Classification (OAC) and Participation of Local Areas (POLAR) (the record on progression to higher education); data on the school's performance at GCSE and previous success in sending students to Cambridge or Oxford; and individual circumstances. All candidates must meet the terms of the standard offer or equivalent. The number of students admitted to Downing with 'flags' continues steadily to grow.

Downing is one of 11 Cambridge colleges taking part in the new Foundation Year pilot, a scheme for students of high academic potential whose education has been disrupted by illness, social disadvantage or difficult family circumstances. Five of the first-ever group of 48 Foundation Year students will spend a preparatory year at Downing, learning the academic skills needed to compete for a full undergraduate place at Cambridge.

In Easter Term 2022, exams largely returned to normal after two years of virtual assessments. More than one-quarter of all results were First Class degrees. Three students graduated at the top of their Triposes: Samuel Ginns (Classics), Ragavi Vijayakumar (Pathology) and Michael Wong (Chemical Engineering). Sam and Ragavi were jointly awarded the Association Prize, and Michael received the Salters Graduate Award.

POSTGRADUATES

At the beginning of the 2021-22 academic year, Downing had a total of 530 postgraduate students. Of these, 54% were men and 46% were women; 44% were from the UK, 9% from the EU and 47% from the rest of the world; 167 were studying for a PhD and 106 following one-year courses (comprising 73 MPhils, 22 full-time MBAs, 9 PGCEs and 2 LLMs), while 55 were clinical medics and vets. In 2021-22, 31 students were awarded PhDs.



STRATEGIC REVIEW

Under the guidance of the Senior Bursar, the Fellowship undertook a thorough strategic review of the College's priorities, identifying gaps that needed filling in our teaching provision. As a result, the size of the Fellowship will be increased substantially over a number of years through the appointment of University Teaching Officers, College Associate Professors and Research Fellows. Greater emphasis will be put on enhancing the student experience, including wellbeing, equality and a wide-ranging experience beyond the core subject-matter. The College will look to optimise and decarbonise our physical spaces in search of more communal study space and more student accommodation on or near the Domus.

The Fellowship identified the core values of the College to be academic excellence, intellectual curiosity, community, integrity and kindness.

STUDENT WELLBEING

The mental health of our students continues to be a significant concern. Among the factors that continue to distress some students are the intensity of the eight-week terms, the very high standards that they set themselves, the stresses of living away from home, pre-existing mental health conditions, relationship difficulties, struggles with deadlines, loneliness, feelings of missing out or falling short and imposter syndrome. The traditional tutorial system that provides pastoral care has once again been under strain, and specialist counselling, though enormously helpful, is heavily oversubscribed.

Downing was the first College to recruit its own Head of Student Wellbeing, a qualified psychotherapist who can ensure that all cases are referred for the right treatment and offer professional back-up for the College tutors, who are often the first people to whom students turn in distress. The Head of Wellbeing also runs sessions to help students to build their resilience and to find coping strategies that work for them. A purpose-built wellbeing centre has been created on the ground floor of the Howard Lodge, providing a dedicated space for students in need of help. Downing's beautiful grounds continue to be a source of solace and relaxation.

EQUALITY

The College is committed to outlawing discrimination of all kinds, as shown in our policy published on the Downing College website: 'The Fellows, staff and students of Downing College believe that all forms of discrimination and racism are unacceptable. Not only do they divide communities and undermine social cohesion, but they also prevent individuals from achieving their full potential, to all of our detriments. We acknowledge that the responsibility lies with each of us robustly to challenge discrimination and to assert the positive value of diversity. We stand together with any of our Fellows, staff and students who are adversely affected by discrimination.'

All 18 Masters since the College was founded in 1800 have been white men. However, we have our first female Vice Master, Professor Zoe Barber, and many other positions of responsibility are currently held by women: Academic Registrar, Accommodation Officer, College Archivist, College Librarian, College Secretary, Communications Officer, Development Director, Director of Engagement and Development Operations, Domus Manager, Head Porter, Heong Gallery Director and Curator and HR Manager.



Our Racial Equality Action Plan covers racial awareness training for students and staff, clear procedures for reporting incidents and taking disciplinary action, where appropriate, and positive actions to support the ethnic minority community. The Racial Justice Forum, chaired by an external facilitator, continues to provide an opportunity for ethnic minority students to raise concerns about their experience in College and to put forward ideas that allow Downing to realise its aspiration to be a truly anti-racist place to live and study.

In May 2022, we published our research into the Downing family's Links to Enslavement. This found no evidence that any of the family owned or traded slaves or profited directly from slave plantations. It did unearth two letters written in the 1640s – one by the first George Downing and one by his father, Emmanuel – advocating the use of using slaves and indentured workers in the Caribbean and New England. Through modern eyes, these letters sit uncomfortably, and we can regret they were written, although, sadly, the sentiments they expressed were not unusual at the time.

Downing also held its first-ever rainbow formal hall to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community.

DRAMA

The Downing Dramatic Society emerged from lockdown with a joyful celebration in the form of a freshers' production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which had been postponed from the previous term. Michaelmas also saw a short play based on Charles Schulz's *Peanuts* cartoon strip, to coincide with the Heong Gallery's exhibition on the same theme. In Lent, the regular freshers' play was Sheridan's *A Trip to Scarborough* and the *Festival of New Writing*, showcasing short student-written plays, took place for the ninth year. An innovation this year was the *Downing Shorts* festival of student-produced films.

MUSIC

The annual freshers' recital featured a range of impressive music, from classical to pop to original compositions. Singer-songwriters also performed in the Master's Lodge, and organ scholar Dominic Remedios gave a recital in the Chapel. The world-renowned cellist Robert Cohen gave a special concert and conducted some fascinating masterclasses for Cambridge cellists. The Chapel Choir was back in full voice, with Sunday evensongs happening in person. The Choir sang at the memorial service for our greatest recent benefactor, Alan Howard; at the two highly popular Advent Carol services, in College and in London; and at the annual Commemoration service in May. They also teamed up with instrumental players in College to perform Mozart's *Spatzenmesse* in the Chapel. Throughout the year, the College jazz band was in fine form in the bar.

STUDENT SOCIETIES

Talks, dinners, quizzes and other social events were restored by the many student societies. Highlights included the Cranworth Law Society's centenary, marked by a panel event called *Downing Women in the Law* and a dinner with speeches marking the impact of the Cranworth over its first hundred years. The Brammer Geographical Society was addressed by Downing alumnus Nigel Clifford, President of the Royal Geographical Society. Another Downing alumnus, Professor Sir John Pendry, a Royal Medal recipient, spoke to the Danby Society. Professor Helen McCarthy presented on her book *Writing the History of Women* to the Maitland Society and our own Fellow in Economics, Dr

Michael Ashby, talked on his research *Time Series Models for Epidemics* to the Mathias Society. Two new societies were formed: the Education Society, with the aims of bringing together students at all levels who are studying education and marking Downing as a hub for PGCE students, and the Board Games Society, intending to revive skills that pre-date the smartphone era. In a similar vein, the Blake Society's weekly crafting evenings proved an unexpectedly popular hit.

SPORT

The College teams had a mixed record, with excellent performances from Tennis, with Downing 1s topping division 1, and Badminton, with the Mixed 1st Team defending their title as league champions. However, it was a turbulent year on and off the river for the Boat Club, and we failed to reach the heights of recent years in Rugby. Despite the setback of league relegation, the Men's Football Team had the compensation of winning the Plate. Our Ultimate Frisbee Team placed second in the British Universities & Colleges Sport League.

At University level, Blues were awarded to Jamie Benson and Luke Parry (Rugby Union), Charlotte Dawson and Madoka Hazemi (Basketball), Beatrice Fishwick (Powerlifting), Emily Mann and Will Silver (Hockey), Georgia Weeks (Lacrosse) and Jonty Win (Taekwondo).

THE HEONG GALLERY

The highlight of the year was a spectacular David Hockney exhibition, in conjunction with a larger show at the Fitzwilliam Museum. Both exhibitions drew large crowds and won great critical acclaim. Hockney himself visited the College in June for a small dinner in the Master's Lodge and said how pleased he was with the exhibition and its impact.

In front of the Gallery now sits a new, Ai Weiwei-designed tree made from timber of the lovely old Blue Atlas cedar that stood in the East Lodge garden until disease forced us to chop it down, sadly. It lives on in Ai Weiwei's wonderful creation.

It is a mark of the Gallery's success that it continues to attract big-name artists and to punch above its weight in Cambridge's cultural scene. The added value to our students of living with exhibitions by acclaimed artists has become clear, giving them the opportunity to see, reflect, enjoy and discover. For students, the Gallery is also a venue for talks, symposia, film screenings, book launches and music recitals. Newly under the aegis of the Gallery, the Twining Egginton Art Prize attracted a record 15 entries and five students shared the prize.

THE ESTATE

The College has completed the purchase of the premises at 19-31 Regent Street (formerly Pizza Hut) and is currently acquiring the adjoining properties, known as 33-35 Regent Street. This will extend its ownership of property from the corner opposite The University Arms as far as The Regent Hotel; a planning process is ongoing for a commercial outlet on the ground floor and student accommodation on the upper floors. A planning application has been submitted on 45 Bene't Place, a large building on the corner of Lensfield Road and Tennis Court Road, to convert it into teaching and study spaces and Fellows' accommodation.



THE ENVIRONMENT

Downing was the first College to sign the Cambridge Climate Change Charter in 2008 and has remained at the forefront of environmental initiatives. We host the Cambridge Climate Repair Centre, which researches initiatives to hold back the ravages of climate change. Thanks to the generosity of our alumnus Jamie Arnell, the College has recruited a Fellow in Geography, who is affiliated to the Centre. The Centre employs Downing students as summer interns.

In 2018, the College committed to divest itself of direct holdings in carbon, and offsets its indirect holdings with investments in sustainable energy. In 2019–20, we developed an environmental strategy that committed Downing to:

- Minimising the consumption of carbon-rich energy and water;
- Operating effective waste-management and recycling procedures;
- Encouraging modes of transport that minimise adverse environmental impact;
- Applying environmentally sustainable purchasing policies;
- And participating in energy-conservation programmes, such as Green Impact, and Student Switch-Off.

This strategy includes the following initiatives:

- Introducing quarterly ‘green metric’ reports;
- Replacing diesel- and petrol-driven machines with battery equivalents;
- Reducing the use of chemicals and using only organic fertiliser;
- Planting more hedges, pollen-and nectar-rich plants and meadows to encourage wild life;
- Increasing the use of double-glazed and draught-proofed windows;
- Continuing the roll-out of LED lighting;
- Increasing the choice of plant-based options on College menus;
- Identifying suitable sites in College for additional roof-top photo-voltaic arrays;
- And improving the thermal performance of our refurbished buildings.

The Senior Bursar and Estates Director are working on a detailed sustainability initiative that establishes a roadmap for the College to ‘net zero’, together with an associated funding plan, to be introduced during 2022–23. This will represent a significant future cost, albeit spread over many years.

DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

Donations to the College recorded in the accounts totalled £3.29 million this financial year, while £4.16 million cash was received due to legacies notified to the College last year. Regular gifts from Downing alumni make a vital contribution to the life of the College.

In June 2022, we launched the Downing 360 Campaign, which aims to raise £40 million over five years in support of three key areas: extending the Fellowship to fill important gaps in our teaching provision; expanding our student bursaries and wellbeing programmes; and creating new teaching, study and accommodation spaces.



The College is grateful to members of the 1749 Society for each committing a legacy to Downing; to the Alumni Association Committee and members for their work on its behalf; to the members of the 1717 Society, who support the Heong Gallery's exhibitions; and to those who support music, drama and sport, all of which make a huge contribution to student life at Downing.

Members of the Downing Enterprise Board make it possible for the College to host its very own 'Dragons' Den' business competition by giving their time and support to the prizes. If suitably inspired, board members may choose to invest further in student-led start-ups.

Downing is grateful to all alumni who contribute to the College by giving their time, advice and support to its activities, helping it to continue to nurture, challenge and inspire.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

In the coming year the Governing Body will focus on implementing the results of the Fellows' strategic review: further expanding the Fellowship, through a combination of new University-employed Fellows, new College Associate Professors and new Research Fellows; enhancing students' study skills; reviewing Fellows' duties and benefits; taking forward the Downing 360 fundraising campaign; making a success of the Foundation Year; addressing the low admissions rate for state-educated candidates; making further progress with the Racial Justice Forum, and widening our Diversity work to include Disability and LGBTQ+ issues; considering a revised space plan to prioritise student and Fellows' accommodation and communal study spaces; tackling the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, particularly on lower-paid staff; and electing a new Master to take office on 1 October 2023.



THE FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts that follow consolidate those of the College and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited. Also included is a linked charity that is invested as part of the College's endowment, The John Miller Scholarships, the fund value of which is disclosed in note 26 of the accounts.

SIGNIFICANT POLICIES

Reserves

1. Total Net Assets stood at £226.5 million at 30 June 2022. Of this amount, £177.0 million represents the net book value of the buildings, including the Revaluation Reserve of £47.8 million. As functional fixed assets, they cannot be spent as income. Continuing investment by the College in its buildings, in excess of depreciation, has caused this figure to increase and correspondingly reduce free reserves. However, opportunities, such as the acquisition of property on the College borders, do not always arise when they are affordable, but are nevertheless strategically necessary. Of the remaining £49.5 million, £49.4 million consists of Permanent Restricted Endowment, and £5.3 million is attributable to the revaluation of works of art. At 30 June 2022, therefore, free reserves (General Reserve less pension liability of £1.9 million) stood at negative £5.2 million (2021: positive £0.5 million).
2. In formulating the reserves policy, the Governing Body has taken into account the guidance offered by the Charity Commission in its publication Charity reserves: building resilience (CC19) and has carefully considered the factors that cause variations in income and sudden calls on cash. These are: student numbers; changes in the funding of higher education and the apportionment of tuition fees; the susceptibility of the conference business to corporate cutbacks and geopolitical events; the volatility of the investment portfolio caused by movements in world markets and unanticipated rental voids; and the variability of donations and benefactions. The Governing Body has also considered examples of historical unanticipated expenditure, in particular those that have arisen from problems in the fabric of the buildings, e.g. drainage, dry rot, and responses to changes in the law. The Reserves also support any liability arising under FRS 102, Section 28 from the USS and CCFPS final salary pension scheme for staff (2022: £1,940,752; 2021: £1,812,954).
3. The Governing Body therefore considers that the assessment of whether the College has sufficient reserves should take into account a range of factors: annual operating expenditure met from unrestricted funds, capital expenditure, working capital needs, unanticipated expenditure on repairs, known cash needs (e.g. refurbishment projects), the level of essential expenditure that can be supported by returns from restricted funds, the level of unapplied total return, liquidity within the investment portfolio, the cash flow effect of the pension liability, and the likelihood of increased employer pension contributions.
4. Recommendations to the Governing Body for the adoption of the annual budget, the five-year plan, or major incremental expenditure take into account these factors. The current level of free reserves at negative £5.2 million is due to the completion of the conversion of 90–92 Regent Street and the purchase of 4-5 Bene't Place; however, the Governing Body does not consider this currently to be a problem, as the College has access to various sources



of liquidity, including raising loan finance, raising funds in fundraising campaigns and realising unrestricted investment assets. Furthermore, the reserves that represent the net book value of the buildings are designated by the College as such; however, *in extremis*, apart from the inalienable listed buildings on the Domus, the remainder of these reserves could be realisable. The free reserves policy is currently under review.

Investment Principles

1. The College may invest in securities and in real or personal property. (See Statute XLVII, approved by Her Majesty in Council on 19 July 2005, and superseded by the full set of statutes approved on 9 May 2006 and updated subsequently). Since 1 August 1957, the College has operated an Amalgamated Fund made under the Universities and Colleges (Trusts) Act 1943, in which permanent capital, expendable capital, restricted funds (including trusts), and unrestricted funds hold units. Since 1 July 2010, the units of the Amalgamated Fund have also been invested in the College's commercial property portfolio.
2. The College manages its investments in securities and property to produce the highest return consistent with the preservation of capital value in real terms for the long term, net of costs and withdrawals to support its operating needs. A subsidiary aim is to enhance the value of the capital for future beneficiaries.
3. The Investment Committee sets the overall asset allocation and appoints advisors and managers. On 1 August 2009, the College appointed Partners Capital to advise on and manage the securities portfolio. Such appointments are reviewed at five-yearly intervals or in response to specific problems or opportunities. The review considers the risk/return parameters that have been given to the managers, whether these parameters still accord with the College's investment objectives, the performance benchmark resulting from these parameters, and the long-term investment objective. Following a review in 2014, the College decided to retain Partners Capital, but adjust the risk levels within the portfolio. The five-yearly review which should have occurred in 2019 to renew Partners Capital's appointment was deferred until late 2022. A process to evaluate Partners Capital, overseen by the Investment Committee, is now underway.
4. For the securities portfolio, the goal implies a time-weighted net return target, comprising inflation, plus a spending rate of c. 4%, measured on a five-year trailing basis. The Investment Committee has set an additional goal of outperforming, net of all investment expenses, a composite benchmark, which comprises the sum product of the Strategic Asset Allocation and performance of each constituent asset class benchmark.
5. Risk in the securities portfolio is measured by a) Equity-Like Risk and b) the volatility of returns. Both of these metrics are assessed against the composite Strategic Asset Return benchmark. That benchmark currently reflects an expected return of 7.8% with a standard deviation of 12.1% and an Equity-Like Risk of 75%.
6. The current strategic asset allocation and benchmarks by which performance is judged consists of: Equities: 32%, MSCI ACWI NR with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to GBP Index; Fixed Income: 11%, FTSE A British Government All Stocks; Hedged Funds: 17%, HFRI Fund of Funds Composite; Cash: 1%, UK three-month Gilts; Inflation Linked Bonds: 3%, FTSE A (Index Linked) British Government All Stocks; Commodities: 3%, S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Index; and Private Equity: 33%, State Street All PE Index (lagged 3 months).
7. Tactical Allocation ranges were Cash: 0–5%; Fixed Income: 0–18%; Hedge Funds: 5–33%; Equities: 20–65%; Private Equity: 10–40%; Commodities: 0–6%; and Inflation Linked Bonds: 0–10%. Portfolio rebalancing is normally undertaken on a quarterly basis to re-align asset allocations to targets.



8. The Investment Committee monitors the liquidity in the securities portfolio and has set a limit on illiquid financial assets. New agreements to purchase such assets will not be executed if the aggregate market value of all such illiquid assets exceeds 53% of the aggregate market value of the value of the securities portfolio.
9. The currency hedging policy is managed through foreign currency forward contracts to target 60% Sterling exposure, which has no currency risk to the College, with 40% remaining unhedged foreign currency exposure in a combination of US dollars, Euro, Yen and Emerging Market Currencies. It is applied across all investment assets, both liquid and illiquid.
10. The custodian for the majority of the securities is Union Bancaire Privee (London) S.A.
11. The College's property portfolio is managed by Carter Jonas LLP. Routine decisions are taken by the Senior Bursar, acting on advice from Carter Jonas and the law firm Hewitsons. In the case of commercial property, the investment analysis must demonstrate an acceptable commercial yield. For any investment in external residential property for use by the College's students, the net yield must be positive, with the prospect of an appropriate capital gain. For investment in operational property without any material income generation, the related cost must be approved by the Governing Body as being a component of the College overall strategy. Such purchases must also take account of the College's overall liquidity and income requirements.
12. The College's spending rule is designed to smooth spending and reduce the effect on income of fluctuations in market performance. The amount of return recognised in the *Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure* is equal to the weighted average of the prior year's spending adjusted for inflation measured by RPI + 1% (70% weight) plus the amount that would have been spent using 4.5% of the prior year's closing value of the investments (30% weight). In formulating this rule, the College had regard to the unapplied total return on invested funds. The unapplied total return stands at £24,445,000, which, since 1 July 2007, includes returns from commercial property. The Committee reviewed the spending rule in November 2019.
13. Given the relatively small size of its investment portfolio, the College must balance the need for stability in value with that for superior long-term returns. The College has adopted a strategic asset allocation designed to reduce the volatility of returns through a diversified portfolio of non-correlated assets, embracing some illiquidity in order to provide a suitable trade-off between risk and return. The asset allocation, liquidity, and the expected risk/return profile of the portfolio are regularly reviewed by the Investment Committee. Although the portfolio is well diversified and takes into account the risk-adjusted returns of each asset class and its role within the portfolio (e.g. volatility reduction, provision of income, return enhancement, deflation hedge, or inflation hedge), the turmoil in the financial markets towards the end of 2008 resulted in most asset classes being affected negatively with assets with long historical trends of low correlation to each other moving in tandem. The College responded by conducting a detailed and careful analysis and concluded that its strategy is sound, but that implementation should be through the use of a third party specialising in multi-asset class investing. During more-recent financial turbulence, the portfolio has behaved according to the modelling that informed its construction.
14. All investments, including the parameters for the investment of cash, are overseen by the Investments Committee, with day-to-day management delegated to the Senior Bursar. Membership of the Investment Committee currently consists of three members of the Finance Committee and six external members with professional expertise. The Investment Committee reports to the Governing Body, which is responsible for authorising major changes of strategy, the appointment of fund managers and all direct holdings of property.
15. This statement was last revised in November 2022.



Ethical Investment

The College continues to keep under review its duty in regard to the ethical investment of its funds. In line with the findings of the Harries case (Bishop of Oxford v. Church Commissioners, 1992), the overriding principle guiding the College's investments is the financial return of the portfolio, unless such investments are contrary to the charity's aims. However, the Charity Commission (CC14) also acknowledges that, in some instances, a charity might accept lower returns if it might 'lose supporters or beneficiaries if it does not invest ethically'. The judgment passed in a more-recent case (Butler-Sloss v. the Charity Commission, 2022) concluded that as long as the trustees exercise good judgment and balance all relevant factors resulting in a reasonable and proportionate investment policy, they have complied with their legal duties. Categories of exclusion that may fall within the definition of activities that are contrary to the charity's aims are companies whose activities violate human rights, the environment, and best practice in social and stakeholder matters. In 2018, the College adopted a policy of Controlled Divestment of investments in companies engaged in fossil fuel extraction, investing only in tracker funds that exclude those companies and offsetting any residual exposure in illiquid funds with investments in clean technology. The College employs a firm of advisors that provides a range of pooled funds in which to invest. The Investment Committee is responsible for decisions on asset allocation, but does not select individual stocks. This model limits the College's ability to influence investment decisions in particular sectors; however, the managers are aware of areas of concern and regularly interrogate the holdings in the pooled funds. Partners Capital is a signatory of the UK Stewardship Code; its Stewardship Statement is informed by the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Investment. The College is a signatory to the Global Investor Statement to Governments on Climate Change.

Tax

As a UK charity, the College is not subject to taxes on income or capital gains. It also holds 501(c) (3) status in the USA, which means that it is recognised as a non-profit organisation and, therefore, exempt from US Federal Income Tax. To the extent that it holds investment assets in offshore vehicles, it does so to reduce the administrative costs of portfolio management, but only in jurisdictions that have signed up to the Common Reporting Standard, an information standard for the automatic exchange of tax and financial information on a global level.

Borrowings

The amount of borrowings at 30 June 2022 is £30.3 million (note 13 to the financial statements). The level of borrowings of the College must adhere to any financial covenants set by lenders and currently the College is well within those limits. The Governing Body is comfortable with the amount of borrowings, as it considers the interest can be serviced from operations. Any additional borrowings would need to be approved by the Governing Body with a view to the long-term benefit of the College.



Risk Management

The Governing Body's Risk Management Register is kept under active review. Each committee routinely considers the risks inherent in its area of responsibility and has advised the Governing Body on the probability of occurrence and the likely impact, together with the steps taken in mitigation. Although risks can be identified and plans to deal with such risks formulated, the College is nevertheless exposed to a variety of risks, some of which cannot be addressed through insurance. The age of the estate, parts of which are 200 years old, means that problems inevitably occur, sometimes without warning and often at great expense. Annual results can be affected by large swings in student numbers, principally in the postgraduate community and mainly because of multiple applications and the uncertainty of funding. Many of the College's operations are affected by volatility in the financial markets and by recession in the real economy, the effects of which are hard to mitigate. All operations have been, and would be again, impacted by a pandemic. The College has made an appropriate plan to minimise anticipated problems. An increasing dependence on cloud-based systems brings with it known and unknown risks, which will require a greater emphasis on cyber security. Harm to the fabric of the buildings from atypical weather is a harbinger of the longer-term damage and disruption caused by changes in the climate.

Underpinning the sustainability of all activities is the need for financial resilience. The relatively small size of the endowment leaves the College's funding for operations vulnerable to disruption in the stock market and the world economy, as well as the immediate risks posed after Brexit and Government challenges to tuition fees. Lack of resources could inhibit the attraction of high-quality staff and the research-active academics who are essential to the proper provision of teaching, as well as further reducing required investments to achieve our mission. The ongoing cost of living crisis makes recruiting and retaining staff problematic, further risking our delivery of core objectives.





THE FINANCIAL REVIEW



FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income and expenditure

The total surplus for the year was £0.08 million, compared with £23.5 million last year; this figure includes new endowments and restricted donations, as well as gains on investments and, last year, included the surplus from the quinquennial revaluation of the operational buildings of £13.5 million. The Unrestricted column in the accounts measures the efficiency of operations and this year showed a loss of £1.9 million, resulting from the continued effect of the Coronavirus pandemic, especially on conference income.

Unrestricted income and expenditure

The unrestricted income of the College before donations is made up of academic fees (37%), charges to students for accommodation and meals (40%), conference income (11%), income from the College's investment assets (11%) and other sources (1%). This income amounted to £10.9 million (2021: £8.2 million), up 32%. This increase was partly a result of the recovery of some of the conference business for the year, as well as of full student occupation for the year.

Income from student accommodation and catering was £4.3 million (2021: £2.6 million). The previous year was affected by lockdown, when students were not in residence for one term. Income from conference activity recovered to about 40% of pre-pandemic levels, at £1.2 million (2021: £0.1 million). The profit and cash flow from the conference business helps to mitigate the overhead costs of providing the College infrastructure and thus to reduce the costs to students.

Expenditure is made up of staff costs, including academic stipends, of 44%, of which non-academic salaries represent 36%; operating costs make up a further 41%; and depreciation is 15%. Staff costs increased by £1.6 million, although this includes a movement between years in the provision to fund the deficit in the USS pension scheme of nearly £0.6 million. Underlying staff costs increased by 17% as staff were recruited, particularly in housekeeping and catering, to service the increased post-pandemic activity. Operating costs increased by £1.5 million to £6.3 million, again reflecting the increased business activity.

Income from academic fees increased slightly to £4.0 million, while the corresponding expenditure increased to £6.1 million (2021: £5.4 million); this resulted in the Education account being in deficit by £2.1 million (2021: £1.6 million). The College must, therefore, bear the expense of this subsidy, not all of which can be met from trust funds. The cost of an undergraduate education increased from £8,597 to £9,805 for the 2021-22 year, as both fixed costs and direct costs increased. The regulated Home/EU undergraduate tuition fee has remained frozen since 2012, apart from a small increase in 2017, so in real terms the College's half-share of £9,250 has declined in value. The cost of providing academic and pastoral support for each postgraduate increased from £4,537 to £5,006.

Unrestricted donation income was £0.4 million (2021: £1.4 million due to a legacy of £1.0 million). Endowment return was £1.2 million, based on the spending rule under the Total Return policy.



Restricted income and expenditure

Restricted income arises from expendable donations for specific purposes and the income from any endowed funds to support specific projects. The income is matched against the eligible expenditure and any surplus is carried forward to restricted reserves.

The restricted income was £2.9 million (2021: £2.1 million) and the associated expenditure was £2.3 million (2021: £1.7 million).

Conference Services

For Conference Services, 2021-22 was the first financial year after the pandemic during which events could be held throughout the year; however, a spate of 10 cancellations, representing almost all events for the rest of the calendar year, followed the announcement of the move to Plan B in December, as Omicron spread across UK.

Enquiries increased in number sharply at the beginning of 2022 and settled at around pre-pandemic levels. In the second half of the financial year, income returned to pre-pandemic levels on a par with 2019, in part driven by several events postponed from the previous year, but also by larger conferences and programmes keen to run following a return to normal behaviours. Income for the year was £1.2 million, compared with the previous high of £2.8 million.

July-September 2022 saw a strong period of trading, representing only 17% less revenue than the same period in 2019 (the highest-performing quarter on record) and 20% fewer residential and non-residential delegates. This difference can be attributed largely to the fact that Downing College Summer Schools did not run. Overseas groups were generally unaffected by any Covid-related travel concerns and most international events proceeded, although with variable levels of attendees in some instances. October to December is currently tracking 10% ahead of 2019 on confirmed business.

The general view within the events industry is that business levels will continue to increase, although staffing remains a considerable issue, as is the case in the Downing College Catering, Housekeeping and Conference Support teams, restricting the number of events that can be held.

Investments

The total investment portfolio stood at £70.7 million at 30 June 2022 (2021: £73.1 million), consisting of £55.5 million in securities and £15.2 million in property. The overall total return was 2.59% (securities 0.9%, property 9.1%). During the year £3.25 million was withdrawn from the securities portfolio to fund the acquisition of 4-5 Bene't Place.

The College operates a Total Return policy for its endowment investments whereby all capital gains and income are allocated to an unapplied total return 'pot'. A spending rule is then used to transfer some of the return to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. The College's spending rule is designed to smooth spending and reduce the effect on income of fluctuations in market performance. The rule protects operations from the volatility of returns and ensures that the amount available for spending is known in advance. The amount of return recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure is equal to the weighted average

of the prior year's spending adjusted for inflation measured by RPI + 1% (70% weight) plus the amount that would have been spent using 4.5% of the prior year's closing value of the investments (30% weight). In formulating this rule, the College had regard to the unapplied total return on invested funds. The unapplied total return stands at £24.4 million and, since 1 July 2007, has included returns from commercial property. It is usually possible to net outflows against inflows so that the actual investments remain undisturbed. In setting the spending rule, the Committee is conscious of the need to achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries and aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distribution.

Since 2009, the College's investment adviser has been Partners Capital, an outsourced investment office which performs the same functions as the in-house investment teams at the large global endowments, offering access to the same range of asset classes through a feeder-fund structure. The firm has over 200 employees and seven offices covering all major regions. Partners Capital's mandate is discretionary within risk levels set by the College.

The securities portfolio is invested across the different asset classes using the Endowment Model, an approach that is expected to return 2% above the traditional mix of stocks and bonds. As the strategy includes investments in private equity and other relatively illiquid assets, the Investment Committee, acting on advice from Partners Capital, sets limits on illiquidity and monitors daily, monthly, and quarterly liquidity to ensure that, in an emergency, funds can be easily accessed, even in the conditions experienced in the financial crisis of 2008.

Distributions for Spending

Through the spending rule, the Amalgamated Fund delivered an overall £2.5 million (or 3.9% of the portfolio) in support of current operations, an increase of 12.4% on last year's drawdown. The Amalgamated Fund consists of units held by each unrestricted and restricted fund, with each receiving a share of the overall income. For 2021-22, each unit was valued at £31.84, and received income for spending ('the dividend') of £1.24, a dividend increase of 4.7% on last year's levels.

To achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries, the Committee aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distributions. Given the rate of educational inflation versus investment returns, the preservation of purchasing power has proved difficult. In the interests of consistency, the Spending Rule has remained the same since its introduction, although its output has been routinely compared with that of other methodologies. With the prospect of lower future returns, the Committee considered whether or not the rule needed revision. It decided to retain the current formula, noting that the College was mindful of the need to restrain spending.

Responsible Investing

The College aims to invest responsibly whilst earning returns appropriate for the funds invested. Since February 2019, the portfolio has not directly held any energy-focused public equity managers and all passive equity holdings have tracked indices excluding fossil fuels. Nor has it had any direct exposure to fossil fuels since February 2019 and, as of 30 June 2022, the College's estimated indirect exposure to fossil fuels (including companies involved in the extraction of fossil fuels) is 1.0% of the total portfolio. At 30 June 2022, 2.0% (£1.1 million) of the College's securities portfolio was invested in renewable energy assets. The equities allocation of the College at 30 June 2022 is estimated to have a carbon intensity of 111 (Tco2/ \$1M sales), which compares favourably to the MSCI All Countries World Index carbon intensity of 152.



Securities Performance

The securities portfolio returned +0.9% in 2021–22 after deducting all costs and fees. The 2021–22 College Year was a challenging period for risk and fixed income assets, with global equities returning -12.2% and fixed income down -13.6%. The College benefitted from its multi-asset class approach to investing over this period. Its Strategic Asset Allocation benchmark returned +0.4% versus -12.5% for the 70%/30% Equity/Bond benchmark, benefitting from the skew to Absolute Return and Private Equity relative to the index. The portfolio further benefitted from contributions from its non-Sterling exposure in a period in which the US dollar strengthened significantly, but this was partially offset by a tilt towards growth public equities, which struggled in a rising-interest-rate environment.

From inception in 2009, when the mandate for the portfolio was given to Partners Capital, to 30 June 2022, the securities portfolio has returned an annualised 8.6%, ahead of the strategic asset allocation composite benchmark, which has returned an annualised 8.0%. Over the three years to 30 June 2022, the securities portfolio has returned 10.1% p.a., compared with a 9.8% p.a. return for the strategic asset allocation composite benchmark.

At 30 June 2022, 60% of the £54.9 million securities portfolio was in Sterling, 25% in USD and 15% in other currencies. Of the securities portfolio, 50% was invested in illiquid assets (38% Private Equity, 12% Private Debt). Of the securities portfolio, 26% has quarterly or better liquidity, of which 13% has daily liquidity. At 30 June 2022, the Equity-Like Risk of the securities portfolio stood at 75%.

The period since inception in 2009 has been marked by relatively little volatility but, given the current state of the world economy and markets, it is expected that volatility will increase in the near future, as evidenced by the performance chart in Section 4 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

Property

The property portfolio returned 9.1% in 2021–22. With the exception of a small investment in a residential property fund, the property portfolio consists almost exclusively of the shops and offices on the Regent Street border. Owned for opportunistic and defensive purposes, these properties are classified as part of the investment portfolio, yet share only some of the characteristics of financial investments. Despite being the main route between the station, the Ring Road and the City Centre, Regent Street remains a tertiary location for shops. It is, therefore, difficult to attract tenants with strong covenants. The property portfolio stood at £15.2 million as at 30 June 2022 (some 22% of the total portfolio of £70.7 million), an increase of 3.4%. The rental income yield was 5.7%.

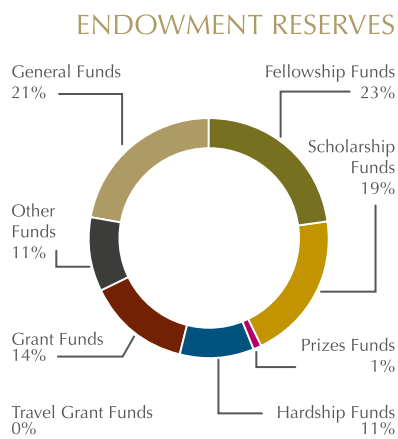
Further information is shown in section 4 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

Capital and Reserves

The College's capital base increased by £0.9 million (0.4%) to £226.5 million. Continuing investment in the College buildings, including the £2.2 million investment in student accommodation, helps to underpin the success of the conference business. This investment in hard assets, however, means that free reserves are under pressure: £4.7 million, representing the increase in the net book value of the operational buildings, was transferred to the internal designated buildings reserve. The College has had success in the past in attracting donations for buildings, but the timing or nature of some projects, which are nevertheless strategically necessary, does not always make this possible.

Free reserves were decreased by the unrestricted deficit of £1.9 million, but were then increased by a £0.5 million credit for the actuarial gain of the now closed defined-benefit pension scheme, the Cambridge Colleges Federated Pension Scheme. This led to a year-end position of free reserves of negative £5.2 million, but is likely to worsen slightly next year due to general improvement works across the Domus.

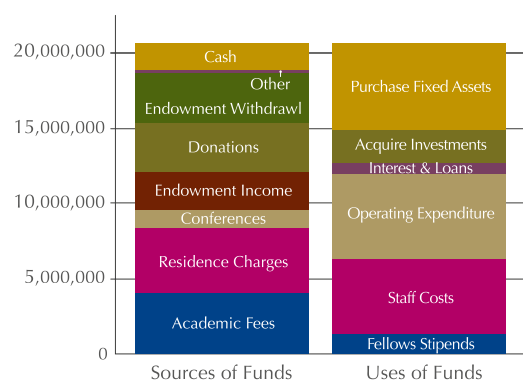
As well as Capital and Reserves decreasing as a result of the change in free reserves, there was an increase due to the combined return of 2.6% in the Securities and Property portfolio, restricted and capital donations of £2.9 million and the quinquennial revaluation of the College Works of Art of £0.8 million.



Cash Flow

Cash flows from all activities resulted in a decrease of £1.1 million in cash balances, with cash of £1.3 million held at year end. Cash consumed by operating activities¹ before the effects of working capital amounted to £1.7 million, an increase from £0.9 million last year. Endowment income, less interest payable, contributed £1.9 million of cash. The capital expenditure during the year of £6.8 million included £3.2 million for the acquisition of 4-5 Bene't Place, which was funded by a withdrawal from the securities portfolio.

SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS 2021/22



On behalf of the Governing Body:

Alan Bookbinder, Master

Gavin Flynn, Senior Bursar

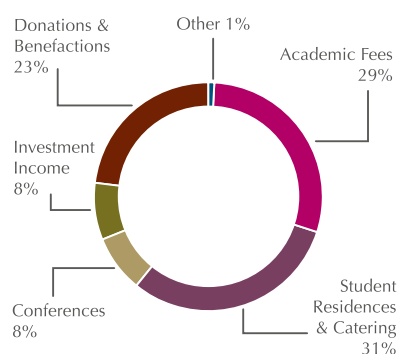
Date: 13 December 2022

¹ Surplus before other gains and losses before depreciation, interest payable, investment income, changes in working capital and restricted and endowment donations.

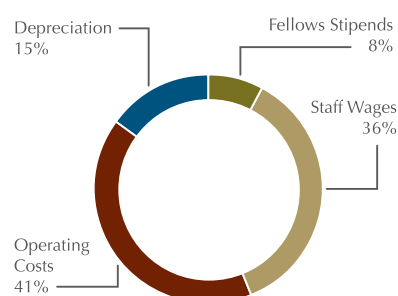
COLLEGE STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	2022	2021	2020
Income and Expenditure			
Total Income	14,055,689	10,907,126	17,081,899
Donations and Benefactions Received	3,287,586	2,996,379	6,989,777
Conference Services Income	1,157,063	139,765	2,278,178
Total Expenditure	15,615,349	12,370,824	12,699,330
Total Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(1,559,660)	(1,463,697)	4,382,569
Unrestricted Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(1,889,781)	(981,336)	656,967
Capital Expenditure			
Total Capital Expenditure	6,816,442	4,566,308	3,349,957
Investment in Buildings	5,949,946	3,569,543	2,552,630
Other Capital Expenditure	866,496	996,765	797,327
Assets			
Free Reserves	(5,204,760)	553,667	(267,141)
Investment Portfolio	70,681,272	73,112,150	58,786,385
Spending Rule Amount	2,525,485	2,243,774	2,193,707
Net Assets	226,492,843	225,605,802	202,061,796

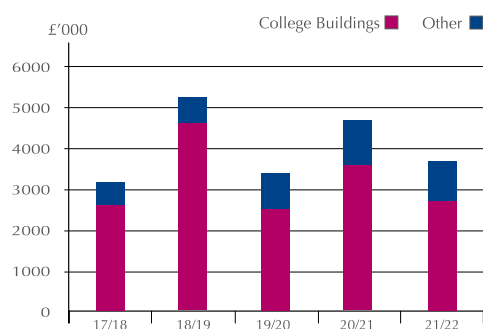
BREAKDOWN OF INCOME
2021/22



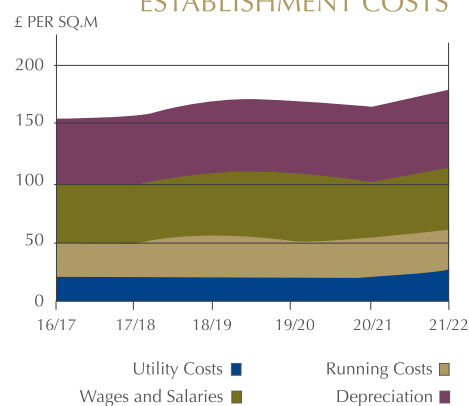
BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE
2021/22



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



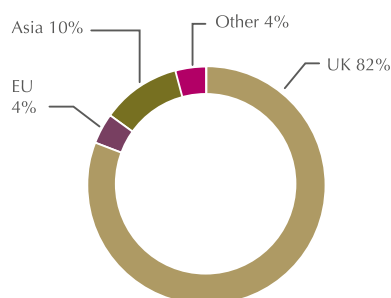
ESTABLISHMENT COSTS



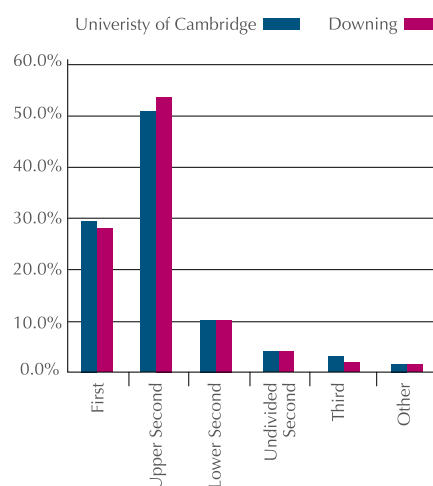
1. UNDERGRADUATE NUMBERS 2021–22 AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2021

<i>Subject</i>	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Years 5–6	Total 2021–22	Total 2020–21
Anglo-Saxon	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Archaeology	1	1	—	—	—	2	2
Architecture	2	4	—	—	—	6	6
Asian & Middle Eastern Studies	2	3	1	1	—	7	5
Chemical Engineering	—	—	2	2	—	4	8
Chemical Engineering via Engineering	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Chemical Engineering via Natural Science	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Classics	3	4	4	—	—	11	10
Classics – 4yr	3	3	4	1	—	11	11
Computer Science	5	4	3	—	—	12	11
Economics	3	4	6	—	—	13	16
Education	1	1	1	—	—	3	3
Engineering	12	14	14	11	—	51	46
English	5	10	5	—	—	20	21
Geography	5	8	3	—	—	16	16
History	6	6	5	—	—	17	16
History with Modern Languages	1	—	1	—	—	2	2
History with Politics	1	2	—	—	—	3	2
History of Art	2	2	2	—	—	6	5
Human, Social and Political Science	6	8	8	—	—	22	23
Land Economy	2	3	—	—	—	5	4
Law	12	13	7	—	—	32	34
Linguistics	2	1	1	—	—	4	2
Management Studies	—	—	1	—	—	1	3
Manufacturing Engineering	—	—	—	1	—	1	5
Mathematics	7	5	5	1	—	18	17
Medical Sciences	16	16	12	19	27	90	84
Modern & Medieval Languages	4	6	4	5	—	19	22
Music	2	1	2	—	—	5	5
Natural Sciences (Biological)	10	10	9	2	—	31	33
Natural Sciences (Physical)	7	16	12	6	—	41	41
Philosophy	1	1	1	—	—	3	4
Psychological and Behavioural Sciences	3	5	5	—	—	13	12
Theology	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
Theology BTh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Veterinary Medicine	2	3	3	4	3	15	15
Total						488	488

UNDERGRADUATES
BY REGION



UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREE CLASSIFICATIONS



2. PHD THESES SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED BY DOWNING POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS 2021–22

Biological Science at European Bioinformatics Institute	Modelling the structural, functional and phenotypic consequences of protein coding mutations
Biological Science at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology	The life of prion: an investigation into the physiological role of a prion-like protein in the nematode <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>
Biological Science at the Sanger Institute	An integrated approach to ciprofloxacin susceptibility analysis and high-throughput bacterial phenotyping in salmonella
Chemistry	The functional and pathological pathways of α -Synuclein
Chemistry	Iron nanoparticles and zirconium metal-organic frameworks for therapeutic application
Chemistry	Exploring the functionality and application of cyclic phosphazanes
Clinical Biochemistry	Investigation of conventional and unconventional protein secretion using galectin-3
Clinical Neurosciences	Integrative genomic analysis of Neurogenin2 reprogramming of human iPSCs
Clinical Neurosciences	Synaptic loss in the primary tauopathies of progressive supranuclear palsy and corticobasal degeneration
Computer Science	Software-based approximate computing for mathematical functions
Earth Sciences	Seismic imaging of Earth's core-mantle boundary using diffracted waves
Education	Teachers' engagement in continuing professional development: exploring profiles and factors
Education	China's belt and road initiative: reordering region and regionalising higher education
Engineering	Future Infrastructure and Built Environment) (Wind dynamics of the next generation of tall timber buildings
Engineering	Engineering low noise organic electrochemical transistors for electrophysiology applications
History of Art	Gender ambiguity in early modern English and French art, 1530–1630
Latin American Studies	Embodied dissent: exploring the activist turn in contemporary Cuban art
Law	Reasons for unjust enrichment
Materials Science and Metallurgy	Extraction of mechanical properties over a range of strain rates from indentation data
Materials Science and Metallurgy	The creep behaviour of rubbers reinforced with particulate or short fibres
Materials Science and Metallurgy	Low dose analytical electron microscopy of hybrid perovskite photovoltaic devices
Medicine	The role of Myocardin in regulating vascular smooth muscle cell inflammatory activation and disease
Pharmacology	On the mechanisms of substrate translocation by the ABC transporter MsbA
Physics	Understanding and controlling the optoelectronic properties of Cs ₂ AgBiBr ₆ double perovskite
Psychology	The role of ventrolateral prefrontal cortex in performance of spatial self-ordered response sequences in the marmoset
Psychology	Neurocognitive mechanisms of learning and decision-making in adolescent-OCD: a computational approach
Pure Mathematics at Cambridge Centre for Analysis	Homogenization of random media: random walks, diffusions and stochastic interface models
Radiology	Functional magnetic resonance imaging of breast cancer
Veterinary Medicine	Physiological and pharmacological factors affecting sickle cell function
Zoology	Axial patterning of the chondrichthyan pharyngeal endoskeleton and the origin of the jaw
Zoology	Correlates of male status in the long-tailed manakin <i>Chiroxiphia linearis</i> (Aves: pipridae))

3. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS BY DOWNING FELLOWS

Bravo, Professor Michael

Bravo, M., 'Risk Constellations and the Politics of Polarity', in *Risky Futures: Climate, Geopolitics, and Local Realities in the Uncertain Circumpolar North*, Ulturgasheva, O. and Bodenhorn, B. (eds.) Berghahn Press (New York, 2022).

Barber, Professor Zoe

Kurdi, S., Sakuraba, Y., Masuda, K., Tajiri, H., Nair, B., Nataf, G.F., Vickers, M.E., Reiss, G., Meinert, M., Dhesi, S.S., Ghidini, M. and Barber, Z.H. (2022) 'Quantitative atomic order characterization of a Mn₂FeAl Heusler epitaxial thin film', *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.*, Vol. 55 (18), pp. 185305-185314.

Christie, Dr Alec

Christie, A., Aldridge, D., Gallardo, B., Ó hÉigeartaigh, S., Petrovan, S. and Sutherland, W. (2022), 'Strengthen biosecurity when rewiring global food supply chains', *Nature*, Vol. 606, pp. 864. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-022-01773-1>

Correia, Dr Marta M.

Huang, P., Correia, M.M., Rua, C., Rodgers, C.T., Henson, R.N. and Carlin, J.D. (2021) 'Correcting for Superficial Bias in 7T Gradient Echo fMRI', *Front. Neurosci.* 2021 Sep 22; 15:715549. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnins.2021.715549> (2021).

Davies, Mr Justin

Davies, R. J., Chew, C., Bromham, N. and Hoskin, P. on behalf of National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) (2022) 'NICE 2020 Guideline for the management of colorectal cancer', *Lancet Oncology*, Vol. 23 (6), e247. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045\(22\)00256-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(22)00256-X)

Day, Mr William

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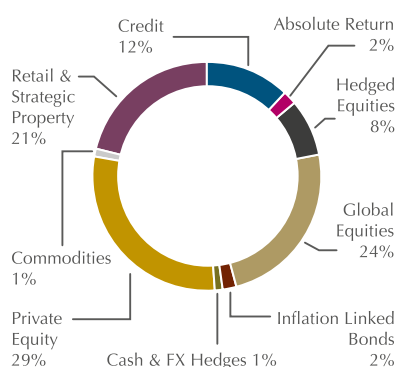
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4. INVESTMENTS

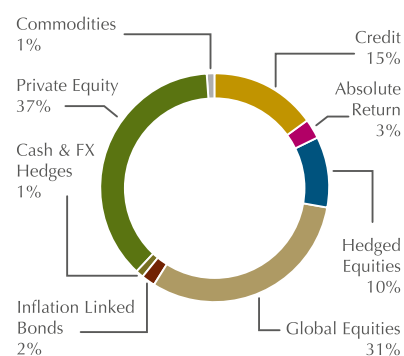
Composition of Investment Portfolio

	30 June 2022 £	30 June 2021 £	30 June 2020 £
1. Securities			
Core Portfolio Cash	2,355,607	5,289,442	3,431,754
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedges	(1,674,741)	(352,835)	30,190
Fixed Income	—	—	—
Credit	8,218,234	5,530,926	4,314,098
Absolute Return	1,410,581	1,844,869	1,242,515
Hedged Equities	5,592,234	6,666,934	5,973,268
Global Equities	16,867,513	21,225,542	18,092,134
Private Equity	20,720,037	14,851,047	9,247,606
Inflation Linked Bonds	1,324,645	1,654,638	1,107,370
Commodity Fund	653,772	1,692,127	1,335,949
Total	55,467,881	58,402,691	44,774,885
Other Private Equity*	—	—	—
TOTAL SECURITIES	55,467,881	58,402,691	44,774,885
2. Property			
Office	4,700,000	4,270,000	4,240,000
Retail	10,005,000	9,950,000	9,060,000
Property Development	508,391	489,459	711,500
TOTAL PROPERTY	15,213,391	14,709,459	14,011,500
TOTAL PORTFOLIO	70,681,272	73,112,150	58,786,385
Securities ENEB	75%	75%	75%

ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2022 (inc. property)



ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2022 (exc. property)

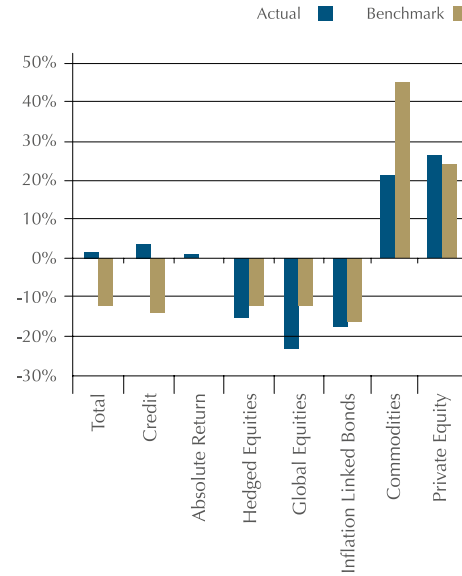


* Includes donated shares in seven new ventures, held at nil value.

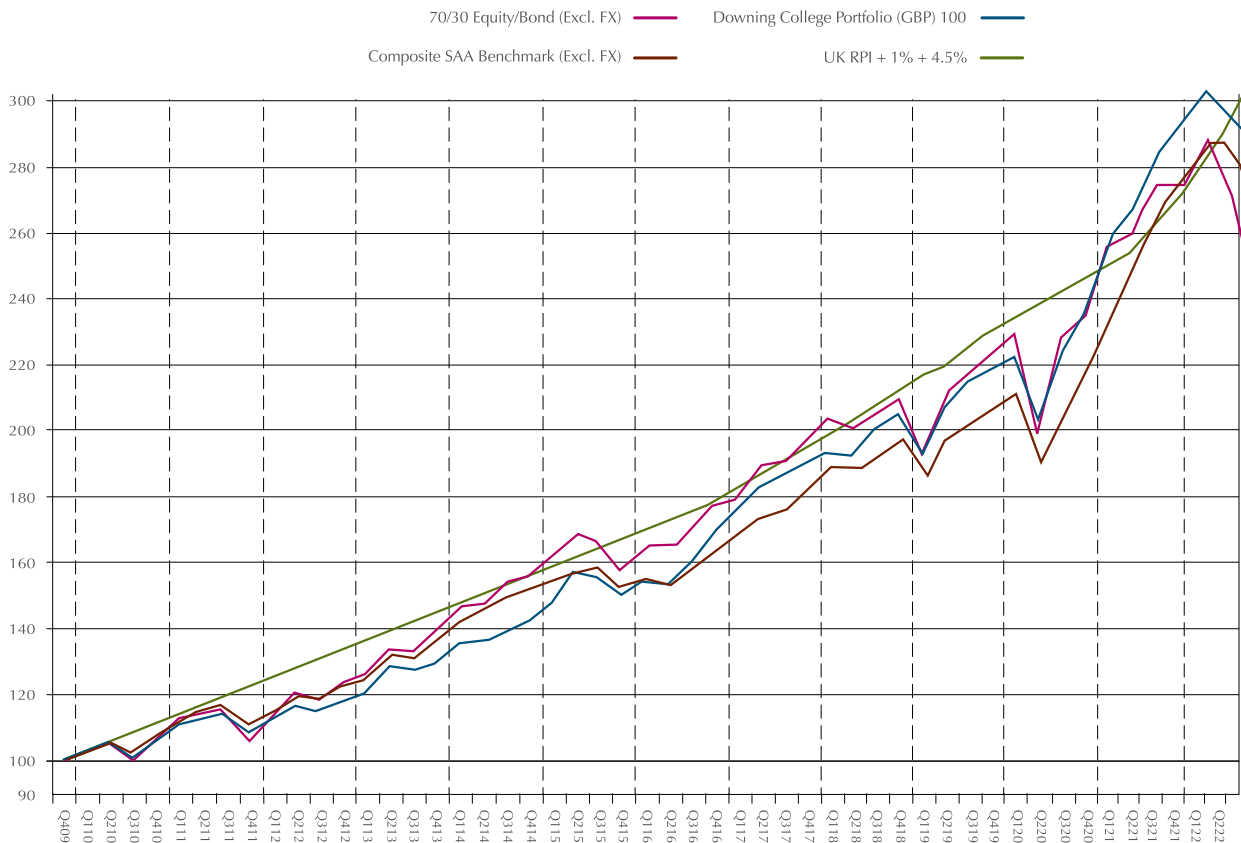
ENDOWMENT & TOTAL RETURN



SECURITIES RETURN AGAINST BENCHMARKS 2021/22



CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION - value of £100 invested



Inception is from 2009 when the mandate for the portfolio was transferred to Partners Capital





FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COLLEGE'S GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The College's Statutes and the Statutes and Ordinances of the University of Cambridge require that financial statements are prepared for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of the surplus or deficit of the College for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Governing Body is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the College will continue in operation.

The Governing body is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the College and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statutes of the University of Cambridge. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the College and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF DOWNING COLLEGE

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Downing College (the 'College') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 30 June 2022 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Reserves, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and College's affairs as at 30 June 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the Statutes of the University of Cambridge.



BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

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

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

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

OTHER INFORMATION

The Governing Body are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The contribution due from the College to the University has been computed as advised in the provisional assessment by the University of Cambridge and in accordance with the provisions of Statute G,II, of the University of Cambridge.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and College and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in Report of the Governing Body.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNING BODY

As explained more fully in the responsibilities of the Governing Body statement set out on page 46, the Governing Body are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governing Body 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 Governing Body are responsible for assessing the Group's and College'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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the Group or the College or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Group through discussions with Trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the education sector;
- we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Group and how the Group is complying with that framework;
- we obtained an understanding of the Group's policies and procedures on compliance with laws and regulations, including documentation of any instances of non-compliance;
- we identified which laws and regulations were significant in the context of the Group. The Laws and regulations we considered in this context were Charities Act 2011, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and taxation legislation. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items;
- in addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the Group's ability to operate or to avoid material penalty; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Group's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we;

- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policy were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and the College's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or 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. This description forms part of our auditors' report.



USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the College's Governing Body as a body, in accordance with College's statutes, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and the Charities Act 2011. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Governing Body those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the College and the College's Governing Body as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

PETERS ELWORTHY & MOORE



Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
CAMBRIDGE

Date: 16 December 2022

Peters Elworthy & Moore is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES



BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes of the College and of the University of Cambridge and applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. In addition, the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Further and Higher Education (the SORP).

The Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure includes activity analysis in order to demonstrate that all fee income is spent for educational purposes. The analysis required by the SORP is set out in note 6.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified in respect of the treatment of investments and operational properties which are included at valuation.

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements include the College and its subsidiary undertakings. Details of the subsidiary undertakings included are set out in note 10. Intra-group balances are eliminated on consolidation.

The consolidated financial statements do not include the activities of student societies as these are separate bodies in which the College has no financial interest and over whose policy decisions it has no control.

RECOGNITION OF INCOME

Academic fees

Academic fees are recognised in the period to which they relate and include all fees chargeable to students or their sponsors. The costs of any fees waived or written off by the College are included as expenditure.

Grant income

Grants received from non-government sources (including research grants from non-government sources) are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College 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.



Donations and endowments

Non exchange transactions without performance related conditions are donations and endowments. Donations and endowments with donor imposed restrictions are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income. Income is retained within restricted reserves until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions at which point the income is released to general reserves through a reserve transfer.

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

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 College.
3. Restricted expendable endowments – the donor has specified a particular objective and the College can convert the donated sum into income.
4. Restricted permanent endowments – the donor has specified that the fund is to be permanently invested to generate an income stream to be applied to a particular objective.

Donations with no restrictions are recorded within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income.

Investment income and change in value of investment assets

Investment income and change in value of investment assets is recorded in income in the year in which it arises and as either restricted or unrestricted income according to the terms or other restrictions applied to the individual endowment fund.

Total return

The College operates a total return policy with regard to its endowment assets (including property). The endowment spending policy is specifically designed to stabilise annual spending levels and to preserve the real value of the endowment portfolio over time. The spending policy attempts to achieve these two objectives by using a long-term targeted spending rate combined with a smoothing rule, which adjusts spending gradually to changes in the endowment market value. The actual rate of spending for 2022 when measured against the previous year's market value was 3.9%.

Other income

Income is received from a range of activities including accommodation, catering conferences and other services rendered.

Cambridge Bursary Scheme

In 2021-22, payment of the Cambridge Bursaries has been made by the College to eligible students via the Student Loans Company (SLC) and the University of Cambridge has reimbursed the College for their portion. The College has shown the gross payment made to eligible students via the SLC and a contribution from the University as Income under "Academic Fees and Charges".

The net payment of £164,412 is shown within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure as follows:

Income (see note 1)	£117,661
Expenditure (see note 4)	£282,073

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at year end rates or, where there are forward foreign exchange contract, at contract rates. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the determination of the comprehensive income and expenditure for the financial year.

FIXED ASSETS

Land and Buildings

Buildings are stated at valuation, the aggregate surplus or deficit is transferred to a revaluation reserve included within Reserves.

Where parts of a fixed asset have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of fixed assets.

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

Freehold land is not depreciated as it is considered to have an indefinite useful life. A full asset valuation of the operational estate for accounts purposes was carried out by Gerald Eve LLP, Surveyors, as at 30 June 2022. Freehold buildings are depreciated on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives of 100, 50, or 20 years.



The earliest buildings, designed by William Wilkins, form a significant part of the Domus and are listed as Grade II. All other buildings on the Domus come within the curtilage of those buildings and are therefore subject to some of the same restrictions. The Listing imposes an obligation to repair and restore. All repairs that restore value are capitalised, as are improvements. Other repairs are charged against income. For insurance purposes, the replacement cost of the buildings has been valued at £157.4 million.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a fixed asset may not be recoverable.

Buildings under construction are valued at cost, based on the value of architects' certificates and other direct costs incurred. They are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

Land held specifically for development, investment and subsequent sale is included in current assets at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

The cost of additions to operational property shown in the balance sheet includes the cost of land. All other assets are capitalised and depreciated over their expected useful life as follows:

Library books	30 years
Furniture and equipment	10 years
Catering equipment	5 years
Information Technology	3 years

Leased assets

Leases in which the College 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 leases 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. Lease payments are accounted for as described below.

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.

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 minimum lease term.

Heritage assets

The College does not hold any assets that should be classed as heritage assets.

¹ Details of the listing can be found at: <http://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/results?q=Downing+College>

INVESTMENTS

Fixed asset investments are included in the balance sheet as follows:-

a) Securities

Securities are included at their open market value.

b) Works of Art

Works of art and silver are shown in the accounts at their market value as assessed by Townley Valuation Services Limited on 26 October 2022.

c) Subsidiary Undertakings

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are recorded at costs less any provision for impairment in value, and eliminated on consolidation.

d) Unlisted investments

Unlisted investments are carried at costs less any provision for permanent diminution in value, unless they are listed as a recognised stock exchange in which case their open market value is used, or there has been a more recent funding round in which case this value is used to value all investments made to the fund.

e) Property

Investment properties are included at open market valuation. An annual assessment was carried out by Carter Jonas as at 30 June 2022.

STOCKS

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making provision for slow moving and obsolete items.



PROVISIONS

Provisions are recognised when the College has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the College 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 College. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the College 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 College.

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

TAXATION

The College is a registered charity (number 1137455) and also a charity within the meaning of Section 467 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. Accordingly, the College is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within the categories covered by Sections 478 to 488 of the Corporation Tax Act 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 College receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax. The College is a partially exempt organisation for VAT purposes. With the approval of H M Revenue and Customs, it has adopted a methodology that enables it to recover part of the VAT on its expenses. Though recovered VAT significantly exceeds the VAT previously recoverable under the old CVCP Guidelines, input tax on purchases is, nevertheless, largely irrecoverable. In 2021-22, the College received £187,656 in refunds on purchases of £7.7 million.

The College's subsidiary companies, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited are not subject to these exemptions and are liable for Corporation Tax. However, all taxable profits of the subsidiaries are gift aided to the College, thereby extinguishing any corporation tax that may be assessable.

CONTRIBUTION UNDER STATUTE G,II

The College is liable to be assessed for Contribution under the provisions of Statute G,II of the University of Cambridge. Contribution is used to fund grants to colleges from the Colleges Fund. The liability for the year is as advised to the College by the University based on an assessable amount derived from the value of the College's assets as at the end of the previous financial year.

PENSION COSTS

The College participates in Universities Superannuation Scheme. The assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. 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 College 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 College therefore accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme. Since the College has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan) that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit, the College recognises a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit) with related expenses being recognised through the profit and loss account.

The College participates in the Cambridge Colleges Federated Pension Scheme (CCFPS), a defined benefit scheme which is externally funded and until 31 March 2017 was contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). As CCFPS is a federated scheme and the College is able to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities, the College values the fund as required by Section 28 Employee Benefits of FRS102 'Retirement Benefits'. As a result, the amount charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure represents the amount calculated under FRS102 guidelines.

The College also operates defined contribution pension schemes and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the College to the funds in respect of the year.



CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS

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 Universities Superannuation Scheme. 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) with the resulting expense charged through the profit or loss account in accordance with section 28 of FRS 102. The Council and Governing Body are satisfied that Universities Superannuation Scheme meets the definition of a multi-employer scheme and has therefore recognised the discounted fair value of the contractual contributions under the recovery plan in existence at the date of approving these financial statements.

All other accounting judgements and estimates are detailed under the appropriate accounting policy.

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 College. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the College expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

RESERVES

Reserves are allocated between restricted and unrestricted reserves. Endowment reserves include balances which, in respect of endowment to the College, are held as permanent funds, which the College must hold to perpetuity.

Restricted reserves include balances in respect of which the donor has designated a specific purpose and therefore the College is restricted in the use of these funds.



PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2022 Total £000	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2021 Total £000
Income									
Academic fees and charges	1	4,040	—	—	4,040	3,766	—	—	3,766
Accommodation, catering and conferences	2	5,450	—	—	5,450	2,786	—	—	2,786
Investment income	3	2	—	1,147	1,149	5	—	821	826
Endowment return transferred	3	1,248	1,277	(2,525)	—	1,138	1,106	(2,244)	—
Other income		129	—	—	129	533	—	—	533
Total income before donations and endowments		10,869	1,277	(1,378)	10,768	8,228	1,106	(1,423)	7,911
Donations		412	1,527	—	1,939	1,371	949	—	2,320
New endowments		—	1	1,289	1,290	—	1	668	669
Other capital grants for assets		—	59	—	59	—	7	—	7
Total income		11,281	2,864	(89)	14,056	9,599	2,063	(755)	10,907
Expenditure									
Education	4	4,504	1,582	—	6,086	3,753	1,625	—	5,378
Accommodation, catering and conferences	5	7,629	7	—	7,636	6,492	4	—	6,496
Other expenditure		1,038	742	114	1,894	335	72	89	496
Total expenditure	6	13,171	2,331	114	15,616	10,580	1,701	89	12,370
Surplus / (deficit) before other gains and losses		(1,890)	533	(203)	(1,560)	(981)	362	(844)	(1,463)
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Gain on investments		693	(9)	1,278	1,962	3,070	311	7,424	10,805
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		(1,197)	524	1,075	402	2,090	673	6,580	9,343
Other comprehensive income									
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of fixed assets		—	—	—	—	13,512	—	—	13,512
Actuarial gain / (loss) in respect of pension schemes	14	485	—	—	485	689	—	—	689
Total comprehensive income for the year		(712)	524	1,075	887	16,291	673	6,580	23,544

The notes on pages 70 to 95 form part of these accounts

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	Income and expenditure reserve				Total
		Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	Revaluation reserve £000	£000
Balance at 1 July 2021		129,436	4,811	43,049	48,309	225,605
Surplus from income and expenditure statement		(1,197)	524	1,075	—	402
Other comprehensive income		485	—	—	—	485
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year		59	(59)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves		483	12	(12)	(483)	—
Balance at 30 June 2022		129,266	5,288	44,112	47,826	226,492

	Note	Income and expenditure reserve				Total
		Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	Revaluation reserve £000	£000
Balance at 1 July 2020		126,283	6,506	34,108	35,164	202,061
Surplus from income and expenditure statement		2,090	673	6,580	—	9,343
Other comprehensive income		689	—	—	13,512	14,201
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year		7	(7)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves		367	(2,361)	2,361	(367)	—
Balance at 30 June 2021		129,436	4,811	43,049	48,309	225,605

The notes on pages 70 to 95 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 £000	2021 £000
Non-current assets			
Fixed Assets	8	180,514	176,083
Investments	9	78,302	79,763
Total non-current assets		258,816	255,846
Current Assets			
Stocks		140	151
Trade and other receivables	10	1,545	2,189
Cash and cash equivalents	11	1,319	2,432
Total current assets		3,004	4,772
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(3,099)	(2,856)
Net current (liabilities) / assets		(95)	1,916
Total assets less current liabilities		258,721	257,762
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(30,288)	(30,344)
Provisions			
Pension provisions	14	(1,941)	(1,813)
Total net assets		226,492	225,605
Restricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – endowment reserve	15	44,112	43,049
Income and expenditure reserve – restricted reserve	16	5,288	4,811
		49,400	47,860
Unrestricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – unrestricted		129,266	129,436
Revaluation reserve		47,826	48,309
		177,092	177,745
Total reserves		226,492	225,605

The financial statements were approved by the Governing Body on 25 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Alan Bookbinder, Master

The notes on pages 70 to 95 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 £000	2021 £000
Surplus for the year		402	9,343
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation		2,387	2,285
Gain on Endowments, Donations and Investment Property		(1,848)	(10,715)
Decrease in stocks		11	25
Decrease in trade and other receivables		644	2,475
Increase in creditors		3	80
Pension costs less contributions payable		613	(79)
Adjustment for investing or financing activities			
Investment income		(1,149)	(826)
Interest payable		752	718
Profit of disposal of non-current fixed assets		—	(1)
Net cash inflow from operating activities		1,815	3,305
Proceeds from sales of non-current fixed assets		—	1
Investment income		2,639	2,185
Endowment funds invested		(1,182)	(4,755)
Withdrawal of deposits		3,250	650
Payments made to acquire non-current assets		(6,817)	(4,566)
Cash flows from investing activities		(2,110)	(6,485)
Interest received		2	4
Interest paid		(752)	(718)
New finance lease		—	274
Repayment of finance leases		(68)	—
Cash flows from financing activities		(818)	(440)
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(1,113)	(3,620)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		2,432	6,052
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	11	1,319	2,432

The notes on pages 70 to 95 form part of these accounts



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Academic Fees and Charges		2022 £000	2021 £000
College fees:			
Fee income received at the regulated undergraduate rate		1,851	1,852
Fee income received at the unregulated undergraduate rate		658	625
Fee income received at the graduate rate		1,331	1,217
		3,840	3,695
Cambridge Bursary Scheme income		118	66
Research/Teaching Grants		65	1
Other income		17	4
Total		4,040	3,766

2. Income from accommodation, catering and conferences		2022 £000	2021 £000
Accommodation	College Members	3,577	2,256
	Conferences	572	127
	International programmes	—	—
Catering	College Members	716	390
	Conferences	585	13
	International programmes	—	—
Total		5,450	2,786

3. Endowment return and Investment Income		2022 £000	2021 £000
3a. Analysis			
Total return contribution (see note 3b)		2,525	2,244
Other interest receivable		2	5
		2,527	2,249

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

3b. Summary of Total Return

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Income from:		
Land and buildings	871	748
Quoted and other securities and cash	276	73
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:		
Land & Buildings	485	(523)
Quoted and other securities and cash	673	11,328
Investment management costs (see note 3c)	(114)	(89)
Total return for year	2,191	11,537
Total return transferred to income and expenditure reserve	(2,525)	(2,244)
Unapplied total return for year included within Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure (see note 18)	(334)	9,293

3c. Investment Management Costs

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Land & Buildings	18	18
Quoted securities and other investments	96	71
	114	89

4. Education expenditure

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Teaching	2,565	2,334
Tutorial	930	747
Admissions	801	594
Research	313	220
Scholarships and awards	805	921
Other educational facilities	672	560
Total	6,086	5,376

Included within Scholarships and Awards are payments under the Cambridge Bursary Scheme amounting to £282,073 (2021 - £231,133).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

5. Accommodation, catering and conferences expenditure

		2022 £000	2021 £000
Accommodation	College Members	4,082	3,598
	Conferences	1,571	1,402
Catering	College Members	1,196	1,151
	Conferences	787	345
Total		7,636	6,496

Conference expenditure above is on a fully-costed basis, which includes a significant contribution to the absorption of overheads.

6a. Analysis of 2021/2022 expenditure by activity

	Staff Costs (Note 7) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	2,714	2,747	625	6,086
Accommodation, catering and conferences	3,219	2,676	1,741	7,636
Other	958	915	21	1,894
Totals	6,891	6,338	2,387	15,616

6b. Analysis of 2020/2021 expenditure by activity

	Staff Costs (Note 7) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	2,459	2,324	595	5,378
Accommodation, catering and conferences	2,660	2,164	1,670	6,494
Other	215	263	20	498
Totals	5,334	4,751	2,285	12,370

The above expenditure includes £490,030 as the direct cost of fundraising (2021 - £406,150). This expenditure includes the costs of alumni relations.

6c. Auditors' remuneration

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Other operating expenses include:		
Audit fees payable to the College's external auditors	22	20
Other fees payable to the College's external auditors	4	4

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

7. Staff Costs	College Fellows £000	Non-Academics £000	Total 2022 £000	Total 2021 £000
Staff Costs				
Emoluments	786	4,588	5,374	4,613
Social Security Costs	87	323	410	320
Other Pension Costs	444	663	1,107	401
	1,317	5,574	6,891	5,334
Average staff numbers (full-time equivalents):	No	No	No	No
Academic	46	—	46	43
Non-academic	3	131	134	121
Total	49	131	180	164

The Governing Body comprises 49 Fellows, of which 43 are stipendiary.

No officer or employee of the College, including the Head of House, received emoluments of over £100,000.

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the College. Therefore the Trustees who include the Master, Senior Bursar, Vice-Master, Secretary to the Governing Body and Senior Tutor are the key management personnel.

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Aggregate Emoluments	182	189

Trustees received no emoluments in their capacity as Trustees of the Charity.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

8. Tangible Fixed Assets

Consolidated and College	College Buildings and Site £000	Furniture fittings and equipment £000	Library Books £000	Total £000
Cost				
As at 1 July 2021	172,801	11,121	1,029	184,951
Additions at cost	5,950	841	26	6,817
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Revaluation	—	—	—	—
As at 30 June 2022	178,751	11,962	1,055	191,768
Depreciation				
As at 1 July 2021	77	8,261	530	8,868
Charge for the year	1,685	667	34	2,386
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Revaluation	—	—	—	—
As at 30 June 2022	1,762	8,928	564	11,254
Net Book value				
As at 30 June 2022	176,989	3,034	491	180,513
As at 1 July 2021	172,724	2,860	499	176,083

The insured value of freehold land and buildings as at 30 June 2022 was £157,434,681 (2021 - £165,060,904).

The value of the land, included in College Buildings and Site, as at 30 June 2022 was £56,866,000 (2021 - £56,866,000).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

9. Investments

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Consolidated and College		
As at 1 July	79,763	65,988
Additions	16,401	11,633
Disposals	(20,231)	(6,441)
Gains	5,174	7,283
(Decrease) / increase in cash balances held at fund managers	(2,805)	1,300
As at 30 June	78,302	79,763

Represented by:

Property	15,213	14,710
Securities	53,112	53,113
Cash with agents	2,356	5,289
Works of art	6,131	5,289
Over distribution of market value of funds	1,030	902
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding Plc	5	5
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding II Plc	5	5
Land	450	450
	78,302	79,763

Subsidiary Company

At 30 June 2022 Downing College held an investment in the following companies:

Subsidiary Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights	Country of Incorporation
Downing College Developments Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
The May Ball Company Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom

Downing College Developments Limited was incorporated on 20 January 1999. The principal activity of the company is development of student accommodation and other facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited was incorporated on 2 April 2007. The principal activity of the company is the provision of non-educational conference facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

The May Ball Company Limited was incorporated on 28 July 2010. The principal activity of the company is to administer the operation of the biennial College May Ball. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

10. Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated 2022 £000	College 2022 £000	Consolidated 2021 £000	College 2021 £000
Members of the College	220	220	109	106
Amounts due from group companies	—	1,127	—	373
Other receivables	710	413	611	547
Prepayments	615	615	1,469	1,469
	1,545	2,361	2,189	2,495

11. Cash and cash equivalents

	Consolidated 2022 £000	College 2022 £000	Consolidated 2021 £000	College 2021 £000
Bank deposits	462	462	2,160	2,160
Current accounts	856	166	271	49
Cash in hand	1	1	1	1
	1,319	629	2,432	2,210

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Consolidated 2022 £000	College 2022 £000	Consolidated 2021 £000	College 2021 £000
Trade creditors	1,099	985	957	747
Members of the College	318	318	305	305
Amounts due to group companies	—	120	—	—
University fees	5	5	9	9
Other creditors	1,608	1,260	1,518	1,300
Obligations under finance leases	69	69	67	67
	3,099	2,757	2,856	2,428

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

13. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Consolidated 2022 £000	College 2022 £000	Consolidated 2021 £000	College 2021 £000
Long term bank loan	5,478	5,478	5,477	5,477
Other loans	24,606	24,606	24,593	24,593
Obligations under finance leases	204	204	274	274
	30,288	30,288	30,344	30,344

The long term bank loan is due for repayment in 2048 at a fixed interest rate of 4.94%.

During 2013-14 the College borrowed £5m from institutional investors in a private placement done collectively with other Colleges, although each College's loan is separate from those of the others. The loans are unsecured and repayable during the period 2043-53 and are at fixed interest rates of approximately 4.4%. The College has agreed a financial covenant of the ratio of borrowings to net assets, and has been in compliance with the covenant at all times since incurring the debt.

During 2019-20, the College borrowed £20m from an institutional investor in a private placement. The loan is unsecured and repayable in 2069 at a fixed interest rate of 2.05%.

14. Pension provisions

Group and College	CCFPS £000	USS £000	2022 £000	2021 £000
Balance at beginning of year	1,292	521	1,813	2,581
Movement in year:				
Current service cost	15	—	15	15
Contributions	(54)	(26)	(80)	(80)
Change in expected contribution	—	650	650	(47)
Other finance cost	23	5	28	33
Actuarial (gain) / loss	(485)	—	(485)	(689)
Balance at end of year	791	1,150	1,941	1,813

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

15. Endowment funds

Restricted net assets relating to endowments are as follows:

Consolidated and College	Restricted permanent endowments £000	Unrestricted permanent endowments £000	2022 Total £000	2021 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year				
Capital	31,157	11,892	43,049	34,108
New donations and endowments	1,273	16	1,289	668
(Decrease)/increase in market value of investments	(160)	(54)	(214)	5,912
Transfers between reserves	(12)	—	(12)	2,361
Balance at end of year	32,258	11,854	44,112	43,049
Analysis by type of purpose:				
Fellowship Funds	10,161	—	10,161	9,639
Scholarship Funds	7,971	617	8,588	8,582
Prize Funds	21	26	547	549
Hardship Funds	4,754	—	4,754	4,348
Bursary Funds	51	—	51	51
Grant Funds	6,014	11	6,025	6,053
Other Funds	2,786	1,835	4,621	4,436
General Funds	—	9,365	9,365	9,391
	32,258	11,854	44,112	43,049
Analysis by asset				
Property	7,247	2,663	9,910	9,487
Investments	23,850	8,764	32,614	30,033
Cash	1,161	427	1,588	3,529
	32,258	11,854	44,112	43,049

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

16. Restricted funds

Consolidated and College	Capital grants unspent £000	Permanent unspent and other restricted income £000	Restricted expendable endowment	2022 Total £000	2021 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year					
Capital	—	3,081	—	3,081	5,092
Accumulated income	—	—	1,730	1,730	1,414
	—	3,081	1,730	4,811	6,506
New grants	59	—	—	59	7
New donations	—	1,499	29	1,528	950
Investment income	—	1,210	67	1,277	1,106
(Decrease)/increase in market value of investments	—	—	(9)	(9)	311
Expenditure	—	(2,244)	(87)	(2,331)	(1,701)
Capital grants utilised	(59)	—	—	(59)	(7)
Transfer to/(from) reserves	—	16	(4)	12	(2,361)
Balance at end of year	—	3,562	1,726	5,288	4,811
Comprising Capital	—	3,562	—	3,562	3,081
Accumulated income	—	—	1,726	1,726	1,730
	—	3,562	1,726	5,288	4,811
Analysis of other restricted funds/donations by type of purpose					
Fellowship Funds	—	281	—	281	370
Scholarship Funds	—	144	217	361	369
Prize Funds	—	26	—	26	24
Hardship Funds	—	22	—	22	26
Grant Funds	—	2,624	1,053	3,677	3,449
Other Funds	—	465	456	921	573
	—	3,562	1,726	5,288	4,811

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

17. Memorandum of Unapplied Total Return

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Unapplied total return at beginning of year	24,779	15,821
Unapplied total return for the year	(334)	8,958
Unapplied total return at end of year	24,445	24,779

18. Reconciliation and analysis of net debt

	At 1 July 2021 £000	Cash Flows £000	New finance leases £000	Other non- cash changes £000	At 30 June 2022 £000
Cash and cash equivalents	2,432	(1,113)	—	—	1,319
Borrowings:					
Amount falling due within one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	(67)	68	—	(70)	(69)
Amount falling due after more than one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	(274)	—	—	70	(204)
Unsecured loans	(30,500)	—	—	—	(29,445)
Total net debt	(28,409)	(1,045)	—	—	(29,454)

19. Financial instruments

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Financial assets at fair value through Statement of Comprehensive income		
Listed equity investments (note 9)	53,112	53,113
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 9 and 11)	3,675	7,721
Other equity investments (note 9)	10	10
Other debtors (note 10)	1,126	1,041
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Loans (note 13)	30,500	30,500
Trade creditors (note 12)	1,099	957
Other creditors (note 12)	1,677	1,585

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

20. Capital commitments	2022 £000	2021 £000
Capital commitments at 30 June 2022 are as follows -		
Authorised and contracted	670	1,889
Authorised but not yet contracted for	202	253

21. Financial Commitments	2022 £000	2021 £000
At 30 June 2022, the College had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:		
Land and buildings:		
Expiring within one year	153	9
Expiring between two and five years	349	37
Expiring in over 5 years	232	242
Other:		
Expiring within one year	3	4
Expiring between two and five years	5	2

22. Pension Schemes

In addition to the defined contribution scheme for assistant staff the College participates in two defined benefit schemes, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), and the Cambridge Colleges Federation Pension Scheme (CCFPS). The total pension cost for the year ended 30 June was as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
USS: Contributions	274	279
CCFPS: Charged to income and expenditure account	54	54
Other pension schemes: Contributions	196	183
	524	516

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Universities Superannuation Scheme

The latest available complete actuarial valuation of the Retirement Income Builder is as at 31 March 2020 (the valuation date), and was carried out using the projected unit method.

Since the College 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 2020 valuation was the sixth valuation for the scheme under the scheme-specific funding regime introduced by the Pensions Act 2004, which requires schemes to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover their technical provisions. At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the scheme was £66.5 billion and the value of the scheme's technical provisions was £80.6 billion indicating a shortfall of £14.1 billion and a funding ratio of 83%.

The key financial assumptions used in the 2020 valuation are described below. More detail is set out in the Statement of Funding Principles.

CPI assumption	Term dependent rates in line with the difference between the Fixed Interest and Index Linked yield curves less: 1.1% p.a. to 2030, reducing linearly by 0.1% p.a. to a long-term difference of 0.1% p.a. from 2040
Pension increase (subject to a floor of 0%)	CPI assumption plus 0.05%
Discount rate (forward rates)	Fixed interest gilt yield curve plus: Pre-retirement: 2.75% p.a. Post retirement: 1.00% p.a.

The main demographic assumptions used relate to the mortality assumptions. These assumptions are based on analysis of the scheme's experience carried out as part of the 2020 actuarial valuation. The mortality assumptions used in these figures are as follows:

	2020 valuation
Mortality base table	101% of S2PMA "light" for males and 95% of S3PFA for females
Future improvements to mortality	CMI 2019 with a smoothing parameter of 7.5, an initial addition of 0.5% p.a. and a long-term improvement rate of 1.8% p.a. for males and 1.6% p.a. for females



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

The current life expectancies on retirement at age 65 are:

	2022	2021
Males currently aged 65 (years)	23.9	24.7
Females currently aged 65 (years)	25.5	26.1
Males currently aged 45 (years)	25.9	26.7
Females currently aged 45 (years)	27.3	27.9

A new deficit recovery plan was put in place as part of the 2020 valuation, which requires payment of 6.2% of salaries over the period 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2024, at which point the rate will increase to 6.3%. The 2022 deficit recovery liability reflects this plan. The liability figures have been produced using the following assumptions:

	2022	2021
Discount rate	3.31%	0.87%
Pensionable salary growth	2.00%	2.00%

Cambridge Colleges' Federated Pension Scheme

The College also operates a defined benefits plan for the College's employees of the Cambridge Colleges' Federation Pension Scheme.

The liabilities of the plan have been calculated, at 30 June 2022, for the purposes of FRS102 using a valuation system designed for the Management Committee, acting as Trustee of the Cambridge Federated Pension Scheme, but allowing for the different assumptions required under FRS102 and taking fully into consideration changes in the plan benefit structure and membership since that date.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date were as follows:

	2022 % p.a.	2021 % p.a.
Discount rate	3.80	1.80
Increase in salaries	3.25	3.10
Retail Price Index (RPI) assumption	3.45*	3.40
Consumer Price Index (CPI) assumption	2.75*	2.60
Pension increases in payment (RPI max 5% p.a.)	3.30*	3.30
Pension increases in payment (CPI max 2.5%)	2.05*	1.95

*For 1 year only, we have assumed that RPI 11% and CPI will be 9%. The caps under the Rules are applied to assumed pension increases.

The underlying mortality assumption is based upon the standard table known as S3PA on a year of birth usage with CMI_2021 future improvement factors and a long-term rate of future improvement of 1.25% per annum, a standard smoothing factor (7.0) and no allowance for additional improvements (2021: S3PA with CMI_2020 future improvement factors and a long-term future improvement rate of 1.25% per annum, a standard smoothing factor (7.0) and no allowance for additional improvements). This results in the following life expectancies:

- Male aged 65 now has a life expectancy of 21.9 years (previously 21.9 years)
- Female age 65 now has a life expectancy of 24.3 years (previously 24.3 years)
- Male age 45 now and retiring in 20 years has a life expectancy of 23.2 years (previously 23.2 years)
- Female age 45 now and retiring in 20 years would have a life expectancy of 25.7 years (previously 25.6 years)

Members are assumed to retire at their normal retirement age (65) apart from in the following cases:

	Male	Female
Active Members – Option 1 Benefits	64	64
Deferred Members – Option 1 Benefits	63	63

Allowance has been made at retirement for non-retired members to commute part of their pension for a lump sum on the basis of the current commutation factors in these calculations

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Employee Benefit Obligations

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet as at 30 June 2022 (with comparative figures as at 30 June 2021) are as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Market value of scheme assets	4,873	5,881
Present value of scheme liabilities	(5,664)	(7,173)
Net defined benefit (liability)	(791)	(1,292)

The amounts recognised in the income and expenditure account for the year ending 30 June 2022 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2021) are as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Current service cost	15	15
Interest on net defined benefit liability	23	29
Total charge	38	44

Changes in the present value of the scheme liabilities for the year ending 30 June 2022 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2021) are as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Present value of scheme liabilities at beginning of period	7,173	7,600
Current service cost (including employee contributions)	2	4
Benefits paid	(244)	(199)
Interest on scheme liabilities	127	109
Actuarial (gains) / losses	(1,394)	(341)
Present value of Scheme liabilities at end of period	5,664	7,173

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets for the year ending 30 June 2022 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2021) are as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Market value of scheme assets at beginning of period	5,881	5,609
Contributions paid by the College	54	54
Benefits paid	(244)	(199)
Administration expenses paid	(16)	(17)
Interest on scheme assets	104	80
Return on assets, less interest included in profit and loss	(906)	354
Market value of Scheme assets at end of period	4,873	5,881
Actual return on scheme assets	(802)	434

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total Scheme assets at 30 June 2022 (with comparative figures at 30 June 2021) are as follows:

	2022	2021
Equities	52%	48%
Bonds & Cash	34%	42%
Properties	14%	10%
Total	100%	100%

The plan has no investments in property occupied by, assets used by or financial instruments issued by the College.

Analysis of the remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability recognised in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI) for the year ending 30 June 2022 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2021) are as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Actuarial return less expected return on scheme assets	(906)	354
Experience gains and losses arising on scheme liabilities	(535)	202
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of scheme liabilities	1,926	133
Actuarial gain / (loss) recognised in OCI	485	689

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Movement in net defined benefit liability during the year ending 30 June 2022 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2021) are as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Deficit in scheme at beginning of year	(1,292)	(1,991)
Recognised in Profit and Loss	(38)	(44)
Contributions paid by the College	54	54
Actuarial gain recognised in SOCIE	485	689
Deficit in scheme at the end of the year	(791)	(1,292)

Funding Policy

Actuarial valuations are carried out every three years on behalf of the Management Committee, acting as the Trustee of the Scheme, by a qualified independent actuary. The actuarial assumptions underlying the actuarial valuation are different to those adopted under FRS102.

The last such actuarial valuation was as at 31 March 2020. This showed that the assets were insufficient to cover the liabilities on the funding basis. A Recovery Plan has been agreed with the College, which commits the College to paying contributions to fund the shortfall. These deficit reduction contributions are incorporated into the Schedule of Contributions dated 21 May 2022 and are as follows:

- Annual contributions of not less than £39,105 p.a. payable for the period to 31 August 2025.

These payments are subject to review following the next funding valuation, due as at 31 March 2023.

Defined Contribution Pension Schemes

The College operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of certain employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the College amounting to £195,565 (2021 - £183,230) of which £30,864 (2021 - £26,062) was outstanding at the year end.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Contingent Liabilities

As disclosed in note 21, with effect from 16 March 2007, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) positioned itself as a “last man standing” scheme so that in the event of an insolvency of any of the participating employers in USS, the amount of any pension funding shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer will be spread across the remaining participant employers.

24. Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the College’s operations and the composition of its Governing Body, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Governing Body has an interest. All transactions involving organisations in which a member of the Governing Body may have an interest are conducted at arm’s length and in accordance with the College’s normal procedures.

The College maintains a register of interests for all College Council members and where any member of the College Council has a material interest in a College matter they are required to declare that fact.

During the year no fees or expenses were paid to Fellows in respect of their duties as Trustees.

Fellows are remunerated for teaching, research and other duties within the College. Fellows are billed for any private catering. The Trustees remuneration is overseen by a Remuneration Committee.

The salaries paid to Trustees in the year are summarised in the table below:

From	To	2021-22 Number	2020-21 Number
0	10,000	28	33
10,001	20,000	7	5
20,001	30,000	6	4
30,001	40,000	1	3
40,001	50,000	4	2
50,001	60,000	2	2
60,001	70,000	—	—
70,001	80,000	—	—
80,001	90,000	1	2
90,001	100,000	1	—
Total		50	51

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

24. Related Party Transactions continued

The total Trustee salaries were £817,327 for the year (2020/21 - £724,938).

The Trustees were also paid other taxable benefits (including associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer contributions to pensions) which totalled £239,194 for the year (2020/21 - £191,776).

The College has a number of trading subsidiary undertakings which are consolidated into these accounts. All subsidiary undertakings are 100% owned by the College and are registered and operating in England and Wales.

The College has taken advantage of the exemption within section 33 of FRS 102 not to disclose transactions with wholly owned group companies that are related parties.

25. Sir Mortimer Singer Fund

Other Unrestricted Funds includes the Sir Mortimer Singer Fund which was funded from a bequest of Sir Mortimer Singer, a Fellow Commoner of the College. The money was appointed to the College by Lady Singer upon the trusts declared by a deed dated 25 March 1952. The Pension Trust Fund was also set up from this bequest. Below are the movements on these Funds in the year.

	Singer Fund £000	Pension Trust £000
Opening Balance at 1 July 2021	7,982	298
Income	192	12
Expenditure	—	(12)
Change in Market Value of Investments	(25)	(2)
Closing Balance at 30 June 2022	8,149	296

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Alcan Prize Fund	—	13
Angharad John Fellowship	—	396
Alwyn W Heong Fund	—	338
Barry Moore Economics Prize Fund	—	19
Bathey Fund	—	12
Beinan Lu Fund	—	4
Bill Willetts Fund	—	—
B J Everitt Prize Fund	—	21
Blankenship Book Fund	—	16
Blankenship Law Fund	—	32
Bradbrook Fund	—	16
Brammer Fellowship in Geography	500	1,167
Buchanan Fund	—	327
Charles Campbell Book Fund	—	5
S M and H Haniff Prize	—	43
Cockerell Fund	—	30
Collins Fund	—	260
Darley Fund	—	403
Darley Sands Postgraduate Studentship	—	217
Downing Association Fund	—	52
Edward Collins Fund	—	152
Ernest William Denham Fund	—	36
Everitt Fund	—	2
Everitt Butterfield Fund	3	1,451
Fahrenwaldt Fund	—	17
Ferreras Willetts Fund	—	370
Florence & David Jacobs Memorial Prize	—	10
Fritsch Fund	—	612
Carried forward	503	6,021

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	503	6,021
Formoso—Papalios	50	50
Fu Fund	—	7
Gamlingay Fund	—	103
Geoffrey Grimmett Prize	—	8
Gelber Bequest	—	13
Graystone Fund	—	232
Gulbenkian Fund	—	3
Hall Fund	—	14
Harold Hargreaves Prize	—	7
Harris Fund	—	587
Harrison Prize Fund	—	4
Hopkins Parry Fund	2	1,417
John Hopkins Fund	184	471
John Hopkins Supervision Fund	2	314
John Miller Scholarships	121	1,992
Hugh Brammer Fund	—	95
Ivor Evans Fund	—	29
Jan Hruska Fund	—	339
Jean Ruhman Fund	—	13
John Hawkins Mays Wild Fund	—	11
John Maples America Fund	—	200
Johnston Fund	—	2
Joseph Tchong Prize	2	17
Judy Petty Book Prize & Scholarship	—	29
Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellowship	—	1,078
Percy Lander Research Fund	—	345
Lander Fund	—	15
Carried forward	864	13,416

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	864	13,416
Landrum & Brown Scholarship Fund	—	17
Lord Butterfield Fund	—	237
Mays Wild Fund	—	822
Matthews/McKinley Travel Fund	1	19
Alfred Monk Fund	—	309
John H Morrison Prize in Law	—	34
Moullin Fund	—	3
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Fund	—	579
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Prize Fund	—	169
Professor Gabriel Oon Prize	—	8
Osler Fund	—	132
Owens Fund	—	498
Peter Mathias Economics Prize Fund	—	3
Pilley Fund	—	471
Platt Fund	—	39
Poulton Fund	—	660
Professor Audus Botanical Fund	—	22
Richards Fund	—	69
Robertson Research Fellowship Fund	—	965
Robson Physics Prize	—	9
Robson Postgraduate Fund	—	391
Saint Fund	—	56
Saunders Fund	—	57
Savile Fund	—	175
Schreiner Fund	—	84
Seton Fund	—	99
Seton Cavendish Fund	—	2,747
Carried forward	865	22,090

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	865	22,090
Sir Arthur Watts Choral Awards	—	17
Stephen Peel Fellowship Fund	—	396
Stevens Fund	—	6
Susan & Geoffrey Eggington Scholarship	—	21
Sutcliffe Legacy	—	772
TG Jones Fund	—	966
Thomas Fund	—	25
Thrower Fund	5	87
Timothy Walton Remembrance Fund	—	80
Treherne Fund	—	139
Unwin Fund	—	77
Verjee Fellowship Fund	—	358
Verney Fund	—	2
Michael Waring Fund	—	109
Warner—Lambert Fund	—	292
Whitby Memorial Fund	—	522
White Fund	—	9
Whitelegg Fund	—	74
Whitworth Fund	—	2,721
Wicks Travel Fund	—	18
Williams Downing Fellowship	15	516
Wilsey & Lerch Scholarship in Economics	—	81
Wyatt Fund	—	2
Postgraduate Studentship Fund	1	6
Student Hardship Endowment	2	452
Student Support Endowment	136	1,088
1970's Grant Fund	—	97
Carried forward	1,024	31,023

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	1,024	31,023
Alumni Sport Fund	—	69
Fundraising - Teaching	28	229
Fundraising - Access	103	938
Catalysis - Teaching & Learning	2	219
Catalysis - Research & Discovery	—	18
Catalysis - Heritage & Environment	12	60
Catalysis - Support & Services	3	298
Catalysis - Culture & Community	—	14
Other	101	180
	1,273	33,048
<i>Restricted expendable</i>		
Bartram Fund	—	166
Colin Hill Fund	—	2
Lt. Colonel Anderson Trust Fund	—	135
Goodey Fund	—	217
Richens Fund	—	766
Treherne Prize Fund	—	15
Student Hardship (Spend Down)	9	—
The Great Tradition	1	120
Segreants Fund	28	113
Catalysis Research Fund	—	202
Downing Enterprise	38	101
1717 Fund	65	—
Voellm-Hruska Studentship	—	88
Tazaki Studentship	—	1,000
Fundraising - Buildings	—	61
Other	1,446	1,512
	1,587	4,498
	2,860	37,546

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

26. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Unrestricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Clark Fund	—	3
French Fund	—	44
Jarvis Fund	—	53
Library Endowment Fund	—	1,465
Richmond Fund	—	274
Stenning Fund	—	74
Stevenson Fund	—	2
Whalley-Tooker Fund	—	22
Yates Fund	—	11
Young Fund	—	245
Singer Fund (Pension Trust)	—	296
Smyth Bequest	—	659
Fleet Bequest	—	70
Deryk Prosser Fund	—	566
Corporate Capital Fund	—	1,211
General Capital	—	6,859
	—	11,854
<i>Unrestricted</i>		
Designated Buildings	—	129,163
Corporate Capital Fund	—	22,667
Singer Fund (Will Trust)	—	8,149
General Capital and Other	428	(34,077)
Revaluation Reserves	—	53,135
Pension Reserves	—	(1,941)
	428	177,092
Total Unrestricted Funds	428	188,948
Total Reserves	3,288	226,492





DOWNING COLLEGE | CAMBRIDGE | CB2 1DQ

DESIGN Nicholas Hawksworth 01223 693 082

Accounts



ANNUAL
REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS

for the financial year ending 30 June 2021

DOWNING COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE



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DOWNING COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE CB2 1DQ

Patron: HRH The Duchess of Kent, GCVO

Visitor: The Crown

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Master: Mr Alan Peter Bookbinder BA (Oxon) MA (Harvard) MA

The Fellows of the College (in order of Election) as of 1 October 2021

Graham John Virgo MA BCL (Oxon) QC (Hon), Fellow in Law, Professor of English Private Law, University Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) (1989)
David John Wales MA PhD ScD FRS FRSC, Fellow in Chemistry, Professor of Chemical Physics (1989)
Christopher Allim Haniff MA PhD, *Fellows' Steward*, Fellow in Physics, Professor of Physics (1993)
Nicholas Coleman BSc MB ChB (Bristol) PhD FRCPath FMed Sci, Verjee Fellow in Medicine, Professor of Molecular Pathology (1994)
Adam Noel Ledgeway BA (Salford) MA (Manchester) PhD (Manchester) FBA, Fellow in Italian, Professor of Italian and Romance Linguistics (1996)
Ian Richard James MA MA (Warwick) PhD (Warwick), Fellow in Modern and Medieval Languages, Professor of Modern French Literature and Thought (1996)
Zoe Helen Barber MA PhD (Rutgers), *Vice Master*, Fellow in Materials Science and Metallurgy, Professor of Materials Science (2000)
Sophia Demoulini BA (Wooster) MSc (Minnesota) PhD (Minnesota), Fellow in Pure Mathematics (2000)
Ian Gareth Roberts BA (Wales, Bangor) MA (Salford) PhD (Southern California) LittD FBA, Fellow in Linguistics, Professor of Linguistics (2000)
Michael Trevor Bravo BEng (Carleton) MPhil PhD, *Internal Auditor*, Brammer Fellow in Geography, University Associate Professor at the Scott Polar Research Institute (2001)
David Robert Pratt MA PhD FRHistS, *Fellow Archivist*, *Keeper of Art and Artefacts*, Fellow in History (2001)
Liping Xu, BSc (Beijing) PhD, *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Engineering, University Lecturer in Turbomachinery (2004)
Paul Derek Barker BSc (Imperial College London) MA DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in Chemistry, University Senior Lecturer in Chemistry (2004)
Guy Barnett Williams MA PhD, *Senior Tutor*, *Safeguarding Officer*, Darley Fellow in Clinical Neurosciences, Assistant Director of Information Processing at the Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre (2004)
Natalia Mora-Sitja BSc (Barcelona) MA (Barcelona) MSc (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), Fellow in History, University Associate Professor in Economic History (2005)
William O'Neill BSc (Essex) MSc (Essex) PhD (Imperial), *Tutor*, Stephen Peel Fellow in Engineering, Professor of Laser Engineering (2006)
Amy Louise Milton MA PhD, Ferreras Willetts Fellow in Neuroscience, *Praelector*, University Associate Professor in Experimental Psychology (2007)
Brigitte Steger MA MPhil (Vienna) PhD (Vienna), Fellow in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Associate Professor in Modern Japanese Studies (2007)
Jie Li BS (Wuhan) MS (Paris) PhD (Paris), Fellow in Engineering, University Associate Professor in Fluid Dynamics (2009)

Keith James Eyeons MA MA (Nottingham) PhD, *Chaplain, Praelector, Secretary to the Governing Body*, Fellow in Theology (2010)

Robert Keith Harle MA PhD, *Dean*, Fellow in Computer Science, University Professor in Computer Science (2010)

Timothy James Burton MA MB BChir PhD FRCP, *Tutor*, Oon Fellow in Clinical Medicine, Clinical Lecturer in Translational Medicine & Therapeutics (2010)

Marta Morgado Correia BA (Lisbon) PhD, *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Biological Sciences, Senior Investigator Scientist at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (2010)

Kamran Yunus BSc (Bath) MA PhD (Bath), *Admissions Tutor, Tutor*, Fellow in Chemical Engineering, Technical Officer at the Department of Engineering and Biotechnology (2012)

John Stuart Richer MA PhD, *Tutor, Internal Auditor*, Fellow in Physics, Professor of Physics (2013)

Sarah Lilian Kennedy BA (Melbourne) LLB (Melbourne) PhD, *Fellow Development Ambassador, Senior Treasurer of the Downing Dramatic Society*, RJ Owens Fellow in English (2013)

Monica Moreno Figueroa BA (UIA Leon) MA (London) PhD (London) MA, Fellow in Social Sciences, University Associate Professor in Sociology (2014)

Brendan Plant BEc (Sydney) LLB (Sydney) MSc (LSE) PhD, Hopkins Parry Fellow in Law (2014)

Ewan James Jones BA MPhil PhD, *Graduate Tutor, Fellow Librarian*, Fellow in English, University Associate Professor in Nineteenth-Century Literature (2015)

Michael Crisp MEng PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Engineering, University Lecturer in Photonics and RF Systems (2017)

Nicholas Rawlinson BSc (Monash) PhD (Monash) MA, Fellow in Earth Sciences, BP Foundation McKenzie Professor of Earth Sciences (2017)

Zoe Kourtzi BSc (Crete) MA (Rutgers) PhD (Rutgers) MA, Angharad Dodds John Fellow in Cognitive Neuroscience, Professor of Experimental Psychology (2017)

Joanne Claire Finnie Jones MA (Aberdeen), *Development Director* (2018)

Frisbee Candida Cheyenne Sheffield BA (Bristol) MPhil DPhil (Oxon), Octavius Augustus Glasier Collins Fellow in Classics (2019)

Joseph Webster MA (Edinburgh) MSc (Edinburgh) PhD (Edinburgh), *Graduate Tutor*, Fellow in Anthropology (2019)

Alison Deirdre Jane Scadden MSc (Otago) PhD, Fellow in Biochemistry (2020)

Gavin John Flynn MA (Oxon) MBA (INSEAD) MSc (LSE), *Senior Bursar, Senior Treasurer to the Boat Club* (2020).

Bjoern Neumann BSc (Würzburg) PhD (Würzburg), Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellow in Biomedicine (2020)

Michael Ashby BA MA MPhil PhD, *Senior Treasurer of the Amalgamation Club, Silver Auditor*, Williams Downing Fellow in Economics (2020)

Neda Farahi BSc (Edinburgh) PhD, *Tutor*, Fellow in Natural Sciences and Medical and Veterinary Sciences (2020)

William Day BA (Durham) MA BCL (Oxon), Fellow in Law (2020)

Lucy Winifred Whelan BA MSt (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon), Graham Robertson Research Fellow in History of Art (2020)

Richard Justin Davies MA MB MChir LRCP (London) FRCS, Fellow in Clinical Medicine (2020)

Charlotte Christiane Hammer BA (Bonn) MA (Durham) MPh (Manchester) MSc (Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Robert Koch-Institut) PhD, Everitt Butterfield Fellow in Emerging Infectious Diseases (2021)

Nathan Rhys James MDc PhD, Mays Wild Research Fellow in Biological Sciences (2021)

Alec Philip Christie BSc (St Andrews) PhD, Henslow Research Fellow in Zoology (2021)

John William Morgan BA MSci MA PhD, *Tutor, Praelector*, Fellow in Chemistry (2021)

Retirements and Resignations 1 July 2019–30 September 2020

Josephine (Josie) Anna Eleanor Hughes HMA MEng MRes PhD, Mays Wild Research Fellow in Engineering (resigned 2021)

António Ferraz de Oliveira BA MA (Warwick) PhD (Warwick), *Graduate Tutor*, Whitworth Research Fellow in Geography (2018-2021)

OTHER FELLOWS

The Honorary Fellows

Giles Skey Brindley MA (London) MD FRS
Sir Francis Graham Smith MA PhD FRS
Sir Arnold Stanley Vincent Burgen FMedSci FRS
Dame Janet Abbott Baker CH DBE
Sir Trevor Robert Nunn BA CBE
Godfrey Michael Bradman FCA
Sir Colin Brian Blakemore MA ScD FRS FMedSci FRSB
FBPhS
Martin John Kemp MA FBA
Richard John Bowring MA PhD LittD
David Stanley Ingram BSc MA PhD ScD OBE VMH
FRSE
Sir Quentin Saxby Blake MA CBE FCSD FRSL RDI FRA
The Rt Hon Lord Collins of Mapesbury LLB FBA
Sir David Anthony King ScD HonFREng FRS
The Rt Rev'd Nicholas Thomas Wright MA DPhil DD
Sir John Pendry MA PhD FInstP FRS
Sir William Brian Vickers PhD DLitt FBA
Aitzaz Ahsan MA Barrister at Law
Professor John Lawrence Cardy MA PhD FRS
Howard Eric Jacobson MA
The Rt Hon Sir Kim Martin Jordan Lewison MA
Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach BA MPhil GBE KCB
ADC DL
The Rt Hon Lord Lloyd-Jones MA LLB
The Rt Hon Sir Richard George Bramwell McCombe MA
Professor Barry John Everitt BSc (Hull) MA
PhD (Birmingham) ScD DSc FRS FMedSci
Martin Baker MA FRCO
Stephen Chambers MA RA
Caroline Elizabeth Wilson MA MA (Bruxelles) CMG
Professor Geoffrey Grimmett MA (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon)
DSc (Oxon) ScD FRS
Keith Ajegbo BA MA OBE
Martin Maiden MA MPhil PhD FBA
Ritchie Neil Ninian Robertson MA DPhil FBA
Victoria Susan Brignell MA
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Colin Birss BA QC

The Emeritus Fellows

Alfred Thomas Grove MA
Ian Bonar Topping MA
Robert John Richards MA PhD
Charles Harpum MA LLB LLD
Martin Joshua Mays MA PhD
Philip Huson Rubery MA PhD ScD
Margery Ann Barrand BSc (London) PhD (London)
Richard Michael Smith BA (London) MA (Oxon)
PhD FBA
Stafford Withington BEng (Bradford) PhD (Manchester)
Peter James Duffett-Smith MA PhD
Peter David Evans MA PhD ScD
Paul Frederick Linden BSc (Adelaide) MSc (Flinders)
PhD FRS
Richard Keith Taplin BSc (LSE) MA MBE
John Stuart Landreth McCombie MA MA (McMaster)
PhD
Trevor William Robbins CBE MA PhD FRS
Kenneth McNamara BSc (Aberdeen) PhD
David John Feldman MA DCL (Oxon) PhD FBA FRSA
Trevor William Clyne MA PhD FREng
Paul Christopher Millett MA PhD, *MCR Liaison Fellow*
William Mark Adams MA MSc (London) PhD
Catherine Lynette Phillips BA (Queen's) MA (Toronto)
PhD
Susan Elizabeth Lintott MA PhD (Kent),
Director of the Heong Gallery

Foundation Fellows

Humphrey William Battcock MA
MBA (London Business School)
Tadayoshi Tazaki MA
Alwyn Wai-Yin Heong MA BA BM (Oxon) BCh (Oxon)
MBA (Chicago)
Kim Silverman MA PhD
Jonathan Howard MA
Julie Lambert BSc (Southampton) PG Dip (London)

The Wilkins Fellows

Richard Alexander Frischmann MA
Christian Flemming Heilmann MA
The Lord Verjee MA CBE
Richard Anthony Williams MA
Christopher John Bartram MA FRICS
Maria Ferreras Willetts MA (Oxon)
Robert John MA DLitt (Swansea)
Louise Arnell BA MA (Open) MA (Sussex)
Robert Markwick MA MBA (Manchester)
James Simon Edward Arnell MA
Stephen Mark Peel MA MAS (Yale)
Christopher Harborne MA MEng MBA
Gifford Combs AB (Harvard) MPhil

The Fellows Commoner

David Chambers BA (Oxon) MSc (LBS) MSc (LSE)
PhD (LSE)
Timothy Rawle MA
Gabrielle Bennett BA (Virginia) MA
Penny Furniss MA

Morgan Fellows

Max Bryant BA MPhil PhD
Konogan Beaufay BA (Namur, Belgium)
MA (Free, Brussels) MA (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon)
Rebecca Gill BA (Reading) MPhil (Bristol)
PhD (Reading)

Bye-Fellows

Natalie Acton BA (Oxon)
MPA (Harvard Kennedy School, USA)
Stephen Bennett BEd
Richard Berengarten MA
Alexander Bleistein BA
Sabine Cadeau BA MA PhD
Matthew Carter BA MA MB BChir

Adrian Chung BSc (Warwick) MSc (UCL) MPhil
Andrew Cockburn MSc PhD
Jasmine Cooper MA MA (UCL) PhD
Andrej Corovic MA MB BChir MRCP
Elizabeth Deans BA (Maryland)
MA (New York School of Design) PhD (York)
Eoin Devlin BA (Dublin) MLitt (Dublin) MPhil PhD
Buffy Eldridge-Thomas BA
Alexander Fellows
António Ferraz de Oliveira BA MA (Warwick)
PhD (Warwick)
Paula Heister MA MSc DPhil
Vicky Jones MA MB BChir MRCS
Joshua Kaggie BSc MSc PhD
Patricia Laurenson PhD
Daniel Ng MA MPhil (Bath) MRes (Bath)
Yongcan Liu BA (Guangdong) MA (Guangdong)
MPhil PhD
David Lowe MA ARAM,
Director of College and Chapel Music
Deepti Marchment BA MA MChir
Arlie McCarthy MA (Tasmania) BSc (Melbourne)
Aram Mooradian AADIPL PGDIP ARCH ARB
Lisa Mullen PhD
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Joanna Page MA
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Edmund Robinson MA (St Andrews) LLM (UCL)
Hakan Sandal-Wilson BA (Istanbul Bilgi)
MA (Istanbul Bilgi) PhD
William Schafer PhD FMedSci FRS
Franziska Sielka PhD
Neal Spencer BA PhD
Ellie Standen PhD
Gareth Taylor BA MA PhD
Thomas Towers BA VetMB MSc (Liverpool)
Paola Velasco-Herrejon BA (ITESM, Guadalajara,
Mexico), MA (Family and Individual Development
Institute, Mexico), MA (Sussex), PhD
Xin-She Yang MSc (USTC) DPhil (Oxon)

OFFICERS AND PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

Master: Mr Alan Peter Bookbinder BA (Oxon) MA (Harvard) MA

Senior Tutor: Dr Guy Williams, MA, PhD

Senior Bursar: Mr Gavin Flynn MA (Oxon) MBA (INSEAD) MSc (LSE)

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Charity Registration No: 1137455



REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY



REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BODY

This Report provides the context within which to interpret the Accounts. The first section explains the College's charitable objective, its governance, its public benefit, and the way it is funded. The second section reviews the specific activities and achievements of the year to 30 June 2021 and developments since the year-end.

CHARITABLE OBJECTIVE

Downing is a self-governing, autonomous College within the University of Cambridge. Our charitable objective is to further the public good by promoting learning, study, and teaching in a community of Fellows, students and staff. We believe in the transformative power of a world-class education. Downing is a place of welcome, of diversity and of inclusion.

Founded in 1800, the College takes its name from Sir George Downing, 3rd Baronet, who bequeathed his fortune to establish a new college in Cambridge. It is the 17th oldest of the University's 31 Colleges, the 'newest of the old and the oldest of the new'. Originally founded for the study of law, medicine, and moral and natural science, the College now accepts students in all subjects taught at the University.

Built in an elegant neo-classical style, Downing was the first College designed with an open campus layout, at that time a striking departure from the tradition of enclosed courtyards in the older Colleges. The spaciousness of the College encourages the open-mindedness necessary to prepare students to be good citizens; it also signals accessibility and a desire to reach out.

With over 200 years of history, set amidst 20 acres of magnificent grounds in the heart of the city, the College continues to be a community of committed scholars and students, current and future leaders in their fields.

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The College is a lay eleemosynary corporation established by Royal Charter. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 12 August 2010 (Registered Number: 1137455) following the removal of the exempt status of the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge on 1 June 2010. The arrangements for governance of the College are set out in the Statutes.

The trustees of the College are the Fellows who constitute the Governing Body. They are responsible for ensuring that the College meets its charitable objective to promote learning, study and teaching. Because the College is responsible for directing studies and arranging student supervisions, the Governing Body focuses much of its attention on the students' academic experience and welfare, as well as overseeing the College's finances and premises. Through their membership of committees and their participation in Governing Body meetings, students are able to influence decision-making.

Members of the Governing Body are required to act with integrity, to act in the College's interests without regard to their own private interests, and to manage the affairs of the College prudently, balancing long-term and short-term considerations. They are chosen, after interview, on the basis of excellence in their teaching and research, their commitment to providing direction of studies and supervisions across the subjects offered by the University and their willingness to take a full part in the life of the College. Some Fellows take on additional roles as Tutors advising students



on pastoral matters. They serve until the earlier of retirement or the end of the academic year in which they reach 67 years of age. New Fellows are trained in the fulfilment of their duties.

The Master is Chairman of the Governing Body; the Senior Tutor has overall responsibility for the admission, education and welfare of students; the Senior Bursar has overall responsibility for the finances, the estate, and the administration of the College. Both the Senior Tutor and the Senior Bursar are accountable to the Governing Body.

The Governing Body meets eight times a year and discharges its responsibilities through a network of standing committees dealing with Education, Finance, Buildings & Environment, Fellowships, Development, Investments and General Purposes. Representatives of the JCR and the MCR participate in these committees, with the exception of the Fellowships Committee. Sub-committees deal with HR, Health & Safety, Diversity, the Heong Gallery, Information Management, Student Facilities and Staff Consultation. A Remuneration Committee, consisting of five external members, decides on the remuneration of current and former members of the Governing Body. During periods of intense fundraising, a Campaign Board including external members acts as a steering group.

Although the College is a legally autonomous body, it operates within the federal structure of the University. Matters of common concern are discussed and acted on through a system of University-wide committees, such as the Colleges' Committee, of which all Heads of Houses are members, the Senior Tutors' Committee, which is chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, and the Bursars' Committee. These committees work through the building of consensus.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Governing Body has complied with its duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

In order to meet our charitable objective of furthering the public good by promoting learning, study, and teaching in a community of Fellows, students and staff, we seek to provide a world-class education to the students with the most potential in each subject, whatever their means, social background, or nationality. We aim to attract the best applicants from the broadest range of schools and colleges, actively supporting the University's widening participation targets, as agreed with the Office for Students.

Downing students have access to several sources of financial support – for bursaries, including rent bursaries, in case of financial hardship, for the purchase of books and equipment, attendance at conferences, travel and studentships. The sources are trusts, general College funds, and the Cambridge Bursary Scheme. Under the latter scheme, which is operated together with the University and other Colleges, students whose household income is below £25,000 receive a maximum grant of £3,500 per year, and those with incomes of up to £42,620 receive amounts that taper down to £300. For students matriculating in October 2021, a revised Cambridge Bursary Scheme has been introduced in which the grant tapers down to £100 for household incomes up to £62,286. The College also refunds rent on longer residential agreements and for those who are in cheaper rooms to students whose household incomes fall between £40,000 and £62,286. The College administers a scheme funded by the COSARAF Charitable Foundation to provide grants of up to £2,000 per year for Muslim students at Cambridge who are suffering financial hardship.

The College seeks to help meet the University's targets, agreed with the Office for Students as Cambridge's Access and Participation Plan, of admitting students from disadvantaged backgrounds and areas of low academic attainment. As part of the University's Area Links Scheme, Downing works with state secondary schools, Further Education Colleges

and Sixth Form Colleges in Cornwall and Devon. Organised by the School and College Liaison Officer (SCLO), the programme, which includes visits to schools, residential courses in Cambridge, Open Days, Admissions Fairs and webinars, encourages students who may otherwise not consider higher education to look at all the university options available to them. The SCLO collaborates with the JCR, the Admissions Tutor, Fellows, and staff to deliver these events.

Increasingly, the College's outreach activities have focused on raising the aspirations of younger students. We recognise the importance of encouraging them to be enthusiastic about learning from an early age, raising their aspirations and supporting them to apply to highly-rated institutions with the confidence that they are capable of achieving the required grades and gaining a place.

COLLEGE FUNDING

The College funds its activities from academic fees, charges for student residences and catering, income from its conference and functions business, its investments, and donations and bequests.

Since 2012–13, the undergraduate tuition fee has been paid either by the students themselves or on behalf of the students through the Student Loan Company. The Colleges collect these fees and pass half of their value to the University. The Colleges admit, matriculate and accommodate undergraduates, provide supervisions for them, take responsibility for their pastoral care and present them for degrees. The University provides lectures and laboratories, and examines and classifies students. The portion of the tuition fee that goes to Colleges only partly covers the real costs of offering the distinctive small-group teaching that Cambridge Colleges provide. The shortfall has to be made up by other sources of income.

Since 2014–15, the fee due from postgraduates is a proportion of a single fee charged by the University. The fee is calculated according to a complex formula that assigns weightings to different categories of postgraduate student.

Students living in College accommodation pay rent and, if they wish, buy food and drink from College outlets. This stream of income typically amounts to just under 30% of the total.

Through its subsidiary, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited, the College has built a substantial commercial business, which consists of conferences, corporate functions and international summer schools. In a normal year, revenue from this business amounts to around 20% of the College's total income.

Donations and legacies from alumni and friends of the College typically amount to around 20% of our total income. Investment income from our relatively modest endowment normally contributes a further 7–8%.







THE YEAR IN REVIEW



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2020–21 academic year will forever have an asterisk after it to indicate just how extraordinary it was. Covid-19 not only caused serious disruption to the normal rhythms of College life, but also prompted an impressive response in terms of resilience, flexibility and determination across our entire community. Uncertainty and constant change have made for relentless challenges to our normally stable routines, to the students' experience and the staff's morale, and to our finances.

Much of our normal activity had to take place virtually. Lectures, supervisions, exams and admissions interviews happened online. Governing Body and our other committees conducted their business on Zoom. For much of the year, the same went for student societies, alumni events, MCR seminars and chapel services. It was impressive how well students adapted to online learning, much of it done from home, and to virtual exams, mainly taken in College bedrooms with open access to books, notes and the internet. This may have helped to produce results that, on average, were better than in a normal year. The disruption was greater still to students' social life. Lockdown meant socialising was restricted to household groups. For parts of the year, College facilities were closed, food was available only as a takeaway service and the library was open only for pre-booked, socially-distanced slots.

The challenge as Michaelmas Term 2020 began was to achieve the right balance between keeping the College community safe and creating a positive educational and social experience for the students. As the national prevalence of positive tests increased in student age groups, we correctly anticipated that significant numbers of our student households would need to go through periods of isolation. The University-wide system of asymptomatic testing of all students succeeded in identifying students carrying the virus and in isolating them promptly.

Staff prepared for the new academic year by risk-assessing the entire College and making our indoor spaces Covid secure, with a particular focus on ensuring that supervision rooms were safe places in which to work. Attractive new Covid-compliant outdoor areas were created – the 'Taverna' behind the Butterfield cafe and the 'Amphitheatre', complete with a stage, on the Paddock. Student accommodation ballots were re-run in the light of new rules for student households and taking into account the additional 20 Freshers admitted as a result of Ofqual's botched handling of the 2020 A-level results, which brought the total matriculated to 148.

The year started with an unusual matriculation day: the Freshers gathered on the Paddock in individually painted circles two metres apart, to hear the Master's speech and be photographed by a drone hovering above them. They were then matriculated on the portico of the Master's Lodge; and picnic boxes replaced the normal sit-down dinner in Hall.

By the end of Michaelmas, students had adjusted to restricting their social life to members of their own household and studying online. However, as a new wave of infections from the Delta variant of the virus threatened to overwhelm the NHS, a new lockdown prevented students from returning for Lent Term. This was perhaps the lowest point for the community, as we waited anxiously for the new vaccination programme to take effect and bring down the rate of infection again. Once again, no music or sport was possible and the Heong Gallery remained largely closed. Without events and gatherings, talks and recitals, and without socialising in the café or the bar, the community could not thrive in the way we all cherish.



As national restrictions eased, students returned for Easter Term. Exams took place online and, with better weather allowing more activity to happen in the open air, a thriving outdoor bar, music recitals, formal Halls and some sports events restarted. There were no May Bumps, but we put seven boats on the river for a highly successful Eights Regatta. Although we had to postpone the May Ball until 2022, the garden parties and celebrations that followed the end of exams went ahead.

To comply with social distancing, the graduating class split in half for two graduation dinners in Hall on consecutive evenings. In a splendid end to such a disrupted year, we had two graduation days, one for the 2021 cohort and one for the delayed 2020 year. The graduation ceremonies were adapted to meet Covid restrictions, with no guests in the Senate House and no grasping of the Praelector's fingers or clasping of the Master's hands as he conferred the degrees. The colourful processions from College to Senate House went ahead nevertheless, and parents and guests watched the ceremonies on large screens specially set up on the lawns. The graduands returned to join them for a socially-distanced picnic. Thank goodness for our wonderful big green spaces!

Another casualty of the pandemic was the programme of events the College had planned to mark the 40th anniversary of the admission of women. Quentin Blake's whimsical sketches of 40 imaginary Downing women filled the Heong Gallery physically and virtually, and we also held a webinar at which distinguished alumnae discussed women's progress over those 40 years. Disappointingly, however, a large-scale reunion was not possible during the anniversary year.

The financial impact of the pandemic continues to be serious: we sustained student rent losses because of the Lent Term lockdown; income from conferences and corporate functions started to recover only towards the end of the academic year; and re-opening of many of the retail properties the College owns in Cambridge was delayed so they could not meet their rental payments for much of the year. Fortunately, the investments held in our endowment did well, as international markets recovered sharply. This was also a good year for income from legacies bequeathed to the College by generous alumni. We are nevertheless showing an unrestricted operating deficit for 2020–21 of £1 million.

FELLOWS

Seven new Fellows were admitted on 1 October 2020: Dr Dee Scadden, Fellow in Biochemistry, is the Director of Digital Learning in Biochemistry; Mr Gavin Flynn, Senior Bursar, brings to Downing extensive finance and strategy experience, backed up by strong analytical and communication skills; Dr Bjoern Neumann is the new Kim and Julianna Silverman Fellow, researching the ability of stem cells to regenerate injured or diseased organs; Dr Michael Ashby is the new Williams Downing Fellow and College Teaching Officer in Economics; Dr Neda Farahi, Fellow in Biology, is Senior Research Associate in the Department of Medicine; Mr William Day, Fellow in Law and a Downing alumnus, practices commercial law at the Bar; and Dr Lucy Whelan, is the new Graham Robertson Fellow, an art historian specialising in modern art in France and Germany.

Mr Justin Davies was admitted as a Fellow in Clinical Medicine in December 2020. He is a Consultant Colorectal Surgeon and Deputy Medical Director at Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Dr Antonio Ferraz de Oliveira's tenure as Whitworth Research Fellow came to an end on 30 September 2021; he will spend a further year at Downing as a Bye Fellow.

In the course of the year four new Fellows were elected:

- Dr Charlotte Hammer, Everitt-Butterfield Research Fellow, works on understanding the origins of epidemics by identifying drivers of the initial stages of infectious diseases.
- Dr Nathan James, Mays Wild Research Fellow, investigates the circadian control of gene expression and protein homeostasis in mammalian cells.
- Dr Alec Christie, Henslow Research Fellow, seeks to understand how we can rigorously synthesise evidence that varies in its reliability and relevance, to better inform conservation policy and practice.
- Dr John Morgan, College Teaching Officer in Chemistry, will focus largely on teaching, while continuing his research into machine learning.

All four were admitted as Fellows on 1 October 2021.

The achievements of members of the Fellowship were recognised within the University, their professional societies and beyond.

Dr Dee Scadden received a University Pilkington Prize in recognition of her contributions to teaching excellence. Dr Ewan Jones was awarded a Leverhulme Fellowship for 2021–22, on the topic of Close Reading as Attentional Practice. Dr Frisbee Sheffield was awarded a Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Crausaz Wordsworth Interdisciplinary Fellowship in Philosophy, which she will be taking up in January 2022. Professor Graham Virgo continues as Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education).

Sir Colin Birss, a Downing alumnus appointed this year to the Court of Appeal, was elected as an Honorary Fellow.

Sadly, Honorary Fellows Sir Alan Bowness and Michael Apted, Foundation Fellow Hugh Brammer, Wilkins Fellow Gary Blankenship, and George Pulman QC, who was instrumental in College fundraising, all passed away during the year.

Further information is shown in section 3 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

UNDERGRADUATES

At the beginning of the 2020–21 academic year, of the 452 undergraduates across all years at Downing, 55% were men and 45% women; 81% were from the UK, 2% were from the EU and 17% from the rest of the world; of those schooled in the UK, 59% were from state schools and 41% from the independent sector.

The College received 949 applications for entry in 2020. 161 offers were made with the aim of achieving an intake of 128 undergraduates. After Ofqual abandoned the algorithm used to calculate school examination results, a total number of 144 new offer-holders became eligible for places and matriculated, together with four others who took up places deferred from the previous year.

Downing's popularity with applicants has continued to grow; 1,197 candidates applied for entry in 2021. Competition for our usual 128 undergraduate places grows ever more intense.



In considering whether to make an offer, the Colleges take into account contextual data ('flags'), such as demographic data, including Output Area Classification (OAC) and Participation Of Local Areas (POLAR) (the record on progression to higher education); data on the school's performance at GCSE and previous success in sending students to Cambridge or Oxford; and individual circumstances (for example, whether an applicant has been in care or their schooling has been disrupted by, for instance, difficult medical or personal circumstances). Nevertheless, all candidates must meet the terms of the standard offer. In 2020–21 Downing remained short of Cambridge's average intake of candidates with such 'flags,' but the gap is steadily closing.

This was another unusual year for final examination results, in that the pandemic prevented finalists from sitting examinations in the normal way. In many cases, students sat examinations in their rooms, over a longer period, with access to books and the internet. This means that results are not strictly comparable with those of normal years, but it is worth noting that Downing achieved a much higher percentage (31.6%) of First Class results than normal, and a much higher percentage (86.8%) of Firsts and 2:1s combined. This included some outstanding individual results: Rachel Caul came top of the Architecture Tripos across the University. 15 special prizes were awarded to Downing students with superlative Firsts in comparison with their cohort. While the College is happy once again to celebrate the unusually high number of excellent results, it would be prudent for us to bear in mind the unusual circumstances and not to conclude that a new sustainable pattern of success has been established.

Further information is shown in section 1 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

POSTGRADUATES

Downing had a total of 494 postgraduate students, many of whom live on site and participate actively in College life. Of these, 56% are men and 44% women; 43% are from the UK, 14% from the EU and 43% from the rest of the world; 168 were studying for a PhD, of which 85 are NOTAF (probationary PhDs); there were 105 studying one-year courses (including 64 MPhils, 13 full-time MBAs, 9 PGCEs, and 2 LLMs) and 43 clinical medics and vets. An increasing number of students combine study with careers – this year, there are 40 Executive MBA students, who study at the Judge Business School for 16 weekends and four one-week sessions. A further 27 students are enrolled in the MSt Real Estate, and 12 in the MACC Masters in Accounting, both part-time courses. There are also 99 students who are writing-up.

In 2020–21, 25 students were awarded PhDs: Arts and Humanities (2); Biological Sciences (8); Clinical Medicine (0); Humanities and Social Sciences (5); Physical Sciences (6); and Technology (4).

Membership of a College encourages contact across disciplines that is not available in academic departments. The College provides a tutorial service through its postgraduate tutors, who help with pastoral and welfare matters. With the expansion of the postgraduate population, Downing's on-site accommodation is over-subscribed and, with this in mind, work continued to convert 90–92 Regent Street into 23 postgraduate rooms. Students are also able to take advantage of the College's facilities: the Library, the Sports Ground, the Gym and the Boat House. Postgraduate representatives attend meetings of the Governing Body and the committees that are relevant to the postgraduate experience.

Further information is shown in section 2 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

STUDENT WELLBEING

The mental health of students continues to be a significant concern. Among the factors that continue to distress some students are the intensity of the eight-week terms, the very high standards that they set themselves, the stresses of living away from home, pre-existing mental health conditions, relationship difficulties, struggles with deadlines, loneliness, feelings of missing out or falling short and imposter syndrome, and in this troubled year, the extra pressures caused by lockdown and enforced isolation. The traditional tutorial system that provides pastoral care has once again been under strain, and specialist counselling, though enormously helpful, is heavily over-subscribed. This year, for the first time in many years, we have to report with great sadness that a student took her own life.

In January 2021, our Head of Student Wellbeing, Dr Kate Daniels, started work. She has been able to take on the most acute cases, supporting the graduate and undergraduate Tutors, who are often the first people to whom students in distress turn. She has also devised a programme of events and classes aimed at preventing mental illness and helping students to find their own coping strategies when pressures seem unmanageable. Downing's beautiful grounds continue to be a source of solace and relaxation, all the more so during the pandemic.

GENDER EQUALITY

40 years after the admission of women undergraduates to Downing in 1980, the College continues to suffer from a gender imbalance in several areas: the trustees of the College currently comprise 15 female Fellows and 33 male Fellows; female undergraduates constituted 48% of the total in 2020–21, well below the University average; female postgraduates constituted 39% of the total in 2020–21.

The College continues to take positive steps towards closing the Gender Pay Gap, which it is committed to eliminating. When figures were last calculated in 2019, women were paid 8% (mean) and 8.6 % (median) less than men per hour, a reduction from the 2018 gaps of 14.9% (mean) and 14.2% (median). At that time, 60% of relatively less-well-paid posts were occupied by women and 40% by men. Wherever operationally feasible, the College encourages flexible working patterns in order to help employees combine a career with domestic and other responsibilities.

All 18 Masters since the College was founded in 1800 have been men. We have our first female Vice Master, Professor Zoe Barber, and many other positions of responsibility are currently held by women: Development Director, Academic Registrar, Head Porter, Director of Engagement and Development Operations, College Librarian, College Archivist, College Secretary, HR Manager, Domus Manager, Heong Gallery Director and Curator, Accommodation Officer and Communications Officer.

RACIAL EQUALITY

The College is committed to outlawing discrimination of all kinds, as shown in our policy published on the Downing website: "The Fellows, staff and students of Downing College believe that all forms of discrimination and racism are unacceptable. Not only do they divide communities and undermine social cohesion, they prevent individuals from achieving their full potential, to all of our detriments. We acknowledge that the responsibility lies with each of us to robustly challenge discrimination and to assert the positive value of diversity. We stand together with any of our fellows, staff and students who are adversely affected by discrimination."



Our Racial Equality Action Plan covers racial awareness training for students and staff, clear procedures for reporting incidents and taking disciplinary action where appropriate, positive actions to support the ethnic minority community, and research to establish the extent of links between the Downing family and enslavement.

This year, we created the Racial Justice Forum, chaired by an external facilitator, where ethnic minority students can raise concerns about their experience in College and put forward ideas that allow Downing to realise its aspiration to be a truly anti-racist place to live and study. In addition, Sonia Watson, Chief Executive of the Stephen Lawrence Trust, gave a rousing Richmond Lecture about her work to surface and challenge racist behaviour.

DRAMA

Despite the pandemic, the Downing Dramatic Society put on a production in a prime-time slot at the ADC Theatre for the first time in over a decade: Seb Brindle directed a post-apocalyptic rendition of *Macbeth* starring Matt Paul as Macduff. The Society also produced an online version of the *Monologue Clash*.

Our delayed Festival of New Writing took place in the Howard Theatre, although the Freshers' Play fell victim to the Delta variant, when three of the cast had to self-isolate on the eve of the performance. It was re-staged in October.

MUSIC

In the early part of 2021, online recitals replaced in-person concerts. These included a guitar recital by former Music Society President Declan Hickey, recorded in the Heong Gallery, and a programme of piano music by Michael Fletcher, recorded in the Master's Lodge. By Easter Term, in-person performances were back, although subject to social distancing restrictions. Laurens Macklin and Ellie Ninham both gave vocal recitals, and the short series was completed by a flute and piano performance.

The Chapel Choir adapted quickly to rehearsing with social distancing in place, recording music to insert into Zoom services and social media outlets. As a result, many more people than in normal times were able to access the choir's work. This included a pre-recorded Advent Carol Service that was released online and viewed over 2,000 times.

STUDENT SOCIETIES

One advantage of being forced to hold talks virtually was the ability to attract prestigious international speakers, of which the Downing student societies made full use on occasions, including:

- Nobel Prize winner Professor Bruce Beutler talked to the Danby Society about progress in the field of identifying genes needed for immunity in our understanding of disease.
- Turner Prize-winning artist Lawrence Abu Hamdan screened his latest video work *Once Removed* and answered questions from Blake Society members.
- Supreme Court Justices Lord David Lloyd-Jones and Sir Richard McCombe (both Downing alumni) and Lady Jill Black gave the Cranworth Law Society their reflections on a career in law.

- Dr Jesse Reynolds lectured the Brammer Society on the potential of geoengineering to mitigate the climate crisis.
- Dr Ruth Lawlor delivered a thought-provoking paper to the Maitland Society on American sexual violence in the Second World War.
- Downing alumna Sharon Gimson discussed with the Whitby Society how the Medical Practitioners' Tribunal Service judges doctors' fitness to practise medicine.

SPORT

Covid restrictions limited most of the College teams to occasional friendly games. Lacrosse and Ultimate Frisbee proved to be especially popular. In the absence of competitive matches, the Rugby Club retained the Cuppers Cup for another year. The Boat Club suffered from the cancellation of Lent and May Bumps, but a June Eights Regatta went ahead, in which the women's boats achieved excellent results. The rest of College was grateful to the Boat Club for putting a set of rowing machines on the Paddock for general use.

At University level, in sports in which Varsity matches were held, Blues were awarded to Emily Brosnan (Women's Hockey), Charlie Foster (Golf), Bridget Fryer (Athletics), Juliana Ganendra (Tennis) and Brody Wooding (Men's Football). Half-Blues went to Ollie Boyne and Cameron Spiers (both Rowing) and Charlotte Dawson and Madoka Hazemi (both Women's Basketball). Downing alumnus Callum Sullivan was President of the victorious Cambridge Eight in the Boat Race.

THE HEONG GALLERY

To mark the fifth anniversary of the Gallery in February 2021, Downing alumnus Alex Lass made a film that captured what the Gallery means to students, Fellows, alumni and patrons, highlighting its role in fostering creativity, wellbeing and a sense of community, while striving for excellence in the quality of curated exhibitions. The added value to our students of living with exhibitions by acclaimed artists has become clear, with the opportunity to see, to reflect, to enjoy and to discover. In normal times, students attend talks, symposia, film screenings and book launches, and organise their own events, including music recitals, installations, and the popular student-led After Dark series on Wednesdays during term.

The pandemic closed the Gallery's doors for most of the year, so the exhibition of Quentin Blake's whimsical sketches of 40 imaginary Downing women representing their 40 years at Downing had to be viewed mostly online. In the summer, the Gallery re-opened with a show, *Of the Earth*, of contemporary ceramics and glass from the Fitzwilliam Museum, celebrating the natural materials and forms that inspire Britain's leading makers. The exhibition included abstract paintings inspired by landscapes from the collection of Downing alumnus and Honorary Fellow Alan Bowness, who sadly died in April 2021.



THE ESTATE

The conversion of the commercial premises we own at 90–92 Regent Street into 23 new postgraduate student rooms was completed and students moved in at the end of October 2021. The property has been named 1749 House to recognise the generosity of alumni who have made bequests to the College. The summer also saw refurbishment of the student accommodation at 30 Lensfield Road.

Re-planting and landscaping work was completed in the Rose Garden, with the removal of unsafe greenhouses and the creation of a new pond and paving; this new space for study and relaxation complements the West and East Lodge gardens.

The College purchased the old Pizza Hut building on Regent Street, close to our main gates. In due course, this may offer additional student accommodation or be let commercially for the long term.

Planning permission was obtained for the proposed new Student Centre, designed by architect Adam Caruso and including spaces for collaborative working, entertainment, relaxation and multi-faith prayer, as well as social spaces, a café and a bar. It may be that the financial constraints caused by the pandemic will slow the anticipated flow of funding needed to realise this attractive building. We may need to have similar patience with implementing the College's master plan for the estate, which brings even bolder long-term ambitions, expanding our accommodation capacity substantially and improving our facilities to protect the College's heritage for generations to come.

ENVIRONMENT

Downing was the first College to sign the Cambridge Climate Change Charter in 2008 and has remained at the forefront of environmental initiatives. We are firmly behind the recently launched Cambridge Zero carbon project. In 2018, we committed to divesting from direct holdings in carbon, and we offset our indirect holdings with new investments in sustainable energy.

In 2019–20 we developed an environmental strategy that committed to:

- Minimising the consumption of carbon-rich energy and water;
- Operating effective waste management and recycling procedures;
- Encouraging modes of transport that minimise adverse environmental impact;
- Applying environmentally sustainable purchasing policies, including total supply chain and whole-life-costing techniques;
- Participating in energy conservation programmes, such as Green Impact, and Student Switch-Off.

The following initiatives have recently been adopted:

- Introducing quarterly 'green metric' reports;
- Replacing laundry equipment with highly efficient machines;
- Reducing the use of chemicals and battery-driven tools; using only organic fertilizer;
- Planting more hedge, pollen- and nectar-rich plants and meadows to encourage wild-life;
- Increasing use of double-glazed and draught-proofed windows;



- Continuing roll-out of LED lighting;
- Eliminating single-use plastics in favour of fully compostable Vegware containers;
- Increasing choice of plant-based options on College menus;
- Identifying suitable sites in College for additional roof-top photo-voltaic arrays. Work has just finished on installing photo-voltaic cell panels on the bursary roof to move closer to generating our own electricity.

The College hosts the Centre for Climate Repair under former Master Professor Sir David King. The Centre's research was focused this year on greenhouse gas removal, climate repair and preparations for the international COP26 meeting in November 2021. Thanks to the generosity of alumnus Jamie Arnell, the College is in the process of recruiting a Fellow in Geography, who will be affiliated to the Centre. For the past two summers, the Centre has employed Downing students as summer interns.

DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

Donations to the College recorded in the accounts totalled £2.99 million this financial year, while £6.3 million cash was received including legacies notified to the College last year.

Alumnus, Wilkins Fellow and Chairman of the Downing Campaign, Jamie Arnell (1988) pledged £2.1 million to establish a Fellowship in Climate Repair and to support PhD Studentships. The Centre for Climate Repair at Cambridge, based at Downing, continues to attract support, which this year totalled £0.54 million from donors in the UK and internationally, to advance its research.

Regular gifts from Downing alumni make a vital contribution to current students and we are grateful for the generosity of alumni who responded to our Covid appeals to the Student Hardship and Student Support funds. The Timothy J Walton Remembrance Fund was established thanks to donations from his family, friends and colleagues to help current students. Dr Andy Phillipps's gift was gratefully received as it helps post-graduate students, particularly those whose work has been interrupted. Together, these Funds allow the Senior Tutor and the College Registrar to help students facing severe financial difficulties (particularly those whose family income was hit by lockdowns) and to provide grants for books, travel and research.

We are grateful to members of the 1749 Society for committing a legacy to Downing; to the 1717 Society, who support the Heong Gallery and its exhibitions; to the Alumni Association Committee and members for their work on our behalf; and to those who support music, drama and sport, all of which make a huge contribution to student life at Downing.

The impact of the pandemic on student mental health has been considerable, so a gift from Robert and Philippa John towards the Head of Student Wellbeing role and the Angharad Dodds John Bursaries in Mental Health research made an enormous difference to students and research.

Members of the Downing Enterprise Board make it possible for the College to host our very own 'Dragons' Den' business competition by giving their time and support to the prizes. If suitably inspired, board members may choose to invest further in student-led start-ups.

Thank you to all alumni who contribute to the College by giving their time, advice and support to our activities.



PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

As Michaelmas Term 2021 begins, life in College is returning to normal with renewed energy and ambition. In-person teaching has resumed. Social activities have been restored. Music, sport and student societies have been revived. Dinners, talks and in-person meetings have returned. With everyone double vaccinated and our meeting rooms well ventilated, the Downing community is ready to thrive again. While Covid may remain with us for some time, we are learning to live with it.

Many of the challenges that the College faced before Covid are still with us. Although our academic results have improved considerably in the past two years, we are still a little below the average across all Cambridge colleges. Gaps in our in-house teaching provision remain. Despite a much more comprehensive and cohesive mental health service in College, the demand from students for pastoral help and counselling is greater than the supply of assistance currently available.

We are steadily attracting a greater number of successful candidates from the state sector and from disadvantaged backgrounds, but there is more to do. In October 2022, we will be one of the Colleges taking part in the Foundation Year: across Cambridge, 50 students with strong academic potential whose education has been disrupted will be admitted for a preparatory year to learn the skills necessary to proceed to an undergraduate degree.

A second year of financial losses presents another challenge. We will have to be clear where our priorities lie. In that light, we look forward to launching a new fundraising campaign, delayed by the pandemic, but now almost ready to begin. It will reflect our renewed ambition to enhance our teaching, improve our student support and facilities and make a meaningful contribution to addressing climate change. The campaign will benefit from the Fellows' extensive deliberations, due to conclude in early 2022, about Downing's priorities and goals over the next 10–20 years.





THE FINANCIAL REVIEW



THE FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts that follow consolidate those of the College and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited, and The May Ball Company Limited. It also includes a linked charity, The John Miller Scholarships, which is invested as part of the College's endowment, the fund value of which is disclosed in note 26 of the accounts.

SIGNIFICANT POLICIES

Reserves

1. Total Net Assets stood at £225.6 million at 30 June 2021. Of this amount, £172.7 million represents the net book value of the buildings, including the Revaluation Reserve of £48.3 million. As functional fixed assets, they cannot be spent as income. Continuing investment by the College in its buildings, in excess of depreciation, has caused this figure to increase and correspondingly reduce free reserves. However, opportunities, such as the acquisition of property on the College borders, do not always arise when they are affordable, but are nevertheless strategically necessary. Of the remaining £52.9 million, £47.9 million consists of Permanent Restricted Endowment, and £4.5 million is attributable to the revaluation of works of art. At 30 June 2021, therefore, free reserves (General Reserve less pension liability of £1.8 million) stood at £0.5 million (2019: negative £0.3 million).
2. In formulating the reserves policy, the Governing Body has taken into account the guidance offered by the Charity Commission in its publication *Charity Reserves: Building Resilience (CC19)** and carefully considered the factors that cause variations in income and sudden calls on cash. These are: student numbers; changes in the funding of higher education and the apportionment of tuition fees; the susceptibility of the conference business to corporate cutbacks and geopolitical events; the volatility of the investment portfolio caused by movements in world markets and unanticipated rental voids; and the impact on donations and benefactions of insufficient staff resource. The Governing Body has also considered examples of historical unanticipated expenditure, in particular those that have arisen from problems in the fabric of the buildings, e.g. dry rot, or responses to changes in the law. The Reserves also support any liability arising under FRS 102, Section 28 from the USS and CCFPS final salary pension scheme for staff (2021: £1,812,954; 2020: £2,581,063).
3. The Governing Body therefore considers that the assessment of whether the College has sufficient reserves should take into account a range of factors: annual operating expenditure met from unrestricted funds, capital expenditure, working capital needs, unanticipated expenditure on repairs, known opportunities of uncertain timing (e.g. refurbishment projects), the level of essential expenditure that can be supported by returns from restricted funds, the level of unapplied total return, liquidity within the investment portfolio, the cash flow effect of the pension liability, and the likelihood of increased employer pension contributions.
4. Recommendations to the Governing Body for the adoption of the annual budget, the five-year plan, or major incremental expenditure take into account these factors. The current level of free reserves at £0.5 million is likely to worsen once the conversion of 90–92 Regent Street is completed; however, the Governing Body does not consider this currently to be a problem, as the College has access to various sources of liquidity, including cash on hand from the recent private placement, raising funds in fundraising campaigns and realising unrestricted investment assets. Furthermore, the reserves that represent the net book value of the buildings are designated by the College as such; however, *in extremis*, apart from the inalienable listed buildings on the Domus, the remainder of these reserves could be realisable.

*<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charities-and-reserves-cc19>



Investment Principles

1. The College may invest in securities and in real or personal property. (See Statute XLVII, approved by Her Majesty in Council on 19 July 2005, and superseded by the full set of statutes approved on 9 May 2006). Since 1 August 1957, the College has operated an Amalgamated Fund made under the Universities and Colleges (Trusts) Act 1943, in which permanent capital, expendable capital, restricted funds (including trusts), and unrestricted funds hold units. Since 1 July 2010, the units of the Amalgamated Fund have also been invested in the College's commercial property portfolio.
2. The College manages its investments in securities and property to produce the highest return consistent with the preservation of capital value in real terms for the long term, net of costs and withdrawals to support its operating needs. A subsidiary aim is to enhance the value of the capital for future beneficiaries.
3. The Investment Committee sets the overall asset allocation and appoints advisors and managers. On 1 August 2009, the College appointed Partners Capital to advise on and manage the securities portfolio. Such appointments are reviewed at five-yearly intervals or in response to specific problems or opportunities. The review considers the risk/return parameters that have been given to the managers, whether these parameters still accord with the College's investment objectives, the performance benchmark resulting from these parameters, and the long-term investment objective. Following a review in 2014, the College decided to retain Partners Capital, but adjust the risk levels within the portfolio. The five-yearly review which should have occurred in 2019 to renew Partners Capital's appointment was deferred until 2022.
4. For the securities portfolio, the goal implies a time-weighted net return target, comprising inflation, plus a spending rate of c. 4%, measured on a five-year trailing basis. The Investment Committee has set an additional goal of outperforming, net of all investment expenses, a composite benchmark, which comprises the sum product of the Strategic Asset Allocation and performance of each constituent asset class benchmark.
5. Risk in the securities portfolio is measured by a) Equivalent Net Equity Beta (ENEB) and b) the volatility of returns. Both of these metrics are assessed against the composite Strategic Asset Return benchmark. That benchmark currently reflects an expected return of 6.7% with a standard deviation of 12.5% and an ENEB of 75%.
6. The current strategic asset allocation and benchmarks by which performance is judged consists of: Equities: 32%, MSCI ACWI NR with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to GBP Index; Fixed Income: 11%, FTSE A British Government All Stocks; Hedged Funds: 17%, HFRI Fund of Funds Composite; Cash: 1%, UK three-month LIBOR Index; Inflation Linked Bonds: 3%, FTSE A (Index Linked) British Government All Stocks; Commodities: 3%, S&P Goldman Sachs Commodity Index; and Private Equity: 33%, State Street All PE Index (lagged 3 months). For the benchmark performance allocation, the allocation to private equity is held at its portfolio weight with the shortfall reallocated to public equities, whilst the portfolio's private equity allocation ramps up to its target level of 33%.
7. Tactical Allocation ranges were Cash: 0–5%; Fixed Income: 0–18%; Hedge Funds: 5–35%; Equities: 20–65%; Private Equity: 10–40%; Commodities: 0–6%; and Inflation Linked Bonds: 0–10%. Portfolio rebalancing is normally undertaken on a quarterly basis to re-align asset allocations to targets.
8. The Investment Committee monitors the liquidity in the securities portfolio and has set a limit on illiquid financial assets. New agreements to purchase such assets will not be executed if the aggregate market value of all such illiquid assets exceeds 43% of the aggregate market value of the value of the securities portfolio.



9. The currency hedging policy is managed through foreign currency forward contracts to target 60% Sterling exposure, which has no currency risk to the College, with 40% remaining unhedged foreign currency exposure in a combination of US dollars, Euro, Yen and Emerging Market Currencies. It is applied across all investment assets, both liquid and illiquid.
10. The custodian for the majority of the securities is Union Bancaire Privée (London) S.A.
11. The College's property portfolio is managed by Carter Jonas LLP. Routine decisions are taken by the Senior Bursar, acting on advice from Carter Jonas and the law firm Hewitsons. In the case of commercial property, the investment analysis must demonstrate an acceptable commercial yield. For any investment in external residential property for use by the College's students, the net yield must be positive, with the prospect of an appropriate capital gain. For investment in operational property without any material income generation, the related cost must be approved by the Governing Body as being a component of the College overall strategy. Such purchases must also take account of the College's overall liquidity and income requirements.
12. The College's spending rule is designed to smooth spending and reduce the effect on income of fluctuations in market performance. The amount of return recognised in the *Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure* is equal to the weighted average of the prior year's spending adjusted for inflation measured by RPI + 1% (70% weight) plus the amount that would have been spent using 4.5% of the prior year's closing value of the investments (30% weight). In formulating this rule, the College had regard to the unapplied total return on invested funds. The unapplied total return stands at £24,779,000, which, since 1 July 2007, includes returns from commercial property. The Committee reviewed the spending rule in November 2019.
13. Given the relatively small size of its investment portfolio, the College must balance the need for stability in value with that for superior long-term returns. The College has adopted a strategic asset allocation designed to reduce the volatility of returns through a diversified portfolio of non-correlated assets, embracing some illiquidity in order to provide a suitable trade-off between risk and return. The asset allocation, liquidity, and the expected risk/return profile of the portfolio are regularly reviewed by the Investment Committee. Although the portfolio is well-diversified and takes into account the risk-adjusted returns of each asset class and its role within the portfolio (e.g. volatility reduction, provision of income, return enhancement, deflation hedge, or inflation hedge), the turmoil in the financial markets towards the end of 2008 resulted in most asset classes being affected negatively with assets with long historical trends of low correlation to each other moving in tandem. The College responded by conducting a detailed and careful analysis and concluded that its strategy is sound, but that implementation should be through the use of a third-party specialising in multi-asset class investing. During more-recent financial turbulence, the portfolio has behaved according to the modelling that informed its construction.
14. All investments, including the parameters for the investment of cash, are overseen by the Investments Committee, with day-to-day management delegated to the Senior Bursar. Membership of the Investment Committee currently consists of three members of the Finance Committee and six external members with professional expertise. The Investment Committee reports to the Governing Body, which is responsible for authorising major changes of strategy, the appointment of fund managers, and all direct holdings of property.
15. This statement was last revised in November 2021.



Ethical Investment

The College continues to keep under review its duty in regard to the ethical investment of its funds. In line with the findings of the Harries case (Bishop of Oxford v. Church Commissioners, 1992), the overriding principle guiding the College's investments is the financial return of the portfolio, unless such investments are contrary to the charity's aims. However, the Charity Commission (CC14) also acknowledges that, in some instances, a charity might accept lower returns if it might 'lose supporters or beneficiaries if it does not invest ethically'. Categories of exclusion that may fall within the definition of activities that are contrary to the charity's aims are companies whose activities violate human rights, the environment, and best practice in social and stakeholder matters. In 2018, the College adopted a policy of Controlled Divestment of investments in companies engaged in fossil fuel extraction, investing only in tracker funds that exclude those companies and offsetting any residual exposure in illiquid funds with investments in clean technology. The College employs a firm of advisors that provides a range of pooled funds in which to invest. The Investment Committee is responsible for decisions on asset allocation, but does not select individual stocks. This model limits the College's ability to influence investment decisions in particular sectors; however, the managers are aware of areas of concern and regularly interrogate the holdings in the pooled funds. Partners Capital is a signatory of the UK Stewardship Code; its Stewardship Statement is informed by the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Investment. The College is a signatory to the Global Investor Statement to Governments on Climate Change.

Tax

As a UK charity, the College is not subject to taxes on income or capital gains. It also holds 501(c) (3) status in the USA, which means that it is recognised as a non-profit organisation and, therefore, exempt from US Federal Income Tax. To the extent that it holds investment assets in offshore vehicles, it does so to reduce the administrative costs of portfolio management, but only in jurisdictions that have signed up to the Common Reporting Standard, an information standard for the automatic exchange of tax and financial information on a global level.

Borrowings

The amount of borrowings at 30 June 2021 is £30.8 million (note 13 on page 79). The level of borrowings of the College must adhere to any financial covenants set by lenders and currently the College is well within those limits. The Governing Body is comfortable with the amount of borrowings as it considers the interest can be serviced from operations. Any additional borrowings would need to be approved by the Governing Body with a view to the long-term benefit of the College.



Risk Management

The Governing Body's Risk Management Register is kept under active review. Each committee routinely considers the risks inherent in its area of responsibility and has advised the Governing Body on the probability of occurrence and the likely impact, together with the steps taken in mitigation. Although risks can be identified and plans to deal with such risks formulated, the College is nevertheless exposed to a variety of risks, some of which cannot be addressed through insurance. The age of the estate, parts of which are 200 years old, means that problems inevitably occur, sometimes without warning and often at great expense. Annual results can be affected by large swings in student numbers, principally in the postgraduate community and mainly because of multiple applications and the uncertainty of funding. Many of the College's operations are affected by volatility in the financial markets and by recession in the real economy, the effects of which are hard to mitigate. All operations have been, and would be again, impacted by a pandemic. The College has made an appropriate plan to minimise anticipated problems. An increasing dependence on cloud-based systems brings with it known and unknown risks, which will require a greater emphasis on cyber security. Harm to the fabric of the buildings from atypical weather is a harbinger of the longer-term damage and disruption caused by changes in the climate.

Underpinning the sustainability of all activities is the need for financial resilience. The relatively small size of the endowment leaves our funding for operations vulnerable to disruption in the stock market and the world economy, as well as the immediate risks posed after Brexit and Government challenges to tuition fees. Lack of resources could inhibit the attraction of high-quality staff and the research-active academics who are essential to the proper provision of teaching, as well as further reducing required investments to achieve our mission.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income and expenditure

The total surplus for the year was £23.5 million, compared with £4.8 million last year, but this figure includes new endowments and restricted donations, as well as gains on investments and the surplus from the quinquennial revaluation of the operational buildings. The Unrestricted column in the accounts measures the efficiency of operations and this year showed a loss of £1.0 million, but this included an unrestricted legacy of £1.0 million that helped to mask the financial losses incurred as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Unrestricted income and expenditure

The unrestricted income of the College before donations is made up of academic fees (48%), charges to students for accommodation and meals (33%), conference income (2%), income from the College's investment assets (10%) and other sources (7%). This income amounted to £7.9 million (2020: £10.1 million), down 21.6%. This reduction was a result of the cancellation of almost all of the conference business for the year. These losses were partially offset by claims of £0.5 million under the Government Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme to cover the salaries of staff who were placed on furlough.

Income from student accommodation and catering was £2.6 million (2020: £2.9 million) with both years being affected by lockdown, when students were not in residence for one term in each year. Conference activity was £0.1 million (2019: £2.3 million) because nearly all conference business was cancelled. The profit and cash flow from the conference business helps to mitigate the overhead costs of providing the College infrastructure and thus to reduce the costs to students.

Expenditure is made up of staff costs, including academic stipends, of 43%, of which non-academic salaries represent 34%. Operating costs make up a further 38% and depreciation is 19%. Staff costs decreased by £0.2 million, although this hides a movement between years in the provision to fund the deficit in the USS pension scheme of nearly £0.5 million. Underlying staff costs decreased by 11.8% due to a staff restructuring exercise carried out during the year. Operating costs fell by £0.2 million to £4.8 million.

Income from academic fees increased slightly to £3.8 million, while the corresponding expenditure increased to £5.4 million (2020: £5.2 million); this resulted in the Education account being in deficit by £1.6 million (2020: £1.7 million). The College must, therefore, bear the expense of this subsidy, not all of which can be met from trust funds. The cost of an undergraduate education fell from £8,889 to £8,597 for the 2020–21 year as fixed costs were spread across a higher number of students. The regulated Home/EU undergraduate tuition fee has remained frozen since 2012, apart from a small increase in 2017, so in real terms the College's half-share of £9,250 has declined in value. The cost of providing academic and pastoral support for each postgraduate increased from £4,100 to £4,537 as a large number of studentships were awarded during the year although they were funded by restricted funds.

Unrestricted donation income was £1.4 million (2020: £1.8 million) due to a legacy of £1.0 million (2020: £1.6 million) notified near the end of the year. Endowment return was £1.1 million based on the spending rule under the Total Return policy.

Restricted income and expenditure

Restricted income arises from expendable donations for specific purposes and the income from any endowed funds to support specific projects. The income is matched against the eligible expenditure and any surplus is carried forward to restricted reserves.

The restricted income was £2.1 million (2020: £2.8 million) and the associated educational expenditure was £1.7 million (2020: £1.2 million).

Conference Services

For Conference Services, the financial year 2020–21 in effect concluded in December 2020 (apart from one small wedding with restricted numbers of 20 held in May 2021), as the UK Government's Covid lockdown prohibited any events being held until mid-May 2021. Even then, UK Government and internal College restrictions were such that events did not recommence with any gusto until July 2021. The only significant revenue generated was from the Cambridge Judge Business School teaching programme in the Michaelmas Term 2020. A total of five events were held during the financial year, compared with an average of 325 in a normal year. Over 350 enquiries, with a value of over £4 million, had to be turned down during the year due to Covid restrictions.

It was generally hoped that the event industry would recommence from mid-May 2021, but this hope was thwarted by the various Covid variants and by continued mitigations that placed significant restrictions on event delivery, such as the requirement to be seated when drinking or eating, social distancing and reduced capacities. International business issues were further exacerbated as travel easing came too late in summer 2021, with frequently changing green, amber and red lists; crucially, quarantine restrictions for fully vaccinated travellers from EU nations (excluding France) were not lifted completely until early August. This provided real challenges for anything other than short-lead UK-based events. Companies were also aware that they had a duty of care for employees, which no doubt knocked consumer confidence.

As business started to return in July 2021, it became clear that re-staffing the depleted catering teams would be a real challenge, and this is likely to continue well into 2022. Even after the UK Government restrictions were dropped on 19th July, staffing shortages severely hampered opportunities for growth and meant that event capacities had to be limited to a total of 100 individuals, or one event per day, rather than multiple events on one day, at a time when enquiries levels were reasonably healthy.

When it became clear that residential business would continue to be severely affected in summer 2021, a decision was quickly taken to focus on domestic leisure B&B guests. This proved to be very fruitful, resulting in summer bedroom sales only 25% less than in the prosperous years of 2018 and 2019, and helped to support the Housekeeping department.

Between July and the end of November, approximately 15 external events booked hybrid meeting or conference streaming services, resulting in AV packages being promoted for small meetings of up to 16 attendees. It is certain that some form of hybrid service will be required post-pandemic, as conference organisers take advantage of the opportunity to reach virtual delegates, and consideration is given to sustainable travel. Downing College is well positioned to take advantage of this demand in Cambridge with continuing training and investment in the facilities.

Following the winter months, the middle of 2022 ought to see a return to reasonable business levels with an anticipated 60% of revenue, compared with 20% in 2021, although much will depend on international travel. The general view in the industry is that business will not return to pre-pandemic levels until 2023 at the earliest.



Investments

The total investment portfolio stood at £73.1 million at 30 June 2021 (2020: £58.8 million), consisting of £58.4 million in securities and £14.7 million in property. The overall total return was 21.5% (securities 27.2%, property 0.4%).

The College operates a Total Return policy for its endowment investments whereby all capital gains and income are allocated to an unapplied total return 'pot'. A spending rule is then used to transfer some of the return to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. The College's spending rule is designed to smooth spending and reduce the effect on income of fluctuations in market performance. The rule protects operations from the volatility of returns and ensures that the amount available for spending is known in advance. The amount of return recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure is equal to the weighted average of the prior year's spending adjusted for inflation measured by RPI + 1% (70% weight) plus the amount that would have been spent using 4.5% of the prior year's closing value of the investments (30% weight). In formulating this rule, the College had regard to the unapplied total return on invested funds. The unapplied total return stands at £24.8 million and, since 1 July 2007, has included returns from commercial property. It is usually possible to net outflows against inflows so that the actual investments remain undisturbed. In setting the spending rule, the Committee is conscious of the need to achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries and aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distribution.

Since 2009, the College's investment adviser has been Partners Capital, an outsourced investment office which performs the same functions as the in-house investment teams at the large global endowments, offering access to the same range of asset classes through a feeder-fund structure. Partners Capital is an independent advisory service, and is free from the conflicts of interests of institutions that both advise and run in-house products. The firm has over 200 employees and seven offices covering all major regions. Partners Capital's mandate is discretionary within risk levels set by the College.

The securities portfolio is invested across the different asset classes using the Endowment Model, an approach that is expected to return 2% above the traditional mix of stocks and bonds. As the strategy includes investments in private equity and other relatively illiquid assets, the Investment Committee, acting on advice from Partners Capital, sets limits on illiquidity and monitors daily, monthly, and quarterly liquidity to ensure that in an emergency, funds can be easily accessed, even in the conditions experienced in the financial crisis of 2008.

Distributions for Spending

Through the spending rule, the Amalgamated Fund delivered an overall £2.2 million (or 4.5% of the portfolio) in support of current operations, an increase of 2.3% on last year's drawdown. The Amalgamated Fund consists of units held by each unrestricted and restricted fund, with each receiving a share of the overall income. For 2020–21, each unit was valued at £32.01, and received income for spending ('the dividend') of £1.19, a dividend increase of 0.5% on last year's levels.

To achieve balance between the claims of present and future beneficiaries, the Committee aims to preserve the purchasing power of the endowment, measured by RPI + 1% after distributions. Given the rate of educational inflation versus investment returns, the preservation of purchasing power has proved difficult. In the interests of consistency, the Spending Rule has remained the same since its introduction, although its output has been routinely compared with that of other methodologies. With the prospect of lower future returns, the Committee considered whether or not the rule needed revision. It decided to retain the current formula, noting that the College was mindful of the need to restrain spending.

Responsible Investing

The College aims to invest responsibly whilst earning returns appropriate for the funds invested. Since February 2019, the portfolio has not directly held any energy-focused public equity managers and all passive equity holdings have tracked indices excluding fossil fuels. Nor has it had any direct exposure to fossil fuels since February 2019 and, as of 30 June 2021, the College's estimated indirect exposure to fossil fuels (including companies involved in the extraction of fossil fuels) is 1.1% of the total portfolio. At 30 June 2021, 1.6% (£0.9 million) of the College's securities portfolio was invested in renewable energy assets. The equities allocation of the College at 30 June 2021 is estimated to have a carbon intensity of 62 (Tco2/ \$1M sales), which compares favourably to the MSCI All Countries World Index carbon intensity of 152.

Securities Performance

The securities portfolio returned 27.2% in 2020–21 after deducting all costs and fees. The securities portfolio return was supported by a strong period for global risk assets. The public equities allocation returned 46.0% over the period, outperforming the public equity benchmark return of 41.5%. Overall, the portfolio's managers outperformed their respective benchmarks by 0.9% over the period, while tactical overlays in the portfolio added an additional 3.7%. Since inception in 2009 when the mandate for the portfolio was given to Partners Capital, the securities portfolio has returned an annualised 9.3%, ahead of the strategic asset allocation composite benchmark, which has returned an annualised 8.7%. Over the last three years, the securities portfolio has returned 12.3% p.a., compared to a 11.5% p.a. return for the strategic asset allocation composite benchmark. At 30 June 2021, 60% of the £58.4 million securities portfolio was in Sterling, with 23% USD and 17% in other currencies. Of the securities portfolio, 32% was invested in illiquid assets (25% Private Equity, 7% Private Debt), within the agreed target of 43% illiquidity. Of the securities portfolio, 32% has quarterly or better liquidity, of which 21% has daily liquidity. At 30 June 2021, the equivalent net equity beta ('ENEB') of the securities portfolio stood at 75% and at 70% for the total investment portfolio, including property.

Property

The property portfolio returned 0.4% in 2020–21. With the exception of a small investment in a residential property fund, the property portfolio consists almost exclusively of the shops and offices on the Regent Street border. Owned for opportunistic and defensive purposes, these properties are classified as part of the investment portfolio, yet share only some of the characteristics of financial investments. Despite being the main route between the station, the Ring Road, and the City Centre, Regent Street remains a tertiary location for shops: it is, therefore, difficult to attract tenants with strong covenants. During the year a retail unit across the road from the main College gate was purchased for £1.4 million with potential to be converted into student rooms. The property portfolio stood at £14.7 million as at 30 June 2021 (some 20% of the total portfolio of £73.1 million), an increase of 5.0%. The rental income yield was 5.1%.

Further information is shown in section 4 of the College Statistics and Financial Highlights.

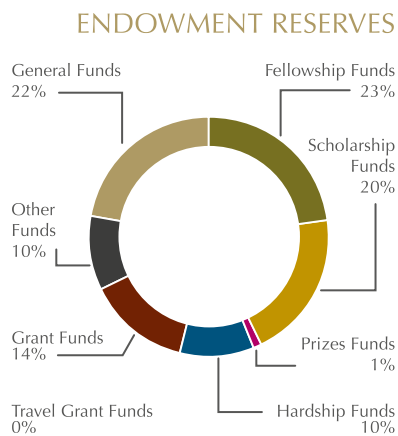


Capital and Reserves

The College’s capital base increased by £23.5 million (11.7%) to £225.6 million, including the effect of the quinquennial revaluation of the College operational buildings of £13.5 million. Continuing investment in the College buildings, including the £2.6 million investment in student accommodation, helps to underpin the success of the conference business. This investment in hard assets, however, means that free reserves are under pressure: £2.3 million, representing the increase in the net book value of the operational buildings, was transferred to the internal designated buildings reserve. The College has had success in the past in attracting donations for buildings, but the timing or nature of some projects, which are nevertheless strategically necessary, does not always make this possible.

Free reserves were decreased by the unrestricted deficit of £1.0 million, but were then increased by a £0.7 million credit for the actuarial gain of the now closed defined-benefit pension scheme, the Cambridge Colleges Federated Pension Scheme. This led to a year-end position of free reserves of £0.6 million, but is likely to worsen next year due to the completion of the conversion work on 90–92 Regent Street and other general improvement works across the Domus.

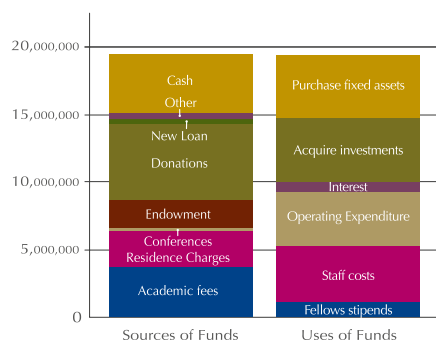
As well as Capital and Reserves increasing by £0.8 million as a result of the change in free reserves, there was an increase due to the combined return of 21.5% in the Securities and Property portfolio, restricted and capital donations of £1.6 million and the quinquennial revaluation of the College operational buildings of £13.5 million.



Cash Flow

Cash flows from all activities resulted in a decrease of £3.6 million in cash balances, with cash of £2.4 million held at year end. Cash consumed by operating activities¹ before the effects of working capital amounted to £0.9 million, a fall from the £0.7 million increase last year. Endowment income, less interest payable, contributed a further £1.5 million of cash. The capital expenditure during the year of £4.6 million included a large part of the conversion of 90–92 Regent Street which will be completed in November 2021.

SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS 2020/21



On behalf of the Governing Body:

Alan Bookbinder, Master

Gavin Flynn, Senior Bursar

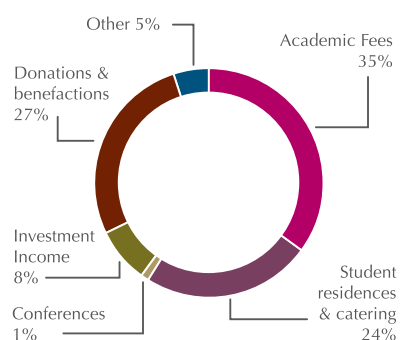
Date: 15 December 2021

¹ Surplus before other gains and losses before depreciation, interest payable, investment income, changes in working capital and restricted and endowment donations.

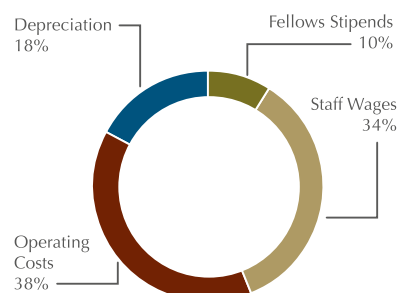
COLLEGE STATISTICS AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	2021	2020	2019
Income and Expenditure			
Total Income	10,907,126	17,081,899	14,281,030
Donations and Benefactions Received	2,996,379	6,989,777	3,028,903
Conference Services Income	139,765	2,278,178	2,767,554
Total Expenditure	12,370,824	12,699,330	13,476,084
Total Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(1,463,697)	4,382,569	804,946
Unrestricted Surplus/(Deficit) before other gains and losses	(981,336)	656,967	(825,297)
Capital Expenditure			
Total Capital Expenditure	4,566,308	3,349,957	5,209,816
Investment in Buildings	3,569,543	2,552,630	4,587,526
Other Capital Expenditure	996,765	797,327	622,290
Assets			
Free Reserves	553,667	(267,141)	550,676
Investment Portfolio	73,112,150	58,786,385	49,811,766
Spending Rule Amount	2,243,774	2,193,707	2,073,064
Net Assets	225,605,802	202,061,796	197,234,215

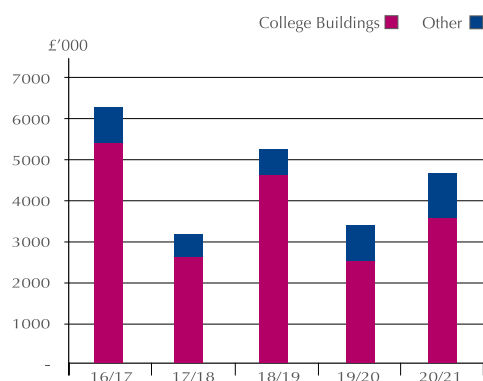
BREAKDOWN OF INCOME
2020/21



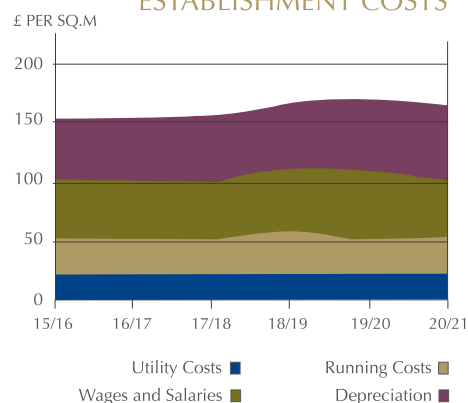
BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2020/21



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



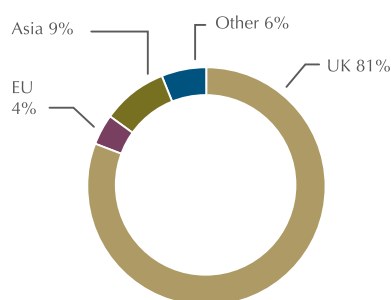
ESTABLISHMENT COSTS



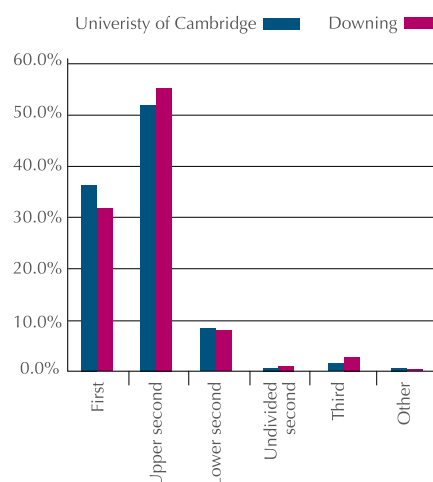
1. UNDERGRADUATE NUMBERS 2020–21 AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2020

<i>Subject</i>	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Years 5–6	Total 2020–21	Total 2019–20
Anglo-Saxon	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Archaeology	1	—	1	—	—	2	2
Architecture	5	—	1	—	—	6	2
Asian & Middle Eastern Studies	2	2	1	—	—	5	4
Chemical Engineering	—	2	3	3	—	8	8
Chemical Engineering via Engineering	1	—	—	—	—	1	3
Chemical Engineering via Natural Science	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Classics	4	4	2	—	—	10	10
Classics – 4yr	3	4	2	2	—	11	7
Computer Science	3	4	4	—	—	11	14
Economics	4	6	6	—	—	16	18
Education	1	2	—	—	—	3	5
Engineering	12	12	10	12	—	46	48
English	10	5	6	—	—	21	17
Geography	8	3	5	—	—	16	11
History	6	5	5	—	—	16	16
History with Modern Languages	—	1	0	1	—	2	2
History with Politics	1	—	1	—	—	2	1
History of Art	2	2	1	—	—	5	5
Human, Social and Political Science	8	9	6	—	—	23	16
Land Economy	3	—	1	—	—	4	5
Law	11	8	15	—	—	34	35
Linguistics	1	1	—	—	—	2	3
Management Studies	—	—	1	2	—	3	2
Manufacturing Engineering	—	—	1	4	—	5	5
Mathematics	3	7	4	3	—	17	19
Medical Sciences	16	13	17	11	27	84	84
Modern & Medieval Languages	7	5	4	6	—	22	19
Music	1	2	2	—	—	5	6
Natural Sciences (Biological)	12	9	9	3	—	33	30
Natural Sciences (Physical)	11	15	11	4	—	41	38
Philosophy	1	1	2	—	—	4	4
Psychological and Behavioural Sciences	4	4	4	—	—	12	9
Theology	1	1	—	—	—	2	4
Theology BTh	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Veterinary Medicine	3	3	4	1	4	15	15
Total						488	469

UNDERGRADUATES
BY REGION



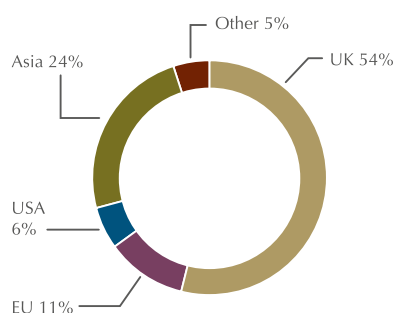
UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREE CLASSIFICATIONS



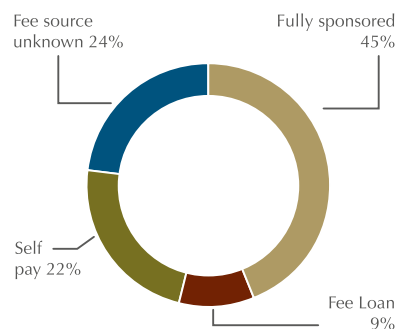
2. PHD THESES SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED BY DOWNING POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS 2020–21

Archaeology	Tissue-specific behavioural signatures in trabecular and cortical bone: variations in long bone structure in medieval Britain and the differential effects of age
Biochemistry (BBSRC)	Microglial phagocytosis of bacteria and synapses
Biological Sci @ NIAB (BBSRC)	Investigations into the molecular interactions between <i>Claviceps purpurea</i> , the causal agent of ergot, and cereal hosts
Chemistry	Reversible chemistry to control the synthesis and folding of polymeric materials
Chemistry	Using sequence data to investigate the functional design of proteins
Education	A two-phase mixed methods project on gender stereotypes targeting English learners in Chinese senior high schools
Engineering	Creating and capturing sustainable value for additive manufacturing
Genetics	Variable methylation of endogenous retroviruses: epigenetic inheritance, environmental modulation, and genetic modifiers
Geography	Epidemiological landscapes: the spaces and politics of mosquito control in Lahore
Materials Science	The incorporation of particles suspended in the electrolyte into plasma electrolytic oxidation coatings
Pathology	Identification of host cellular factors that regulate human norovirus replication
Pathology	Targeting oncogenic microRNAs in malignant germ cell tumours
AMES	The Japanese art of listening: an ethnographic investigation into the role of the listener
Education	Maximising the potential of learning through dynamic assessment: a case study of the use of DA to simultaneously evaluate and promote higher order thinking in L2 reading
Engineering	Exploring support for knowledge utilisation: decision making in complex interdisciplinary engineering systems
Engineering	A parallel boundary conforming method on adaptive moving meshes for multiphase flows
Genetics	Consequences of Plk4 overexpression in mouse pancreatic organoids
Physics	Phase transitions in quasiperiodic and driven optical lattices
Physics	Picosecond spin Seebeck effect in magnetic insulators
Physics	Exciton and energy transfer dynamics in hybrid perovskite and lanthanide nanomaterials
Physiology, Development and Neuroscience	Transcriptomic profiling of hypothalamic Kiss1 neurons
Physiology, Development and Neuroscience	Serotonin and threat: from Gene to Behaviour
Polar Studies	UAV-based investigations into the hydrology and dynamics of the Greenland Ice Sheet
Psychology	Mountains, cities, random forests: new and old frontiers in geographical psychology
Public Health and Primary Care	Biological and aetiological inference from the statistical genetic analyses of blood cell traits
Sociology	Migration, family separation and wellbeing

GRADUATES BY REGION



GRADUATES BY FEE TYPE



3. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS BY DOWNING FELLOWS

Barber, Professor Zoe

Bhatia, E., Srivastava, A., Devine-Stoneman, J., Stelmashenko, N. A., Barber, Z. H., Robinson, J. W. A., and Senapati, K. (2021), 'Nanoscale Domain Wall Engineered Spin-Triplet Josephson Junctions and SQUID', *Nano Letters*, Vol. 21, pp. 3092 – 3097.

Bravo, Dr Michael

Bennett, M. M., Stephenson, S., Wang, Y. and Bravo, M. T. (2021), 'The Opening of the Transpolar Sea Route: Logistical, Geopolitical, Logistical and Socioeconomic Impacts', *Marine Policy*, Vol. 121, November 2020. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2020.104178>

Correia, Dr Marta M.

Huang, P., Correia, M. M., Rua, C., Rodgers C. T., Henson, R. N. A. and Carlin, J. D. (2021), 'Correcting for Superficial Bias in 7Tgradient Echo fMRI', *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, Vol. 15, Article 715549

Davies, Mr Justin

Ashcroft, J., Byrne, M., Brennan, P. and Davies, R. J. (2021), 'Preparing medical students for a pandemic: A systematic review of student disaster training programmes.' *BMJ Postgraduate Medical Journal*, Vol. 97, pp. 368–379. DOI: 10.1136/postgradmedj-2020-137906

Day, Mr William

Day, W. (2021), 'Remoteness in Contract Damages', *The Cambridge Law Journal*, Vol. 80 (1), pp. 29–31. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0008197321000210>

Eyeons, The Revd Dr Keith

Eyeons, K., *The View from the Centre*, Ellis and Maultby (Cambridge, 2021)

Farahi, Dr Neda

Farahi, N., Gillett, D., Loutsios, C., Peters, A.M., Summers, C. and Chilvers, E.R. (2021), 'Measurement of Eosinophil Kinetics In Vivo', *Methods Mol Biol.*, Vol. 2241, pp. 183–191. DOI: 10.1007/978-1-0716-1095-4_15.

Hammer, Dr Charlotte

Carlson, C. J., Farrell, M. J., Grange, Z., Han, B. A., Mollentze, N., Phelan, A. L., Rasmussen, A. L., Albery, G. F., Bett, B., Brett-Major, D. M., Cohen, L. E., Dallas, T., Eskew, E. A., Fagre, A. C., Forbes, K. M., Gibb, R., Halabi, S., Hammer, C. C., et al. (2021), 'The future of zoonotic risk prediction', *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B*, Vol. 376: 20200358. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2020.0358>

Haniff, Professor Christopher

Mortimer, D. J., Buscher, D. F., Creech-Eakman, M. J., Haniff, C., Ligon, E., Luis, J., Salcido, C., Seneta, E., Sun, X. and Young, J. (2020) 'First laboratory results from FOURIER, the initial science combiner at the MROI', *Proc. SPIE*, Vol. 11446, id. 114460V. DOI: 10.1117/12.2561472

Jones, Dr Ewan

Jones, E. (2021), 'Pretty Vacant: Shelley's Metrical Stops', *The Wordsworth Circle*, Vol. 52(1), pp. 72–93.

Kourtzi, Professor Zoe

Jia, K., Zamboni, E., Kemper, V., Rua, C., Goncalves, N. R., Ng, A. K. T., Rodgers, C. T., Williams, G., Goebel, R. and Kourtzi, Z. (2020), 'Recurrent processing drives perceptual plasticity', *Curr Biol*. Vol. 30 (21), pp. 4177–4187. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2020.08.016>

Ledgeway, Professor Adam

Ledgeway, A. (2020). 'The North-South Divide: Parameters of Variation in the Clausal Domain', *L'Italia Dialettale* Vol. 81, pp. 29–77.

Milton, Dr Amy

Taujanskaitė, U., Cahill, E. N. and Milton, A L. (2021), 'Targeting drug memory reconsolidation: a neural analysis', *Current Opinion in Pharmacology*, Vol. 56, pp. 7–12.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.coph.2020.08.007>

Moreno Figueroa, Dr Monica

Moreno Figueroa, M. G., 'Picking your battles: beauty, complacency, and the other life of racism', in *The Routledge Companion to Beauty Politics*, Craig, M. L. (ed.), Routledge (London and New York, 2021).

Pratt, Dr David

Review of 'Priests and their Books in Anglo-Saxon England, by Gerald P. Dyson (2019)', (2021) *English Historical Review*, ceab094.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ehr/ceab094>

Rawlinson, Professor Nicholas

Crowder, E., Rawlinson, N., Cornwell, D. G., Sammarco, C., Galetti, E. and Curtis, A. (2021), 'New insights into North Sea deep crustal structure and extension from transdimensional ambient noise tomography', *Geophysical Journal International*, Vol. 224 (2), pp. 1197–1210.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/gji/ggaa475>

Richer, Professor John

Richer, J., et al. (2021), 'The JCMT BISTRO Survey: Magnetic Fields Associated with a Network of Filaments in NGC 1333', *The Astrophysical Journal*, Vol. 899 (1), pp. 28.

Sheffield, Dr Frisbee

Sheffield, F. C. C. (2021), 'Moral Motivation in Plato's Republic? Philia and Return to the Cave', *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy*, Vol. 59, pp. 79–131.
DOI:10.1093/oso/9780198859000.001.0001

Steger, Dr Brigitte

Steger, B., (2021), "Stingy, Stingy, Stingy Government": Mixed Responses to the Introduction of the Plastic Carrier Bag Levy in Japan', *Worldwide Waste: Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, Vol. 4 (1), pp. 5.
DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5334/wwwj.69>

Virgo, Professor Graham

Virgo, G., 'Chapter 32: Restitution', in *Chitty on Contracts*, 34th edition, (ed.) Beale, H., Sweet & Maxwell Ltd (London, 2021).

Wales, Professor David

Martín-Bravo, M., Gomez Llorente, J. M., Hernández-Rojas, J. and Wales, D J. (2021), 'Minimal Design Principles for Icosahedral Virus Capsids', *ACS Nano*, Vol. 15 (9), pp. 14873–14884.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsnano.1c04952>

Whelan, Dr Lucy

Whelan, L. (2021), 'Pierre Bonnard's Books: A Catalogue with an Introduction', *Source: Notes in the History of Art*, Vol. 40 (3), pp. 186–197.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1086/714716>

Williams, Dr Guy

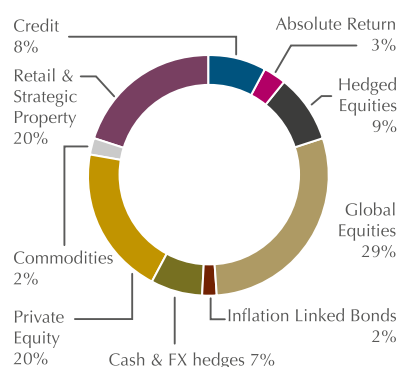
Jia, K., Zamboni, E., Rua, C., Goncalves, N. R., Kemper, V., Ng, A. K. T., Rodgers, C. T., Williams, G., Goebel, R. and Kourtzi, Z. (2021), 'A Protocol for Ultra-high Field Laminar fMRI in the Human Brain', *STAR Protocols*, Vol. 2 (2), art. no. 100415.

4. INVESTMENTS

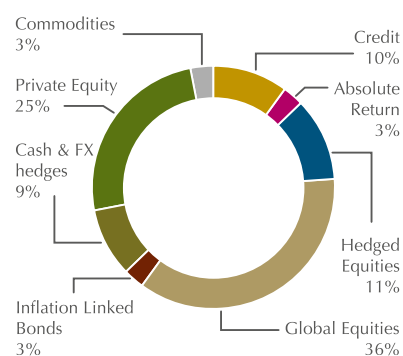
Composition of Investment Portfolio

	30 June 2021 £	30 June 2020 £	30 June 2019 £
1. Securities			
Core Portfolio Cash	5,289,442	3,431,754	1,339,292
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedges	(352,835)	30,190	(297,445)
Fixed Income	—	—	—
Credit	5,530,926	4,314,098	3,080,723
Absolute Return	1,844,869	1,242,515	2,201,848
Hedged Equities	6,666,934	5,973,268	5,260,900
Global Equities	21,225,542	18,092,134	14,042,772
Private Equity	14,851,047	9,247,606	8,337,724
Inflation Linked Bonds	1,654,638	1,107,370	1,000,098
Commodity Fund	1,692,127	1,335,949	404,354
Total	58,402,691	44,774,885	35,370,266
Other Private Equity*	—	—	—
TOTAL SECURITIES	58,402,691	44,774,885	35,370,266
2. Property			
Office	4,270,000	4,240,000	4,230,000
Retail	9,950,000	9,060,000	9,500,000
Property Development	489,459	711,500	711,500
TOTAL PROPERTY	14,709,459	14,011,500	14,441,500
TOTAL PORTFOLIO	73,112,150	58,786,385	49,811,766
Securities ENEB	75%	75%	75%

ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2021 (inc. property)



ASSET ALLOCATION AT
30 JUNE 2021 (exc. property)



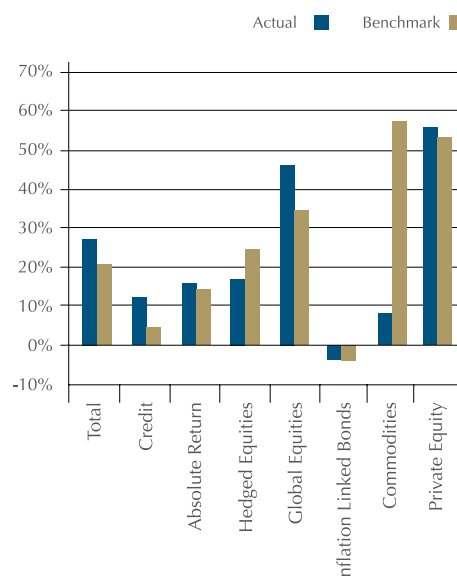
* Includes donated shares in seven new ventures, held at nil value.

ENDOWMENT & TOTAL RETURN

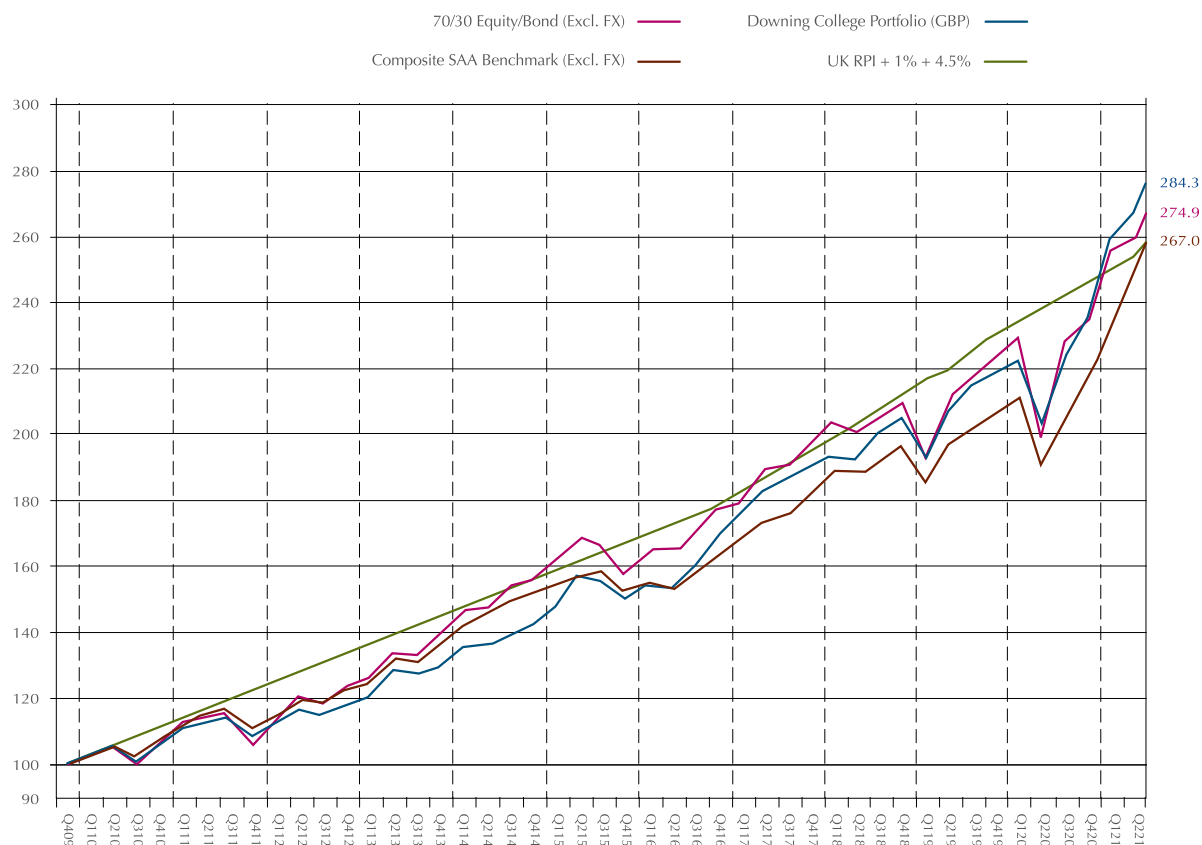


Note: £9 million added to endowment in 2019/20 from private placement

SECURITIES RETURN AGAINST BENCHMARKS 2020/21



CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE SINCE INCEPTION - value of £100 invested



Inception is from 2009 when the mandate for the portfolio was transferred to Partners Capital



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COLLEGE'S GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The College's Statutes and the Statutes and Ordinances of the University of Cambridge require that financial statements are prepared for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of the surplus or deficit of the College for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Governing Body is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the College will continue in operation.

The Governing body is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the College and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statutes of the University of Cambridge. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the College and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF DOWNING COLLEGE

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Downing College (the 'College') for the year ended 30 June 2021, which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Reserves, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the College's affairs as at 30 June 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the Statutes of the University of Cambridge.



BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the College in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

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

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

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

OTHER INFORMATION

The Governing Body are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The contribution due from the College to the University has been computed as advised in the provisional assessment by the University of Cambridge and in accordance with the provisions of Statute G,II, of the University of Cambridge.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the College and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Governing Body.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the responsibilities of the Governing Body statement set out on page 48, the Governing Body are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governing Body 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 Governing Body are responsible for assessing the College'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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the College or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the College through discussions with Trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the education sector;
- we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the College and how the College is complying with that framework;
- we obtained an understanding of the College's policies and procedures on compliance with laws and regulations, including documentation of any instances of non-compliance;
- we identified which laws and regulations were significant in the context of the College. The Laws and regulations we considered in this context were Charities Act 2011, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and taxation legislation. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items;
- in addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the College's and the Group's ability to operate or to avoid material penalty; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the College's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we;

- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policy were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and the College's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or 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. This description forms part of our auditors' report.



USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the College's Governing Body as a body, in accordance with College's statutes, the Statutes of the University of Cambridge and the Charities Act 2011. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Governing Body those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the College and the College's Governing Body as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

PETERS ELWORTHY & MOORE



Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
CAMBRIDGE

Date: 17 December 2021

Peters Elworthy & Moore is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES



BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes of the College and of the University of Cambridge and applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. In addition, the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Further and Higher Education (the SORP).

The Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure includes activity analysis in order to demonstrate that all fee income is spent for educational purposes. The analysis required by the SORP is set out in note 6.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified in respect of the treatment of investments and operational properties which are included at valuation.

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements include the College and its subsidiary undertakings. Details of the subsidiary undertakings included are set out in note 10. Intra-group balances are eliminated on consolidation.

The consolidated financial statements do not include the activities of student societies as these are separate bodies in which the College has no financial interest and over whose policy decisions it has no control.

RECOGNITION OF INCOME

Academic fees

Academic fees are recognised in the period to which they relate and include all fees chargeable to students or their sponsors. The costs of any fees waived or written off by the College are included as expenditure.

Grant income

Grants received from non-government sources (including research grants from non-government sources) are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College 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.



Donations and endowments

Non exchange transactions without performance related conditions are donations and endowments. Donations and endowments with donor imposed restrictions are recognised within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income. Income is retained within restricted reserves until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions at which point the income is released to general reserves through a reserve transfer.

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

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 College.
3. Restricted expendable endowments – the donor has specified a particular objective and the College can convert the donated sum into income.
4. Restricted permanent endowments – the donor has specified that the fund is to be permanently invested to generate an income stream to be applied to a particular objective.

Donations with no restrictions are recorded within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure when the College is entitled to the income.

Investment income and change in value of investment assets

Investment income and change in value of investment assets is recorded in income in the year in which it arises and as either restricted or unrestricted income according to the terms or other restrictions applied to the individual endowment fund.

Total return

The College operates a total return policy with regard to its endowment assets (including property). The endowment spending policy is specifically designed to stabilise annual spending levels and to preserve the real value of the endowment portfolio over time. The spending policy attempts to achieve these two objectives by using a long-term targeted spending rate combined with a smoothing rule, which adjusts spending gradually to changes in the endowment market value. The actual rate of spending for 2021 when measured against the previous year's market value was 4.5%.

Other income

Income is received from a range of activities including accommodation, catering conferences and other services rendered.

Cambridge Bursary Scheme

In 2020-21, payment of the Cambridge Bursaries has been made by the College to eligible students via the Student Loans Company (SLC) and the University of Cambridge has reimbursed the College for their portion. The College has shown the gross payment made to eligible students via the SLC and a contribution from the University as Income under "Academic Fees and Charges".

The net payment of £164,762 is shown within the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure as follows:

Income (see note 1)	£66,371
Expenditure (see note 4)	£231,133

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at year end rates or, where there are forward foreign exchange contract, at contract rates. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the determination of the comprehensive income and expenditure for the financial year.

FIXED ASSETS

Land and Buildings

Buildings are stated at valuation, the aggregate surplus or deficit is transferred to a revaluation reserve included within Reserves.

Where parts of a fixed asset have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of fixed assets.

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

Freehold land is not depreciated as it is considered to have an indefinite useful life. A full asset valuation of the operational estate for accounts purposes was carried out by Gerald Eve LLP, Surveyors, as at 30 June 2021. Freehold buildings are depreciated on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives of 100, 50, or 20 years.



The earliest buildings, designed by William Wilkins, form a significant part of the Domus and are listed as Grade I¹. All other buildings on the Domus come within the curtilage of those buildings and are therefore subject to some of the same restrictions. The Listing imposes an obligation to repair and restore. All repairs that restore value are capitalised, as are improvements. Other repairs are charged against income. For insurance purposes, the replacement cost of the buildings has been valued at £165.1 million.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of a fixed asset may not be recoverable.

Buildings under construction are valued at cost, based on the value of architects' certificates and other direct costs incurred. They are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

Land held specifically for development, investment and subsequent sale is included in current assets at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

The cost of additions to operational property shown in the balance sheet includes the cost of land. All other assets are capitalised and depreciated over their expected useful life as follows:

Library books	30 years
Furniture and equipment	10 years
Catering equipment	5 years
Information Technology	3 years

Leased assets

Leases in which the College 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 leases 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. Lease payments are accounted for as described below.

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.

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 minimum lease term.

Heritage assets

The College does not hold any assets that should be classed as heritage assets.

¹ Details of the listing can be found at: <http://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/results?q=Downing+College>

INVESTMENTS

Fixed asset investments are included in the balance sheet as follows:-

a) Securities

Securities are included at their open market value.

b) Works of Art

Works of art and silver are shown in the accounts at their market value as assessed by Townley Valuation Services Limited on 7 November 2017.

c) Subsidiary Undertakings

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are recorded at costs less any provision for impairment in value, and eliminated on consolidation.

d) Unlisted investments

Unlisted investments are carried at costs less any provision for permanent diminution in value, unless they are listed as a recognised stock exchange in which case their open market value is used, or there has been a more recent funding round in which case this value is used to value all investments made to the fund.

e) Property

Investment properties are included at open market valuation. An annual assessment was carried out by Carter Jonas as at 30 June 2021.

STOCKS

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making provision for slow moving and obsolete items.



PROVISIONS

Provisions are recognised when the College has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the College 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 College. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the College 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 College.

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

TAXATION

The College is a registered charity (number 1137455) and also a charity within the meaning of Section 467 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. Accordingly, the College is exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within the categories covered by Sections 478 to 488 of the Corporation Tax Act 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 College receives no similar exemption in respect of Value Added Tax. The College is a partially exempt organisation for VAT purposes. With the approval of H M Revenue and Customs, it has adopted a methodology that enables it to recover part of the VAT on its expenses. Though recovered VAT significantly exceeds the VAT previously recoverable under the old CVCP Guidelines, input tax on purchases is, nevertheless, largely irrecoverable. In 2020-21, the College received £139,396 in refunds on purchases of £5.6 million.

The College's subsidiary companies, Downing College Developments Limited, Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited and The May Ball Company Limited are not subject to these exemptions and are liable for Corporation Tax. However, all taxable profits of the subsidiaries are gift aided to the College, thereby extinguishing any corporation tax that may be assessable.

CONTRIBUTION UNDER STATUTE G,II

The College is liable to be assessed for Contribution under the provisions of Statute G,II of the University of Cambridge. Contribution is used to fund grants to colleges from the Colleges Fund. The liability for the year is as advised to the College by the University based on an assessable amount derived from the value of the College's assets as at the end of the previous financial year.

PENSION COSTS

The College participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme (the scheme). With effect from 1 October 2017, the scheme changed from a defined benefit only pension scheme to a hybrid pension scheme, providing benefits (for all members), as well as defined contribution benefits. The assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. Because of the mutual nature of the scheme, the scheme's assets are not attributed to individual institutions and a scheme-wide contribution rate is set. The College 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 College therefore accounts for the scheme as if it were a wholly defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the income and expenditure account represents the contributions payable to the scheme. Since the College has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan) that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit, the College 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.

The College participates in the Cambridge Colleges Federated Pension Scheme (CCFPS), a defined benefit scheme which is externally funded and until 31 March 2017 was contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). As CCFPS is a federated scheme and the College is able to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities, the College values the fund as required by Section 28 Employee Benefits of FRS102 'Retirement Benefits'. As a result, the amount charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure represents the amount calculated under FRS102 guidelines.

The College also operates defined contribution pension schemes and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the College to the funds in respect of the year.



CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS

FRS102 makes the distinction between a group pension 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 Universities Superannuation Scheme. 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 is recognised in profit or loss in accordance with section 28 of FRS 102. The Council and Governing Body are satisfied that the scheme provided by Universities Superannuation Scheme 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.

All other accounting judgements and estimates are detailed under the appropriate accounting policy.

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 College. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the College expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

RESERVES

Reserves are allocated between restricted and unrestricted reserves. Endowment reserves include balances which, in respect of endowment to the College, are held as permanent funds, which the College must hold to perpetuity.

Restricted reserves include balances in respect of which the donor has designated a specific purpose and therefore the College is restricted in the use of these funds.



PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2021 Total £000	Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	2020 Total £000
Income									
Academic fees and charges	1	3,766	—	—	3,766	3,549	—	—	3,549
Accommodation, catering and conferences	2	2,786	—	—	2,786	5,141	—	—	5,141
Investment income	3	5	—	821	826	14	—	899	913
Endowment return transferred	3	1,138	1,106	(2,244)	—	1,131	1,063	(2,194)	—
Other income		533	—	—	533	489	—	—	489
Total income before donations and endowments		8,228	1,106	(1,423)	7,911	10,324	1,063	(1,295)	10,092
Donations		1,371	949	—	2,320	1,779	1,760	—	3,539
New endowments		—	1	668	669	—	2	3,432	3,434
Other capital grants for assets		—	7	—	7	—	17	—	17
Total income		9,599	2,063	(755)	10,907	12,103	2,842	2,137	17,082
Expenditure									
Education	4	3,753	1,625	—	5,378	4,161	1,035	—	5,196
Accommodation, catering and conferences	5	6,492	4	—	6,496	7,580	5	—	7,585
Other expenditure		335	72	89	496	(296)	162	52	(82)
Total expenditure	6	10,580	1,701	89	12,370	11,455	1,202	52	12,699
(Deficit) / Surplus before other gains and losses		(981)	362	(844)	(1,463)	658	1,640	2,085	4,383
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Gain on investments		3,070	311	7,424	10,805	(199)	(16)	974	759
Surplus for the year		2,090	673	6,580	9,343	459	1,624	3,059	5,142
Other comprehensive income									
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of fixed assets		13,512	—	—	13,512	—	—	—	—
Actuarial gain / (loss) in respect of pension schemes	14	689	—	—	689	(314)	—	—	(314)
Total comprehensive income for the year		16,291	673	6,580	23,544	145	1,624	3,059	4,828

The notes on pages 72 to 97 form part of these accounts



STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	Income and expenditure reserve				Total £000
		Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	Revaluation reserve £000	
Balance at 1 July 2020		126,283	6,506	34,108	35,164	202,061
Surplus from income and expenditure statement		2,090	673	6,580	—	9,343
Other comprehensive income		689	—	—	13,512	14,201
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year		7	(7)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves		367	(2,361)	2,361	(367)	—
Balance at 30 June 2021		129,436	4,811	43,049	48,309	225,605

	Note	Income and expenditure reserve				Total £000
		Unrestricted £000	Restricted £000	Endowment £000	Revaluation reserve £000	
Balance at 1 July 2019		125,755	2,348	33,600	35,530	197,233
Surplus from income and expenditure statement		459	1,624	3,059	—	5,142
Other comprehensive income		(314)	—	—	—	(314)
Release of restricted capital funds spent in year		17	(17)	—	—	—
Transfers between reserves		366	2,551	(2,551)	(366)	—
Balance at 30 June 2020		126,283	6,506	34,108	35,164	202,061

The notes on pages 72 to 97 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 £000	2020 £000
Non-current assets			
Fixed Assets	8	176,083	160,290
Investments	9	79,763	65,988
		255,846	226,278
Current Assets			
Investments		—	650
Stocks		151	176
Trade and other receivables	10	2,619	5,107
Cash and cash equivalents	11	2,432	6,052
		5,202	11,985
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(2,856)	(3,121)
Net current liabilities		2,346	8,864
Total assets less current liabilities		258,192	235,142
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(30,774)	(30,500)
Provisions			
Pension provisions	14	(1,813)	(2,581)
Total net assets		225,605	202,061
Restricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – endowment reserve	15	43,049	34,108
Income and expenditure reserve – restricted reserve	16	4,811	6,506
		47,860	40,614
Unrestricted reserves			
Income and expenditure reserve – unrestricted		129,436	126,283
Revaluation reserve		48,309	35,164
		177,745	161,447
Total reserves		225,605	202,061

The financial statements were approved by the Governing Body on 26 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Alan Bookbinder, Master

The notes on pages 72 to 97 form part of these accounts

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 £000	2020 £000
Surplus for the year		9,343	5,142
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation		2,285	2,165
Gain on Endowments, Donations and Investment Property		(10,715)	(707)
(Increase) / decrease in stocks		25	17
(Increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables		2,488	(4,811)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors		67	(591)
Pension costs less contributions payable		(79)	(477)
Adjustment for investing or financing activities			
Investment income		(826)	(913)
Interest payable		718	691
Profit of disposal of non-current fixed assets		(1)	—
Net cash inflow from operating activities		3,305	516
Proceeds from sales of non-current fixed assets		1	—
Non-current investment disposal		—	—
Investment income		2,185	2,247
Endowment funds invested		(4,755)	(9,472)
Withdrawal of deposits		650	—
Payments made to acquire non-current assets		(4,566)	(3,350)
Cash flows from investing activities		(6,485)	(10,575)
Interest received		4	14
Interest paid		(718)	(691)
New unsecured loan		—	20,000
New finance lease		274	—
Repayment of loans		—	(4,500)
Cash flows from financing activities		(440)	14,823
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(3,620)	4,764
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		6,052	1,288
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	11	2,432	6,052

The notes on pages 72 to 97 form part of these accounts



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Academic Fees and Charges

	2021 £000	2020 £000
College fees:		
Fee income received at the regulated undergraduate rate	1,852	1,790
Fee income received at the unregulated undergraduate rate	625	595
Fee income received at the graduate rate	1,217	1,091
	3,695	3,476
Cambridge Bursaries Income	66	64
Research/Teaching Grants	1	4
Other income	4	5
Total	3,766	3,549

2. Income from accommodation, catering and conferences

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Accommodation		
College Members	2,256	2,275
Conferences	127	1,011
International programmes	—	250
Catering		
College Members	390	587
Conferences	13	918
International programmes	—	100
Total	2,786	5,141

3. Endowment return and Investment Income

	2021 £000	2020 £000
3a. Analysis		
Total return contribution (see note 3b)	2,244	2,194
Current asset investment	—	—
Other interest receivable	5	14
	2,249	2,081

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

3b. Summary of Total Return

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Income from:		
Land and buildings	748	887
Quoted and other securities and cash	73	12
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:		
Land & Buildings	(523)	(430)
Quoted and other securities and cash	11,328	1,189
Investment management costs (see note 3c)	(89)	(52)
Total return for year	11,537	1,606
Total return transferred to income and expenditure reserve	(2,244)	(2,194)
Unapplied total return for year included within Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure (see note 18)	9,293	(587)

3c. Investment Management Costs

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Land and buildings	18	18
Quoted and other securities and cash	71	34
Total	89	52

4. Education expenditure

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Teaching	2,334	2,371
Tutorial	747	766
Admissions	594	715
Research	220	226
Scholarships and awards	921	523
Other educational facilities	560	595
Total	5,376	5,196

Included within Scholarships and Awards are payments under the Cambridge Bursary Scheme amounting to £231,133 (2020 - £219,639).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

5. Accommodation, catering and conferences expenditure

		2021 £000	2020 £000
Accommodation	College Members	3,598	3,681
	Conferences	1,402	1,629
Catering	College Members	1,151	996
	Conferences	345	1,279
Total		6,496	7,585

Conference expenditure above is on a fully-costed basis, which includes a significant contribution to the absorption of overheads.

6. Analysis of Expenditure by Activity

6a) Analysis of 2020/2021 expenditure by activity	Staff Costs (Note 7) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	2,459	2,323	595	5,377
Accommodation, catering and conferences	2,660	2,165	1,670	6,495
Other	215	263	20	498
	5,334	4,751	2,285	12,370

6b) Analysis of 2019/2020 expenditure by activity	Staff Costs (Note 7) £000	Other Operating Expenses £000	Depreciation £000	Total £000
Education	2,482	2,188	526	5,196
Accommodation, catering and conferences	3,446	2,519	1,620	7,585
Other	(370)	269	19	(82)
	5,558	4,976	2,165	12,699

The above expenditure includes £491,895 as the direct cost of fundraising (2020 - £525,409). This expenditure includes the costs of alumni relations.

6b) Auditors' remuneration	2021 £000	2020 £000
Other operating expenses include:		
Audit fees payable to the College's external auditors	20	19
Other fees payable to the College's external auditors	4	3

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

7. Staff Costs	College Fellows £000	Non-Academics £000	Total 2021 £000	Total 2020 £000
Staff Costs				
Emoluments	1,040	3,573	4,613	5,219
Social Security Costs	64	256	320	362
Other Pension Costs	81	320	401	(23)
	1,185	4,149	5,334	5,558
Average Staff Numbers (Full-time Staff Equivalents)	No	No	No	No
Academic	43	—	43	45
Non-Academic	3	119	121	146
Total	46	119	164	191

The Governing Body comprises 45 Fellows, of which 41 are stipendiary.

No officer or employee of the College, including the Head of House, received emoluments of over £100,000.

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the College. Therefore the Trustees who include the Master, Senior Bursar, Vice-Master, Secretary to the Governing Body and Senior Tutor are the key management personnel.

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Aggregate Emoluments	189	187

Trustees received no emoluments in their capacity as Trustees of the Charity.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

8. Tangible Fixed Assets

Group and College	College Buildings and Site £000	Furniture fittings and equipment £000	Library Books £000	Total £000
Cost				
As at 1 July 2020	163,183	10,146	1,007	174,336
Additions at cost	3,569	975	22	4,566
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Revaluation	6,049	—	—	6,049
As at 30 June 2021	172,801	11,121	1,029	184,951
Depreciation				
As at 1 July 2020	5,936	7,613	497	14,046
Charge for the year	1,604	648	33	2,285
Disposals	—	—	—	—
Revaluation	(7,463)	—	—	(7,463)
As at 30 June 2021	77	8,261	530	8,868
Net Book value				
As at 30 June 2021	172,724	2,860	499	176,083
As at 1 July 2020	157,247	2,533	510	160,290

The insured value of freehold land and buildings as at 30 June 2021 was £165,060,904 (2020 - £158,069,047).

The value of the land, included in College Buildings and Site, as at 30 June 2021 was £56,866,000 (2020 - £54,520,272).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

9. Investments Consolidated and College	2021 £000	2020 £000
As at 1 July	65,988	56,688
Additions	11,633	9,936
Disposals	(6,441)	(5,189)
Gains	7,283	2,137
Increase / (decrease) in cash balances held at fund managers	1,300	2,416
As at 30 June	79,763	65,988

Represented by:

Property	14,710	14,012
Securities	53,113	41,343
Cash with agents	5,289	3,432
Works of art	5,289	5,283
Over distribution of market value of funds	902	1,458
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding Plc	5	5
Investment in Cambridge Colleges Funding II Plc	5	5
Land	450	450
Total	79,763	65,988

Subsidiary Company

At 30 June 2021 Downing College held an investment in the following companies:

Subsidiary Undertaking	Holding	Proportion of voting rights	Country of Incorporation
Downing College Developments Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom
The May Ball Company Limited	Ordinary	100%	United Kingdom

Downing College Developments Limited was incorporated on 20 January 1999. The principal activity of the company is development of student accommodation and other facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

Downing Cambridge Conferences Limited was incorporated on 2 April 2007. The principal activity of the company is the provision of non-educational conference facilities. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

The May Ball Company Limited was incorporated on 28 July 2010. The principal activity of the company is to administer the operation of the biennial College May Ball. This company is included in these consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

10. Trade and other receivables

	Consolidated 2021 £000	College 2021 £000	Consolidated 2020 £000	College 2020 £000
Members of the College	109	106	16	16
Amounts due from subsidiary companies	—	373	—	1,233
Other receivables	1,041	977	811	811
Prepayments	1,469	1,469	4,280	4,280
Total	2,619	2,925	5,107	6,340

11. Cash and cash equivalents

	Consolidated 2021 £000	College 2021 £000	Consolidated 2020 £000	College 2020 £000
Bank deposits	2,160	2,160	5,206	5,206
Current accounts	271	49	845	77
Cash in hand	1	1	1	1
Total	2,432	2,210	6,052	351

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Consolidated 2021 £000	College 2021 £000	Consolidated 2020 £000	College 2020 £000
Trade creditors	957	747	674	657
Members of the College	305	305	232	232
University fees	9	9	13	13
Other creditors	1,518	1,300	2,202	1,911
Obligations under finance leases	67	67	-	-
Total	2,856	2,428	3,121	2,813

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

13. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Consolidated 2021 £000	College 2021 £000	Consolidated 2020 £000	College 2020 £000
Long term bank loan	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
Other loans	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Obligations under finance leases	274	274	—	—
Total	30,774	30,774	30,500	30,500

The long term bank loan is due for repayment in 2048 at a fixed interest rate of 4.64%.

During 2013-14 the College borrowed £5m from institutional investors in a private placement done collectively with other Colleges, although each College's loan is separate from those of the others. The loans are unsecured and repayable during the period 2043-53 and are at fixed interest rates of approximately 4.4%. The College has agreed a financial covenant of the ratio of borrowings to net assets, and has been in compliance with the covenant at all times since incurring the debt.

During 2019-20, the College borrowed £20m from an institutional investor in a private placement. The loan is unsecured and repayable in 2069 at a fixed interest rate of 2.05%.

14. Pension provisions

Group and College	CCFPS £000	USS £000	2021 £000	2020 £000
Balance at beginning of year	1,991	590	2,581	2,743
Movement in year:				
Current service cost	15	—	15	16
Contributions	(54)	(26)	(80)	(75)
Change in expected contribution	—	(47)	(47)	(471)
Other finance cost	29	4	33	55
Actuarial (gain) / loss	(689)	—	(689)	314
Balance at end of year	1,292	521	1,813	2,581

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

15. Endowment funds

Restricted net assets relating to endowments are as follows:

Consolidated and College	Restricted permanent endowments £000	Unrestricted permanent endowments £000	2021 Total £000	2020 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year				
Capital	23,845	10,263	34,108	33,600
New donations and endowments	653	15	668	3,432
Increase/(decrease) in market value of investments	4,298	1,614	5,912	(373)
Transfers between reserves	2,361	-	2,361	(2,551)
Balance at end of year	31,157	11,892	43,049	34,108
Analysis by type of purpose:				
Fellowship Funds	9,639	—	9,639	7,556
Scholarship Funds	7,962	620	8,582	7,271
Prize Funds	523	26	549	463
Hardship Funds	4,348	—	4,348	2,208
Bursary Funds	51	—	51	44
Grant Funds	6,042	11	6,053	4,687
Other Funds	2,592	1,844	4,436	3,736
General Funds	—	9,391	9,391	8,143
	31,157	11,892	43,049	34,108
Analysis by asset				
Property	6,866	2,621	9,487	8,977
Investments	21,737	8,296	30,033	22,815
Cash	2,554	975	3,529	2,316
	31,157	11,892	43,049	34,108

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

16. Restricted funds

Consolidated and College	Capital grants unspent £000	Permanent unspent and other restricted income £000	Restricted expendable endowment	2021 Total £000	2020 Total £000
Balance at beginning of year					
Capital	—	5,092	—	5,092	1,425
Accumulated income	—	—	1,414	1,414	923
	—	5,092	1,414	6,506	2,348
New grants	7	—	—	7	17
New donations	—	897	53	950	1,762
Investment income	—	1,044	62	1,106	1,063
Increase/(decrease) in market value of investments	—	—	311	311	(16)
Expenditure	—	(1,642)	(59)	(1,701)	(1,202)
Capital grants utilised	(7)	—	—	(7)	(17)
Transfer to/(from) reserves	—	(2,310)	(51)	(2,361)	2,551
Balance at end of year	—	3,081	1,730	4,811	6,506
Comprising Capital	—	3,081	—	3,081	5,092
Accumulated income	—	—	1,730	1,730	1,414
	—	3,081	1,730	4,811	6,506
Analysis of other restricted funds/donations by type of purpose					
Fellowship Funds	—	370	—	370	992
Scholarship Funds	—	150	219	369	340
Prize Funds	—	24	—	24	22
Hardship Funds	—	26	—	26	1,804
Bursary Funds	—	2,395	1,054	3,449	2,980
Other Funds	—	116	457	573	368
	—	3,081	1,730	4,811	6,506

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

17. Memorandum of Unapplied Total Return

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Unapplied total return at beginning of year	15,821	16,408
Unapplied total return for the year	8,958	(587)
Unapplied total return at end of year	24,779	15,821

18. Reconciliation and analysis of net debt

	At 1 July 2020 £000	Cash Flows £000	New finance leases £000	Other non- cash changes £000	At 30 June 2021 £000
Cash and cash equivalents	6,052	(3,620)	—	—	2,432
Borrowings:					
Amount falling due within one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	—	16	(67)	(16)	(67)
Amount falling due after more than one year:					
Obligations under finance leases	—	—	(290)	16	(274)
Unsecured loans	(30,500)	—	—	—	(30,500)
Total net debt	(24,448)	(3,604)	(357)	—	(28,409)

19. Financial instruments

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Financial assets at fair value through Statement of Comprehensive income		
Listed equity investments (note 9)	53,113	41,343
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 9 and 11)	7,721	9,484
Other equity investments (note 9)	10	10
Other debtors (note 10)	1,041	811
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Loans (note 13)	30,500	30,500
Trade creditors (note 12)	957	674
Other creditors (note 12)	1,585	2,201

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

20. Capital commitments	2021 £000	2020 £000
Capital commitments at 30 June 2021 are as follows -		
Authorised and contracted	1,889	4,487
Authorised but not yet contracted for	253	380

21. Financial Commitments	2021 £000	2020 £000
At 30 June 2021, the College had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:		
Land and buildings:		
Expiring within one year	9	40
Expiring between two and five years	37	37
Expiring in over 5 years	242	251
Other:		
Expiring within one year	4	5
Expiring between two and five years	2	4

22. Pension Schemes

In addition to the defined contribution scheme for assistant staff the College participates in two defined benefit schemes, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), and the Cambridge Colleges Federation Pension Scheme (CCFPS). The total pension cost for the year ended 30 June was as follows:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
USS: Contributions	279	294
CCFPS: Charged to income and expenditure account	54	54
Other pension schemes: Contributions	183	163
	516	511

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Universities Superannuation Scheme

As at the 30 June 2021, the latest available complete actuarial valuation of the Retirement Income Builder was at 31 March 2018 (the valuation date), which was carried out using the projected unit method. Since the year end the valuation as at 31 March 2020 was signed and filed with The Pensions Regulator with an effective date of 1 October 2021. As the new valuation was not in place at the financial year end, any adjustment in the deficit provision will be reflected in the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Since the College 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 2018 valuation was the fifth valuation for the scheme 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. At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the scheme was £63.7 billion and the value of the scheme's technical provisions was £67.3 billion indicating a shortfall of £3.6 billion and a funding ratio of 95%.

The key financial assumptions used in the 2018 valuation are described below. More detail is set out in the Statement of Funding Principles.

Pension increases (CPI)	Term dependent rates in line with the difference between the Fixed Interest and Index Linked yield curves, less 1.3% p.a.
Discount rate (forward rates)	Years 1-10: CPI + 0.14% reducing linearly CPI – 0.73% Years 11-20: CPI + 2.52% reducing linearly to CPI + 1.55% by year 21 Years 21 +: CPI + 1.55%

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 2018 actuarial valuation. The mortality assumptions used in these figures are as follows:

	2018 valuation
Mortality base table	Pre-retirement: 71% of AMC00 (duration 0) for males and 112% of AFC00 (duration 0) for females Post retirement: 97.6% of SAPS S1NMA "light" for males and 102.7% of RFV00 for female
Future improvements to mortality	CMI_2017 with a smoothing parameter of 8.5 and a long-term improvement rate of 1.8% pa for males and 1.6% pa for females



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

The current life expectancies on retirement at age 65 are:

	2021	2020
Valuation	24.6	24.4
Males currently aged 65 (years)	26.1	25.9
Females currently aged 65 (years)	26.6	26.3
Males currently aged 45 (years)	27.9	27.7
Females currently aged 45 (years)	27.9	27.9

A new deficit recovery plan was put in place as part of the 2018 valuation, which requires payment of 2% of salaries over the period 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2021 at which point the rate will increase to 6%. The 2021 deficit recovery liability reflects this plan. The liability figures have been produced using the following assumptions:

	2021	2020
Discount rate	0.87%	0.73%
Pensionable salary growth	2.00%	2.00%

Cambridge Colleges' Federated Pension Scheme

The College also operates a defined benefits plan for the College's employees of the Cambridge Colleges' Federation Pension Scheme.

The liabilities of the plan have been calculated, at 30 June 2021, for the purposes of FRS102 using a valuation system designed for the Management Committee, acting as Trustee of the Cambridge Federated Pension Scheme, but allowing for the different assumptions required under FRS102 and taking fully into consideration changes in the plan benefit structure and membership since that date.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

The principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date were as follows:

	2021 % p.a.	2020 % p.a.
Discount rate	1.80	1.45
Increase in salaries	3.10	2.70
Retail Price Index (RPI) assumption	3.40	3.10
Consumer Price Index (CPI) assumption	2.60	2.20
Pension increases in payment (RPI max 5% p.a.)	3.30	3.00
Pension increases in payment (CPI max 2.5%)	1.95	1.80

The underlying mortality assumption is based upon the standard table known as S3PA on a year of birth usage with CMI_2020 future improvement factors and a long-term rate of future improvement of 1.25% per annum, a standard smoothing factor (7.0) and no allowance for additional improvements (2020: S3PA with CMI_2019 future improvement factors and a long-term future improvement rate of 1.25% per annum, a standard smoothing factor (7.0) and no allowance for additional improvements). This results in the following life expectancies:

- Male aged 65 now has a life expectancy of 21.9 years (previously 21.9 years)
- Female age 65 now has a life expectancy of 24.3 years (previously 24.2 years)
- Male age 45 now and retiring in 20 years has a life expectancy of 23.2 years (previously 23.2 years)
- Female age 45 now and retiring in 20 years would have a life expectancy of 25.7 years (previously 25.6 years)

Members are assumed to retire at their normal retirement age (65) apart from in the following cases:

	Male	Female
Active Members – Option 1 Benefits	64	64
Deferred Members – Option 1 Benefits	63	62

Allowance has been made at retirement for non-retired members to commute part of their pension for a lump sum on the basis of the current commutation factors in these calculations

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Employee Benefit Obligations

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet as at 30 June 2021 (with comparative figures as at 30 June 2020) are as follows:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Market value of scheme assets	5,881	5,609
Present value of scheme liabilities	(7,173)	(7,600)
Net defined benefit (liability)	(1,292)	(1,991)

The amounts recognised in the income and expenditure account for the year ending 30 June 2021 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2020) are as follows:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Current service cost	15	16
Interest on net defined benefit liability	29	38
Total charge	44	54

Changes in the present value of the scheme liabilities for the year ending 30 June 2021 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2020) are as follows:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Present value of scheme liabilities at beginning of period	7,600	7,049
Current service cost (including employee contributions)	4	4
Benefits paid	(199)	(232)
Interest on scheme liabilities	109	156
Actuarial (gains) / losses	(341)	623
Present value of Scheme liabilities at end of period	7,173	7,600

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets for the year ending 30 June 2021 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2020) are as follows:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Market value of scheme assets at beginning of period	5,609	5,372
Contributions paid by the College	54	54
Benefits paid	(199)	(232)
Administration expenses paid	(17)	(17)
Interest on scheme assets	80	118
Return on assets, less interest included in profit and loss	354	314
Market value of Scheme assets at end of period	5,881	5,609
Actual return on scheme assets	434	432

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total Scheme assets at 30 June 2021 (with comparative figures at 30 June 2020) are as follows:

	2021	2020
Equities	48%	49%
Bonds & Cash	42%	41%
Properties	10%	10%
Total	100%	100%

The plan has no investments in property occupied by, assets used by or financial instruments issued by the College.

Analysis of the remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability recognised in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI) for the year ending 30 June 2021 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2020) are as follows:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Actuarial return less expected return on scheme assets	354	314
Experience gains and losses arising on scheme liabilities	202	37
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of scheme liabilities	133	(665)
Actuarial gain / (loss) recognised in OCI	689	(314)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

22. Pension Schemes continued

Movement in net defined benefit liability during the year ending 30 June 2021 (with comparative figures for the year ending 30 June 2020) are as follows:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Deficit in scheme at beginning of year	(1,991)	(1,677)
Recognised in Profit and Loss	(44)	(54)
Contributions paid by the College	54	54
Actuarial gain recognised in SOCIE	689	(314)
Deficit in scheme at the end of the year	(1,292)	(1,991)

Funding Policy

Actuarial valuations are carried out every three years on behalf of the Management Committee, acting as the Trustee of the Scheme, by a qualified independent actuary. The actuarial assumptions underlying the actuarial valuation are different to those adopted under FRS102.

The last such actuarial valuation was as at 31 March 2020. This showed that the assets were insufficient to cover the liabilities on the funding basis. A Recovery Plan has been agreed with the College, which commits the College to paying contributions to fund the shortfall. These deficit reduction contributions are incorporated into the Schedule of Contributions dated 21 May 2021 and are as follows:

- Annual contributions of not less than £39,105 p.a. payable for the period to 31 August 2025.

These payments are subject to review following the next funding valuation, due as at 31 March 2023.

Defined Contribution Pension Schemes

The College operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of certain employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the College amounting to £183,230 (2020 - £162,754) of which £26,062 (2020 - £31,505) was outstanding at the year end.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

23. Contingent Liabilities

As disclosed in note 21, with effect from 16 March 2007, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) positioned itself as a “last man standing” scheme so that in the event of an insolvency of any of the participating employers in USS, the amount of any pension funding shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer will be spread across the remaining participant employers.

24. Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the College’s operations and the composition of its Governing Body, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Governing Body has an interest. All transactions involving organisations in which a member of the Governing Body may have an interest are conducted at arm’s length and in accordance with the College’s normal procedures.

The College maintains a register of interests for all College Council members and where any member of the College Council has a material interest in a College matter they are required to declare that fact.

During the year no fees or expenses were paid to Fellows in respect of their duties as Trustees.

Fellows are remunerated for teaching, research and other duties within the College. Fellows are billed for any private catering. The Trustees remuneration is overseen by a Remuneration Committee.

The salaries paid to Trustees in the year are summarised in the table below:

From	To	2021 Number	2020 Number
0	10,000	33	33
10,001	20,000	5	9
20,001	30,000	4	2
30,001	40,000	3	2
40,001	50,000	2	2
50,001	60,000	2	1
60,001	70,000	—	—
70,001	80,000	—	—
80,001	90,000	2	1
90,001	100,000	—	1
		51	51

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

24. Related Party Transactions continued

The total Trustee salaries were £724,938 for the year (2020 - £704,854).

The Trustees were also paid other taxable benefits (including associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer contributions to pensions) which totalled £191,776 for the year (2020 - £169,968).

The College has a number of trading subsidiary undertakings which are consolidated into these accounts. All subsidiary undertakings are 100% owned by the College and are registered and operating in England and Wales.

The College has taken advantage of the exemption within section 33 of FRS 102 not to disclose transactions with wholly owned group companies that are related parties.

25. Post Balance Sheet Event

Since the year end, following the completion of the 2020 actuarial valuation, a new deficit recovery plan has been agreed in respect of the USS pension scheme. A new Schedule of Contributions based on the 2020 actuarial valuation has been agreed, and become effective, post year end. This results in an increase of £889,302 in the provision for the obligation to fund the deficit on the USS pension which would instead be £1,410,394. As the Schedule of Contributions was not in place at the financial year end this adjustment will be reflected in the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022. If the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) recommended deed on benefit changes has not been executed by 28 February 2022 then a different schedule of contributions would become applicable. If this were to happen then there would be an increase of £1,764,618 in the provision for the obligation to fund the deficit on the USS pension which would instead be £2,285,710.

26. Sir Mortimer Singer Fund

Other Unrestricted Funds includes the Sir Mortimer Singer Fund which was funded from a bequest of Sir Mortimer Singer, a Fellow Commoner of the College. The money was appointed to the College by Lady Singer upon the trusts declared by a deed dated 25 March 1952. The Pension Trust Fund was also set up from this bequest. Below are the movements on these Funds in the year.

	Singer Fund £000	Pension Trust £000
Opening Balance at 1 July 2020	7,043	252
Income	184	11
Expenditure	-	(11)
Change in Market Value of Investments	755	46
Closing Balance at 30 June 2021	7,982	298

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Alcan Prize Fund	—	13
Angharad John Fellowship	—	398
Alwyn W Heong Fund	—	340
Barry Moore Economics Prize Fund	—	19
Bathey Fund	—	12
Beinan Lu Fund	—	4
Bill Willetts Fund	—	0
B J Everitt Prize Fund	—	21
Blankenship Book Fund	—	16
Blankenship Law Fund	—	33
Bradbrook Fund	—	16
Brammer Fellowship in Geography	22	670
Buchanan Fund	—	329
Charles Campbell Book Fund	—	5
S M and H Haniff Prize	—	42
Cockerell Fund	—	31
Collins Fund	—	261
Darley Fund	—	405
Darley Sands Postgraduate Studentship	—	262
Downing Association Fund	—	52
Edward Collins Fund	—	153
Ernest William Denham Fund	—	36
Everitt Fund	—	2
Everitt Butterfield Fund	4	1,455
Fahrenwaldt Fund	—	17
Ferreras Willetts Fund	—	372
Florence & David Jacobs Memorial Prize	—	10
Fritsch Fund	—	594
Carried forward	26	5,567

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	26	5,567
Fu Fund	—	6
Gamlingay Fund	—	104
Geoffrey Grimmett Prize	—	8
Gelber Bequest	—	13
Graystone Fund	—	233
Gulbenkian Fund	—	3
Hall Fund	—	14
Harold Hargreaves Prize	—	7
Harris Fund	—	592
Harrison Prize Fund	—	4
Hopkins Parry Fund	—	1,423
John Hopkins Fund	12	289
John Hopkins Supervision Fund	2	314
John Miller Scholarships	—	1,812
Hugh Brammer Fund	—	92
Ivor Evans Fund	—	29
Jan Hruska Fund	—	340
Jean Ruhman Fund	—	13
John Hawkins Mays Wild Fund	—	11
John Maples America Fund	—	202
Johnston Fund	2	2
Joseph Tcheng Prize	—	15
Judy Petty Book Prize & Scholarship	—	29
Kim and Julianna Silverman Research Fellowship	—	1,091
Percy Lander Research Fund	—	335
Lander Fund	—	14
Landrum & Brown Scholarship Fund	—	17
Carried forward	42	12,579

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	42	12,579
Lord Butterfield Fund	—	230
Mays Wild Fund	41	846
Matthews/McKinley Travel Fund	—	17
Alfred Monk Fund	—	310
John H Morrison Prize in Law	—	34
Moullin Fund	—	3
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Fund	—	577
Oon Khye Beng Ch'hia Tsio Memorial Prize Fund	—	177
Professor Gabriel Oon Prize	—	8
Osler Fund	—	133
Owens Fund	—	501
Peter Mathias Economics Prize Fund	—	3
Pilley Fund	—	474
Platt Fund	—	38
Poulton Fund	64	650
Professor Audus Botanical Fund	—	22
Purcell Fund	—	0
Richards Fund	—	69
Robertson Research Fellowship Fund	—	990
Robson Physics Prize	—	9
Robson Postgraduate Fund	—	393
Saint Fund	—	56
Saunders Fund	—	57
Savile Fund	—	175
Schreiner Fund	—	84
Seton Fund	—	99
Seton Cavendish Fund	—	2,761
Carried forward	147	21,295

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	147	21,295
Shallard Fund	—	0
Sir Arthur Watts Choral Awards	—	17
Stephen Peel Fellowship Fund	—	398
Stevens Fund	—	6
Susan & Geoffrey Eggington Scholarship	—	21
Sutcliffe Legacy	—	776
TG Jones Fund	—	972
Thomas Fund	—	25
Thrower Fund	5	83
Timothy Walton Remembrance Fund	80	80
Treherne Fund	—	135
Unwin Fund	—	77
Verjee Fellowship Fund	—	360
Verney Fund	—	2
Michael Waring Fund	110	110
Warner—Lambert Fund	—	316
Whitby Memorial Fund	—	525
White Fund	—	10
Whitelegg Fund	—	75
Whitworth Fund	—	2,735
Wicks Travel Fund	—	18
Williams Downing Fellowship	6	504
Wilsey & Lerch Scholarship in Economics	—	82
Wyatt Fund	—	2
Postgraduate Studentship Fund	1	5
Student Hardship Endowment	2	452
Student Support Endowment	198	957
Carried forward	549	30,038

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Restricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Brought forward	549	30,038
1970's Grant Fund	—	97
Alumni Sport Fund	—	70
Fundraising — Teaching	41	230
Fundraising — Access	53	839
Catalysis — Teaching & Learning	3	218
Catalysis — Research & Discovery	—	19
Catalysis — Heritage & Environment	3	48
Catalysis — Support & Services	4	294
Catalysis — Culture & Community	—	14
Other	—	81
	653	31,948
<i>Restricted expendable</i>		
Bartram Fund	—	167
Colin Hill Fund	—	2
Lt. Colonel Anderson Trust Fund	—	136
Goodey Fund	—	219
Richens Fund	—	770
Treherne Prize Fund	—	15
Student Hardship (Spend Down)	29	29
The Great Tradition	1	117
Segreants Fund	51	107
Catalysis Research Fund	—	203
Downing Enterprise	7	129
1717 Fund	82	12
Voellm-Hruska Studentship	—	105
Tazaki Studentship	—	1,000
Fundraising - Buildings	—	62
Other	787	947
	957	4,020
Total Restricted Funds	1,610	35,968

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

27. Analysis of Movement in Total Funds continued

	Donations £000	Closing Balance £000
<i>Unrestricted Permanent Funds</i>		
Clark Fund	—	3
French Fund	—	44
Jarvis Fund	—	53
Library Endowment Fund	—	1,473
Richmond Fund	—	276
Stenning Fund	—	74
Stevenson Fund	—	2
Whalley—Tooker Fund	—	22
Yates Fund	—	11
Young Fund	—	247
Singer Fund (Pension Trust)	—	297
Smyth Bequest	—	662
Fleet Bequest	—	71
Deryk Prosser Fund	—	569
Corporate Capital Fund	—	1,217
General Capital	—	6,871
	—	11,892
<i>Unrestricted</i>		
Designated Buildings	—	124,415
Corporate Capital Fund	—	22
Singer Fund (Will Trust)	—	8
General Capital and Other	1,386	(27,770)
Revaluation Reserves	—	52,778
Pension Reserves	—	(1,813)
	1,386	177,747
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,386	189,637
Total Reserves	2,996	225,605





Photograph: Nick High, College Porter.



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DESIGN Nicholas Hawksworth 01223 693 082