



UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

Trustees' Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2024

Registered charity number: 1189354
Registered company number: 12532982

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Reference & administrative details

Charity Name	University of Salford Students' Union
Registered Charity Number	1189354
Registered Company Number	12532982
Registered Office	University House The Crescent Salford M5 4WT

Directors and Trustees

All directors of the company are also trustees of the charity, there are no other trustees. The trustees at year end were:

Name	Appointed	Position
Susie Palmer-Trew	1 September 2022	Deputy Chair
Conor Naughton	1 September 2022	
Adnan Sabir	1 July 2023	
Charlotte Stevenson-Stoddard	1 July 2023	
Humoud Aljassar	1 July 2023	
Karina Lurea	1 July 2023	
Alvina Imran	1 July 2024	Chair
Ahmad Ali	1 July 2024	
Sara Sara	1 July 2024	
Alishba Malik	1 July 2024	
Emma White	1 July 2024	

Resignations

The following resigned from their position as Trustees during the year:

Name	Appointed	Resigned	Position
Lee Hull	1 August 2020	28 th November 2023	
Samantha Wilkinson	1 July 2021	30 th June 2024	
Simeon Anyalemechi	1 July 2022	30 th June 2024	Chair
Anuoluwapo Ubikitan	1 July 2022	30 th June 2024	
Joseph Ediae	8 July 2022	30 th June 2024	
Mahesh Trimukhe	1 July 2023	30 th June 2024	
Rachael Idris	1 July 2023	30 th June 2024	

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

Company Secretary

Ed Moloney

Key Management Personnel

Chief Executive Officer

Ed Moloney

Director of Engagement

Andy Hargreaves

Director of Advocacy

Lauren Beckett (sabbatical leave from September 2023)

Advisors

Auditors Dains Audit Limited, Suite 2, Albion House, 2 Etruria Office Village, Forge Lane, Stoke on Trent, ST1 5RQ.

Bankers The Cooperative Bank PLC, PO Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

Insurance Endsleigh Business Insurance Services, The Quadrangle, Imperial Square, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 1PZ

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31st July 2024.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing Document

The University of Salford Students' Union (the Union) is a students' union within the meaning of the Education Act 1994. The Union is devoted to the educational interests and welfare of its members. It is the independent representative body of the students at the University of Salford.

The Union is a company limited by guarantee and without shares (company number 12532982) and a charity (charity number 1189354).

The Union is governed by Articles of Association effective from the 1st of August 2020, a set of Bye-laws, the University of Salford and the Charity Commission. The Union also has a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Salford. The Articles of Association state the Union's principle objectives as:

"The Union will seek at all times to:

- (i) ensure that the diversity of its Student Membership is recognised and that equal access is available to all Student Members of whatever origin or orientation;
- (ii) pursue its aims and objectives independent of any political party or religious group; and
- (iii) pursue equal opportunities by taking positive action within the law to facilitate participation of groups discriminated against by society.

These Articles have been structured to give the Board of Trustees reasonable authority to manage the affairs of the Union in a professional manner. The Student Members enjoy the right, which must be exercised in accordance with charity law, to elect a proportion of the Trustees and to dismiss all the Trustees. The Board of Trustees will give the utmost consideration to the views of Student Members.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

Under the Education Act 1994, the University of Salford has a statutory duty to ensure that the Union operates in a fair and democratic manner and is held to proper account for its finances. The Union therefore works alongside the University of Salford in ensuring that the affairs of the Union are properly conducted and that the educational and welfare needs of the Union's Student Members are met.

Public Benefit statement

The Trustees have given due consideration to Charity Commission published guidance on the operation of the public benefit requirement and are satisfied that the charitable company meets these requirements.

The Trustee Board

The Union is democratically controlled through the annual election of a team of student representatives who form part of the Union's Board of Trustees. The membership of the Trustee Board is as follows:

- Five elected Sabbatical Trustees
- Four Student Trustees
- Four Lay Trustees

The Trustees determine policy for all areas of Union activity. The sabbatical trustees are full time student officers of the organisation and work for the Union for a year either during or at the end of their degree course to represent students on a full-time basis. The Trustee Board remit can be summarised as follows:

Strategy	Formulating, monitoring and implementing plans
Financial	Providing effective financial management and oversight including the formation of budgets
Performance	Monitoring and evaluating the performance of staff, services and activities
Line management	Line managing and supporting the Chief Executive including performance monitoring
Risk management	Ensuring there are effective reporting and monitoring processes in place to effectively manage the risks of the Union
Consultation	Ensuring there is a comprehensive programme of member consultation in place
Involvement	Promoting the effective involvement of members
Trustee recruitment	Ensuring the effective election/selection, induction and appraisal of trustee board members
Reporting	Considering committee reports

The Sabbatical Trustees work alongside the permanent Union staff to implement and carry out the strategy and policies set by the Trustee Board. The permanent staff team is managed by the Chief Executive Officer, who is directly accountable to the Trustee Board for the Union's performance.

Risk management statement

Risk management is the responsibility of the Trustee Board. The senior managers of the Union have delegated authority for identifying the risks facing the organisation and reporting these to the Trustees as they arise in relation to items of business at the Board. In addition, the senior managers provide the information to enable the Trustees to undertake an annual review.

The Trustee Board examines the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Union faces on an annual basis. The Trustees confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced.

Reserves

Details of the funds are set out below:

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

Item	31 July 2024 £	31 July 2023 £
Unrestricted funds	256,356	479,504
Designated Fixed Assets Fund – being a fund representing the net book value of fixed assets owned by the charitable company	300,402	236,326
Restricted funds	76,707	107,659
Total Reserves	633,465	823,489

Reserves policy

The trustees have adopted a reserves policy, the objective of which is to protect the Union and its charitable activities by ensuring adequate liquidity while the organisation adjusts to any short term (three to six months) changes it encounters in its financial and operating environment. Such changes might include:

- Interruptions to the grant funding from the University;
- Provision for unforeseen events;
- Staff notice and redundancy payments and/or legal fees in the event the Union is wound up.

At the same time the trustees want to ensure reserves are not too high to maximise the resources applied to the Union's charitable purpose and the ability to invest in the Unions fixed assets to maintain the quality and standards of its service provision.

The trustees understand that a reserve against loss in trading income would not mitigate a decrease in income from the University block grant. However, the risk level of such is regarded to be low. The trustees have therefore set a target of the Union holding a minimum of six months' loss in trading income in unrestricted funds. Based on the 2023/24 financial year this target figure would equate to £655,074. At 31 July 2024 the Union held unrestricted funds of £256,356 (2023: £479,504) equating to 39% of the target level.

In 2024 the trustees took the decision to fund the buy-out of the Union's antiquated defined benefit pension scheme, that has been closed to accrual. The pension scheme is the largest risk to the organisation, and a unique opportunity to continue with the buy-out arose. This decision will require investment from the Union and it is likely to reduce the reserves position. The university has provided additional support, should the organisation require it, through the offering of a loan facility, which the Union does not currently intend to draw upon.

Appointment of Trustees

The Union's Articles of Association states there shall be *"not more than five Sabbatical officer Trustees, elected...; not more than four Student Trustees, appointed...; and not more than four Lay Trustees, appointed..."*

Sabbaticals

Up to five Sabbatical Officer Trustees are elected by secret ballot of the Members of the Union at an election held in accordance with the Election Regulations. They remain in post for a term of one year between the 1 July and the 30 June. They may be re-elected for a maximum of one further term of one year. This may be consecutive or non-consecutive; the total maximum term that can be served is twenty-four months. Each Officer Trustee must be a student or an Officer Trustee at the time of the election. An Officer Trustee

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

becomes a member of the Union on commencement of their appointment or reappointment and this membership ceases when they cease to be an officer trustee.

Student trustees Up to four student trustees are appointed by a panel drawn from the Trustee Board. Each Student Trustee must be a student at the time of their appointment. The role may be shorter or longer on a transitional basis to coincide with the alteration of the year start or end. A student trustee may serve a maximum of two years that may be consecutive or non-consecutive.

Lay Trustees The trustees are required to appoint by a simple majority vote such persons as they consider suitable to be Lay Trustees. The ratio of elected student trustees to Lay Trustees, with the exception of any period which may not exceed four months, must be greater than or equal to two to one. Unless their appointment is terminated in accordance with the Articles of Association, Lay Trustees remain in office for a term of up to four years. They are eligible for re-appointment by a simple majority vote of the Trustees for a further term of four years but are not eligible for re-appointment thereafter if they have served a total maximum term of eight years.

Trustee Induction and Training

All new trustees engage in a comprehensive training programme which includes:

- The key roles and responsibilities of the trustee position
- Financial training
- Introductions to key staff and other trustees
- Copies of the Union's key documents

On-going training needs for Trustees are continually monitored by the Chief Executive Officer and President.

The Students' Union

The Union is involved in a wide range of activities. Its core purpose is to represent students and provide activities for them to enhance the student experience. To that end the Union organises campaigns on issues of concern to the generality of students, administers the work of approximately 100 different sports teams and societies, trains and develops over 600 student course representatives and operates a Student Advice Centre.

The Union's commercial activities includes Atmosphere which incorporates a café and licenced premises offering a social eating and drinking space. The Union also puts on social events for members. The Union also receives financial contributions from its relationship with Chartwells, who operate the retail space on campus.

The majority of Union core activity is funded from the grant received from the University.

The staff teams

There is a core staff team of 35 staff and approximately 60 casual student staff members. Union staff members work across five functional areas of the Union:

- Student Voice
- Student Opportunities and Wellbeing
- Marketing and Events
- Commercial services
- Administration, including finance and human resources.

Related Parties

The University of Salford is the parent institution of the USSU. The USSU received a revenue block grant in the year from the University of Salford of £1,282,000 (2023: £1,174,423).

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

Objectives & Activities

Summary of charity objectives and activities undertaken in relation to these objects

The Union's Articles of Association identifies its charitable objects as:

"The advancement of education of students at University of Salford for the public benefit by:

- promoting the interests and welfare of Students at the University of Salford during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;
- being the recognised representative channel between Students and the University of Salford and any other external bodies; and
- providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students.

Strategic Plan

On recommendation from the CEO, in 2023 the trustees agreed a new strategic plan for the organisation, following the completion of the 2019-2022 plan:

Mission: Salford SU empowers students to confront and overcome barriers to their learning

Vision: An inclusive and healthy university community where every student knows they matter

Purpose: To enable students to enjoy the life-changing power of learning at Salford.

Following work to identify the most significant barrier to students' learning at the University of Salford, the trustees also adopted a 'Big Hairy Audacious Goal' which provides a single priority for the organisation: We will eradicate student loneliness at the University of Salford by 2026.

The strategy also sets the organisation's values, which are as follows:

Student-powered: We are undeniably driven by the needs of our members

Partnership-focussed: We are straight-forward, transparent and collaborative

Equitable: We ensure equity, diversity and belonging is at the heart of everything we do

Kind: We are creative and progressive change-makers.

Policies relating to grant making

To apply for funding, each Sport or Society group completes an online application which outlines their planned activity and funding requirements. Each application should meet the strategic aims of the organisation and focus on delivering involvement, diversity, innovation, personal development and broader success to the group. Applications are received and reviewed by the Societies & Sports Student Executive. Any student volunteer on the funding panel associated to a particular group who have applied for budget or project funding must declare a conflict of interest. This individual can be involved in the discussion regarding the application but will be excluded from decision making element of allocation.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

Achievements and performance

Key Performance Indicators

#	Key Performance Indicator	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
1	Students engaged in SU co/extra-curricular activity	15%	11%	15%	16%	16%
2	Number of students volunteering for the organisation	1075	1094	1100	1098	1404
3	Number of attendees at events	13,000	13,553	20,000	24,839	51,819
4	Student Loneliness (new measure)	-	-	-	-	38%
5	Annual election turnout	15%	12%	20%	17%	25%
6	Staff Engagement (measured biannually)	-	82%	-	98%	-
7	Student Satisfaction (Pulse Survey)	-	-	50%	53%	53%
	Student Satisfaction (National Student Survey)				73%	75%

Please note that turnout performance across many indicators between 2020 and 2022 were impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Relationship with stakeholders

Students

The organisation regularly consults with students as part of its representative function. The Student Officers continue to work closely with Course and School Representatives to identify the key issues facing students at course and school level. The Officers are also able to obtain views of students engaged in the other aspects of the Unions services, particularly student societies. The Officers are then able to represent these views at high level College and University committees and in discussion with the University Leadership Team (ULT).

The organisation makes full use of social media to solicit opinion on a range of matters relating to the student experience and enjoys a dialogue with thousands of Salford students.

The University

The Union has a strong partnership relationship with the University. It acts as a 'critical friend', providing evidence on and challenging the University on key student issues. As part of their representational work the student officers sit on high level University Committees providing a student voice on the issues discussed. The Union meets with the University quarterly to discuss the progress of the Union. The Partnership Steering Group, co-chaired by the Salford SU President and the University Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor Education and

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

Student Experience, meets every eight weeks to co-ordinate partnership working. The Student Officers meet the Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor Education and Student Experience, the Pro-Vice Chancellor for Student Experience, the Deputy Vice Chancellor and Provost, as well as the Vice-Chancellor regularly. The Officers are able to bring students' questions to the University Leadership Team three times per annum. Separately, the Union presents to the ULT on its performance semi-annually, and reports to the Partnership Review Board quarterly. The President and another Student Officer are members of the University of Salford Council.

Other Unions

Both student officers and staff members meet with counterparts in other Students' Unions to share good practice and discuss the Higher Education landscape. There is a North West regional meeting for staff and officers which the President, Chief Executive, and senior staff are encouraged to attend. Staff members are also part of electronic discussion groups.

NUS

The Union is a member of the National Union of Students (NUS) and as part of its annual elections the Students' Union provides students the opportunity to stand for a position as a delegate on the annual NUS conference.

Regional Organisations

The Students' Union is a founder member of the Greater Manchester Student Partnership (GMSP) which runs a student assembly to facilitate dialogue with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). Student officers and staff meet with the GMCA Mayor Andy Burnham three times a year. They also contact the local MP and other political representatives of the city from time to time.

Financial Review

The Union made a deficit of £190,024 (2023: surplus of £30,062).

The principal income sources for the Union are the block grant provided by the University of Salford and funds generated through commercial activity.

The result for the period includes items which must be shown through the statement of financial activities under SORP accounting rules and which are not shown through the monthly management accounts. These items include pension scheme valuation adjustments, capital grants received and restricted reserves movements.

Net assets at 31 July 2023 stood at £633,465 (2023: £823,489).

Plans for future periods

Aims, key objectives and planned activities

The Union is continuing to embed its strategic plan (see above).

Investment policy and performance

The Investment Policy of the Union is to hold the majority of its reserves in cash, spreading deposits between financial institutions in order to mitigate counterparty risk. Cash deposits are either instant access or fixed term with the balance being determined by cash flow requirements. Within the framework of managing risk, liquidity and ethical standards, the highest interest rates are selected to maximise investment return.

Pay Policies for Senior Staff

The remuneration of key management personnel is set by the Board through the organisation's Pay Policy, with the policy objective of ensuring that they are provided with appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and are, in a fair and responsible manner, rewarded for their individual contributions to the Union's success. The appropriateness and relevance of the remuneration policy is reviewed regularly including

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

reference to comparisons with other student organisations to ensure that the Union remains sensitive to the broader issues of pay and employment conditions elsewhere. A pay review was conducted in 2022 and revised pay structures were introduced for all grades across the organisation, including senior staff.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The charity trustees (who are also the directors of the Union for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue its activities.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Trustees' statement of disclosure of information to the auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the date of approval of this report:

- There is no relevant audit information, of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Trustees of the University of Salford Students' Union and signed on its behalf by:



Alvina Imran
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Date: 20/11/2024

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF

University of Salford Students' Union (A company limited by guarantee)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of University of Salford Students' Union (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 July 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 July 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. 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 charitable company'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 other information comprises the information included in the trustee's annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 themselves. 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 10, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 trustees 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 trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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 specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these 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 senior statutory auditor 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 charitable company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the 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 charitable company, including the financial reporting legislation, Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; 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.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

We assessed the susceptibility of the charitable company'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.

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 1(p) 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;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the charitable company's legal advisors.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Simon Hawkins
Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of **Dains Audit Limited**, Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants
Suite 2, Albion House
2 Etruria Office Village,
Forge Lane, Etruria,
Stoke on Trent, ST1 5RQ

Date:

20.11.24

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	2024	2023
	Note	General Funds	Designated Funds		Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Income from:						
Donations and Legacies	2	1,282,000	-	-	1,282,000	1,204,583
Charitable Activities	3	1,249,257	-	93,873	1,343,130	1,126,448
Other Trading Activities	4	60,265	-	-	60,265	99,493
Investments	5	58,710	-	-	58,710	32,496
Total income		2,650,232	-	93,873	2,744,105	2,463,020
Expenditure on:						
Raising Funds		101,764	4,004	-	105,768	86,764
Charitable Activities		2,491,221	135,803	124,825	2,751,849	2,346,194
Other		-	76,512	-	76,512	-
Total expenditure	6	2,592,985	216,319	124,825	2,934,129	2,432,958
Net income/(expenditure)	7	57,247	(216,319)	(30,952)	(190,024)	30,062
Transfers between funds	19	(280,395)	280,395	-	-	-
Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension scheme	24	-	-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		(223,148)	64,076	(30,952)	(190,024)	30,062
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward as previously stated	19	479,504	236,326	107,659	823,489	793,427
Total funds carried forward	19	256,356	300,402	76,707	633,465	823,489

All amounts relate to continuing operations. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The notes on pages 17 to 35 form part of the financial statements.

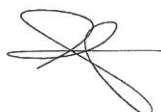
UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2024

	Notes	£	As at 31-Jul-24 £	As at 31-Jul-23 £
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets	11		<u>176,913</u>	<u>236,326</u>
			176,913	236,326
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stock	12	21,198		14,237
Debtors	13	121,615		197,236
Investments	14	431,885		416,961
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>90,448</u>		<u>155,286</u>
		665,146		783,720
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(208,594)</u>	<u>(196,557)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>456,552</u>	<u>587,163</u>
NET ASSETS EXCLUDING PENSION SCHEME LIABILITY			633,465	823,489
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	24		-	-
NET ASSETS			<u>633,465</u>	<u>823,489</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:				
Restricted Income Funds	19		76,707	107,659
Unrestricted Income Funds	19			
General Fund			256,356	479,504
Designated Funds	19			
Fixed Asset Fund			300,402	236,326
			<u>633,465</u>	<u>823,489</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 35 form part of the financial statements. Approved by the trustees of the University of Salford Students' Union on the 20th of November 2024.



Alvina Imran
Chair



Susie Palmer-Trew
Deputy Chair

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

		2024	2023
	Note	Total	Total
		£	£
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	21	30,481	52,620
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of fixed assets		(80,395)	(46,380)
Sale proceeds from disposal of fixed assets		-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		(80,395)	(46,380)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period		(49,914)	6,240
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		572,247	566,007
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	22	522,333	572,247

The notes on pages 17 to 35 form part of these financial statements

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

1 Accounting Policies

The University of Salford Students' Union, which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and limited to £1 per member has adopted the following accounting policies:

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The University of Salford Students' Union meets the definition of a public benefit charity under FRS 102. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are prepared in Sterling which is the functional currency of the charitable company and rounded to the nearest £.

b) Incoming resources

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charitable company has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions and is recognised as earned. Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income received to deliver services over a specific period covering more than one financial year is accounted for over the specific period; related expenditure is accounted for when incurred.

Investment income relates to interest earned through holding assets on deposit.

c) Donated services and facilities

Donated services and facilities are recognised as income when the charitable company has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated items have been met, and the receipt of economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the general volunteer time is not recognised.

Donated services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charitable company which is the amount the charitable company would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent benefit on the open market, a corresponding amount is recognised in the expenditure for the period.

d) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charitable company but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office & admin costs, facility costs and supporting marketing costs which are allocated to activity based on the proportion of that activity's direct costs to total costs.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

e) Governance costs allocation

Governance costs are those costs related to the governance of the entity, to allow it to operate, and to generate information for public accountability. Direct costs will include audit and accountancy, legal advice to trustees and costs of trustees meetings.

f) Funds

The entity has the following funds which are shown separately in the accounts:

- i) **Restricted funds** are funds that are used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the entity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. Details of the restricted funds held are given in note 19 to the financial statements.
- ii) **Unrestricted funds** are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objects of the entity and which have not been designated for other purposes.
- iii) **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds that are allocated for specific purposes as set out in note 19 to the financial statements

g) Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment: 10% to 33% straight line per annum
Building Improvements: 4% to 10% straight line per annum
Motor Vehicles: 33% straight line per annum

h) Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

i) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discounts offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

j) Current asset investments

Current asset investments are short term highly liquid investments and are held at fair value. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity of less than one year.

k) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

l) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charitable company has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement after allowing for any trade discounts due.

m) Financial instruments

The charitable company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

n) Pension costs

The Union operates two defined benefit pension schemes for all qualifying employees.

The Greater Manchester Pension fund operates on a pooled arrangement with contributions agreed centrally. As a consequence, no share of the underlying assets and liabilities can be directly attributed to the Union. Under the terms of FRS102, in these circumstances, contributions can be accounted for as if the scheme was a defined contribution scheme based on actual contributions paid throughout the year.

The Union of Salford Students Union Pension and Life Assurance Scheme contributions are accounted for on a full actuarial valuation basis as at the year-end.

Following the introduction of auto enrolment a National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) has now been set up in order to provide pension arrangements for any staff that now become eligible jobholders.

o) Taxation

The charitable company is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable entity for UK corporation tax purposes.

p) Significant judgements and estimates

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to make significant judgements and estimates. The items in the financial statements where these judgements and estimates have been made include assumptions around the financial assets and liabilities of pension scheme commitments, and the discount rate applied thereto, and the valuation of stock.

q) Going Concern

The Union has net assets of £633k (2023: £823k).

With the continued support of the University, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Union has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
2 Donations and legacies					
University Block Grant	1,282,000	-	-	1,282,000	1,174,423
Other Grants	-	-	-	-	30,060
Donation received	-	-	-	-	100
	1,282,000	-	-	1,282,000	1,204,583
3 Income from charitable activities					
Bar	801,339	-	-	801,339	702,947
Catering	339,395	-	-	339,395	253,910
Entertainments	21,762	-	-	21,762	16,000
Graduate Portrait Commission	52,876	-	-	52,876	46,691
Student Services e.g. Society Memberships	33,885	-	627	34,512	25,999
National Lottery Community Funding	-	-	16,555	16,555	-
Equity Advocate Funding	-	-	53,511	53,511	-
Academic Society Funding	-	-	23,180	23,180	-
Grants for staff positions	-	-	-	-	60,000
Strike Fund	-	-	-	-	21,000
	1,249,257	-	93,873	1,343,130	1,126,448
4 Income from other trading activities					
Venue Hire & Franchise Income	27,962	-	-	27,962	71,000
Media Sales	32,303	-	-	32,303	28,393
	60,265	-	-	60,265	99,493
5 Investments					
Interest received from Bank & Building Society Accounts	58,710	-	-	58,710	32,496
	58,710	-	-	58,710	32,496

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

6 Analysis of Expenditure

2024	Cost of Sales £	Staff Costs £	Other Costs £	Gov'ce Costs £	Support Costs £	Total Costs £
Raising Funds	-	67,381	9,704	3,096	25,587	105,768
Charitable Activities:						
Bar	273,441	456,229	204,138	33,765	251,906	1,268,939
Catering	158,263	51,945	17,019	9,126	75,425	311,778
Student Services incl. societies	-	533,975	228,586	30,625	253,12	1,046,308
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	16,555	-	-	16,555
Equity Advocate Fund	-	-	53,500	-	-	53,500
Academic Society Fund	-	-	23,180	-	-	23,180
Strike Fund	-	3,542	13,245	-	-	16,787
Loneliness Goal Fund	-	14,802	-	-	-	14,802
	431,704	1,060,493	547,233	76,896	635,523	2,751,849
Other: Pension scheme costs allocated to designated fund	-	-	76,512	-	-	76,512
	431,704	1,127,874	633,449	79,992	661,110	2,934,129
2023	Cost of Sales £	Staff Costs £	Other Costs £	Gov'ce Costs £	Support Costs £	Total Costs £
Raising Funds	-	55,418	8,215	2,734	20,397	86,764
Charitable Activities:						
Bar	222,729	359,010	204,138	33,765	251,908	1,071,551
Catering	119,866	42,639	21,956	7,925	59,127	251,513
Student Services incl. societies	-	439,278	259,313	29,616	220,949	949,156
Strike Fund	-	-	4,212	-	-	4,212
Staff Positions Funding	-	60,000	-	-	-	60,000
International Student Engagement	-	-	3,763	-	-	3,763
International/Cultural Diverse Events	-	-	6,000	-	-	6,000
	342,595	900,927	499,381	71,307	531,984	2,346,194
	342,595	956,346	507,596	74,041	552,381	2,432,958

Of the total expenditure £2,809,304 (2023: £2,356,685) was unrestricted and £124,825 (2023: £76,273) was restricted.

The support costs and governance costs are allocated to activity based on the proportion of that activity's direct costs to total costs.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Governance and support costs can be analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	320,036	306,067
Staff Recruitment, training & social costs	34,332	30,737
Facility Costs	33,550	30,906
Office & finance costs	40,407	25,717
Travel, subsistence & conference costs	8,658	11,250
Legal, professional & consultancy	148,994	109,216
Marketing/Website costs	818	7,223
Irrecoverable VAT	30,983	13,682
Depreciation	88,473	44,484
Sundry costs	34,851	47,140
	741,102	626,422

7 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation	139,808	139,511
(Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-
Bad debts incurred/(recovered)	(60)	167
Auditors remuneration	7,250	7,250

8 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries and wages	1,325,039	1,152,677
Social Security costs	94,095	84,282
Termination Payments	-	-
Employer's contribution to a defined contribution pension	17,337	14,475
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	10,297	9,984
Other employee benefits	1,142	994
	1,447,910	1,262,413

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The following number of employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) during the year between:

	2024 No	2023 No
£70,000 - £79,999	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The total employee benefits including pension contributions of the key management personnel were £271,142 (2023: £293,425) Key management personnel include the employees and trustees noted on pages 1 and 2 of the accounts.

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

	2024 £	2023 £
Trustees' remuneration and employer's NI	125,241	116,304
Trustees' expenses	8,265	8,146
	<u>133,506</u>	<u>124,450</u>

Each of the student officers received a salary of £23,099 per annum as authorised in the Articles of Association of the University of Salford Students' Union for the representation, campaigning and support work they undertake as distinct from their trustee responsibilities. The work includes voicing student opinion with the University and local community, defending and extending the rights of students through petitions, and discussions with local MPs.

The trustees expenses of £6,265 (2023: £8,146) were incurred by 5 (2023: 5) trustees in respect of travel and subsistence costs in the course of their duties.

10 Staff Numbers

The average number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was made up as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Raising Funds	3.6	3.0
Bar	55.8	42.8
Catering	1.4	2.6
Student Services	31.3	21.8
Governance	1.0	1.0
Support Services	11.2	10.1
	<u>104.2</u>	<u>81.2</u>

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

11 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Building Improvements £	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 31 July 2023	1,037,906	283,857	17,607	1,339,370
Additions	-	80,395	-	80,395
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 July 2024	1,037,906	364,252	17,607	1,419,765
Depreciation				
At 31 July 2023	915,055	170,382	17,607	1,103,044
Charge for the year	91,473	48,335	-	139,808
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 July 2024	1,006,528	218,717	17,607	1,242,852
Net Book Value				
At 31 July 2024	31,378	145,535	-	176,913
At 31 July 2023	122,851	113,475	-	236,326

Assets are only capitalised if they have a value above £500.

12 Stock

	2024 £	2023 £
Bars	19,841	11,241
Catering	1,357	2,996
	21,198	14,237

13 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	18,726	79,662
Other debtors	6,303	6,820
Prepayments & accrued income	94,611	110,754
Other taxes	1,975	-
	121,615	197,236

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

14 Current Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying value at beginning of the period	416,961	472,397
Additions to investments at cost	1,049,924	1,094,564
Disposals at carrying value	(1,035,000)	(1,150,000)
Carrying value at end of the period	<u>431,885</u>	<u>416,961</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	50,659	47,760
Social Security and other taxes	23,690	24,912
Other creditors	3,774	31,017
Accruals & deferred income	130,471	92,868
	<u>208,594</u>	<u>196,557</u>

16 Deferred Income

	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying value at beginning of the period	-	249
Amount reversed in the year	-	(249)
Amounts deferred in the year	750	-
Carrying value at end of the period	<u>750</u>	<u>-</u>

17 Capital Commitments

At 31 July 2024 there were no capital commitments

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

18 Financial Instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	63,131	129,680
Financial assets measured at fair value	522,133	572,247
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	207,093	196,557
Financial liabilities measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities	-	-

Financial assets held at amortised cost comprise trade debtors and other debtors excluding prepaid costs.
Financial assets measured at fair value comprise short term investments and cash at bank and in hand.
Financial liabilities held at amortised cost comprise trade creditors, other creditors and accruals.
Financial liabilities measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities comprise the pension deficit liability.

The charitable company's income, expense, gains and losses in respect of financial instruments are:

	2024 £	2023 £
Total interest income for financial assets held at far value	58,710	32,496
Total interest expense for financial liabilities held at amortised cost	16,830	2,955

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

19 Statement of funds movement

	Balance 31-Jul 2023 £	Movement in Funds Income Expenditure £ £		Pension Deficit Payment £	Transfer Between Funds £	Balance 31-Jul 2024 £
Unrestricted funds:						
General Fund	479,504	2,650,232	(2,592,985)	-	(280,395)	256,356
Designated funds:						
Fixed Assets Fund	236,326	-	(139,807)	-	80,395	176,914
Pension Fund	-	-	(76,512)	-	200,000	123,488
Restricted Funds:						
Clubs & Societies funds	76,069	627	-	-	-	76,696
Strike Fund	16,788	-	(16,788)	-	-	-
Loneliness Goal	14,802	-	(14,802)	-	-	-
National Lottery	-	16,555	(16,555)	-	-	-
Community Fund	-	53,511	(53,500)	-	-	11
Equity Advocate Fund	-	23,180	(23,180)	-	-	-
Academic Society Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-

TOTAL FUNDS	823,489	2,744,105	(2,934,129)	-	-	633,466
--------------------	---------	-----------	-------------	---	---	---------

	Balance 31-Jul 2022 £	Movement in Funds Income Expenditure £ £		Pension Deficit Payment £	Transfer Between Funds £	Balance 31-Jul 2023 £
Unrestricted funds:						
General Fund	361,038	2,359,071	(2,217,174)	-	(23,431)	479,503
Designated funds:						
Fixed Assets Fund	329,457	22,949	(139,511)	-	23,431	236,326
Restricted Funds:						
Clubs & Societies funds	78,368	-	(2,298)	-	-	76,070
International/Cultural Diverse Events	6,000	-	(6,000)	-	-	-
International Student Engagement	3,762	-	(3,762)	-	-	-
Strike Fund	-	21,000	(4,212)	-	-	16,788
Staff Positions Funding	-	60,000	(60,000)	-	-	-
Lettings Agency	14,802	-	-	-	-	14,802
TOTAL FUNDS	793,427	2,463,020	(2,432,958)	-	-	823,489

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Designated funds

The designated funds are unrestricted funds that are created by the trustees for specific purposes.

- The fixed asset fund is the net book value of assets purchased with unrestricted funds.
- The pension fund has been created to cover the cost of any future expenditure in relation to the University of Salford Students' Union Pension & Life Assurance Scheme.

Restricted funds

The restricted funds comprise:

- The clubs & societies funds represent the balance on the clubs & societies own income accounts.
- The international/cultural diverse events funding represents funding received from the University in order to run a series of Summer social events in order to enhance the student experience.
- The International Student Engagement Fund represents funding received from the University and includes the support of international students who were required to quarantine when arriving in the UK.
- The Strike Fund represents funding received from the University as a result savings made due to University staff strike action. The fund is to be used for the benefit of students.
- The Staff Positions funding represents funding received from the University as a contribution to the cost of Student Voice and an International Engagement positions.
- The Loneliness Goal funding was the balance of the prior years' Lettings Agency funding that the University agreed should be redirected to the work that the student union is taking forward on the achievement of the loneliness goal.
- The National Lottery Community Funding represents funds in order to provide cost of living support to the students of the University of Salford.
- The Academic Society Funding was funding provided by the University specifically to benefit the members of the various student academic societies.
- The Equity Advocate Funding represents funds provided by the University in order for the Student Union in order to create solutions that will enable the University to advance their EDI Statement of Ambition Goals.

Reserve transfers

Transfers are made from general reserves to other reserves in order to ensure that adequate funds are available in order to fulfil the purpose of each fund.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

20 Analysis of Net Assets between funds – current year

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	176,913	-	176,913
Cash & short term investments	322,137	123,489	76,707	522,333
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(65,781)	-	-	(65,781)
	256,356	300,402	76,707	633,465

Analysis of Net Assets between funds – prior year

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	236,326	-	236,326
Cash & short term investments	464,589	-	107,659	572,247
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	14,916	-	-	14,916
	479,504	236,326	107,659	823,489

21 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds	(190,024)	30,062
Add back depreciation charge	139,808	139,511
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(6,961)	(51,306)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	75,621	(66,323)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	12,037	148,659
	30,481	52,620

22 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand	-	300
Current accounts	90,448	154,986
Deposit accounts	431,885	416,961
	522,333	572,247

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

23 Related Party Transactions

The following have been identified as related party transactions per the requirements of FRS 102.

- The University of Salford: In the year the University of Salford Students' Union received total grants of £1,282,000 (2023: £1,174,423) from the University of Salford, there was £71,662 (2023: £72,200) of purchase recharges and £104,634 (2023: £83,130) of sales recharges. The net year end debtor with the University, including funds on deposit was £444,334 (2023: £343,816).
- Trustees of the University of Salford Students' Union: see note 09 – Trustees' remuneration and expenses.
- National Union of Students Services Ltd (NUSSL): The University of Salford Students' Union is an affiliated member of NUSSL who operate a purchasing consortium within the students' union movement.

24 Pensions

University of Salford Students' Union Pension and Life Assurance Scheme

The Union operated a defined benefit pension scheme which was closed to future accrual of service on 1 April 2006. This is a separate trustee administered fund holding the pension scheme assets to meet long term pension liabilities. A full actuarial valuation was carried out at 31 July 2020 and updated at 31 July 2021. The major assumptions used by the actuary are shown below.

The most recent actuarial valuation showed a funding shortfall of £895,000. However, allowance for the impact of actual experience from the valuation date to 26 April 2021 resulted in a funding surplus of £46,000 as at 26 April 2021. No recovery contributions are therefore payable from June 2021 onwards. Prior to June 2021 recovery plan payments were payable at £86,000 per annum (payable monthly), increasing at 3% per annum with the first increase applied on 1 October 2019. In addition, prior to June 2021, the company paid £18,000 per annum towards expenses charged to the scheme. From June 2021, the company has agreed with the trustees that it will meet expenses of the scheme and levies to the Pension Protection Fund directly.

During the year there has been a buy-in with Just Retirement with an inception date of 17 May 2024 and a premium of £2.376m. Now that the plan has been fully bought-in, the asset breakdown of the plan is composed of insured pensions/deferred pensions and cash. The value of the bulk annuity with Just Retirement and legacy annuity policies with Aviva and ReAssure have been set equal to the corresponding value of the FRS102 liabilities less the allowance for GMP equalisation.

The contributions paid into the scheme by the company during the year in respect of eligible employees amounted to £nil (2023: £nil).

Present values of defined benefit obligation, fair value of assets and defined benefit asset (liability):

	2024 £	2023 £
Fair value of plan assets	3,778,400	4,579,500
Present value of defined benefit obligation	3,630,500	3,556,300
Surplus/(deficit) in plan	147,900	1,023,200
Unrecognised surplus	147,900	1,023,200

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Reconciliation of opening and closing balances of the defined benefit obligation:

	Year ended 31 July 2024 £	Period ended 31 July 2023 £
Defined benefit obligation at start of period	3,556,300	4,526,400
Interest expense	180,600	153,500
Actuarial losses/(gains)	125,200	(842,500)
Benefits paid & expenses	(231,600)	(281,100)
Losses/(gains) due to benefit changes	-	-
Defined benefit obligation at end of period	3,630,500	3,556,300

Reconciliation of opening and closing balances of the fair value of plan assets:

	Year ended 31 July 2024 £	Period ended 31 July 2023 £
Fair value of plan assets at start of period	4,579,500	5,827,900
Interest income	232,300	197,400
Actuarial gains/(losses)	(730,500)	(1,074,400)
Contributions by the Union	-	-
Employer settlement payments	(74,400)	(90,300)
Benefits paid & expenses	(228,500)	(281,100)
Fair value of plan assets at the end of period	3,778,400	4,579,500

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Defined benefit costs recognised in other comprehensive income:

	Year ended 31 July 2024	Period ended 31 July 2023
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net interest cost) – (loss)/gain	(730,500)	(1,074,400)
Experience gains and losses arising on the plan liabilities – (loss)/gain	7,400	(98,100)
Effects of changes in the demographic and financial assumptions underlying the present value of the plan liabilities – gain/(loss)	(132,600)	940,600
Effects of changes in the amount of surplus that is not recoverable (excluding amounts included in net interest cost) – gain/(loss)	927,000	322,200
Total amount recognised in other comprehensive income – gain/(loss)	71,300	90,300

These amounts are not recognised in the financial statements to the extent that the pension scheme remains in surplus.

Assets:

	2024 £	2023 £
Equity Instruments	-	-
Debt Instruments	-	2,580,500
Property	-	-
Cash	151,600	12,300
Other	3,626,800	1,986,700
Total assets	3,778,400	4,579,500

None of the fair values of the assets shown above include any direct investments in the company's own financial instruments or any property occupied by, or other assets used by, the Union.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Assumptions:

	31 July 2024 % per annum	31 July 2023 % per annum
Discount rate	4.90	5.25
Inflation (RPI)	3.25	3.25
Inflation (CPI)	2.45	2.45
Allowance for revaluation of deferred pensions of CPI or 5% p.a. if less	2.45	2.45
Allowance for pension in payment increases of RPI or 5% p.a. if less, minimum 3% p.a.	3.70	3.70
Allowance for commutation of pension for cash at retirement	100% of Post A Day	100% of Post A Day

The mortality assumptions adopted at 31 July 2024 imply the following life expectancies:

	Life expectancy at age 62 (Years)
Male retiring in 2024	23.4
Female retiring in 2024	25.5
Male retiring in 2043	24.8
Female retiring in 2043	27.0

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF)

The Union is a member of the GMPF, which is an externally funded defined benefit pension scheme, which is contracted out of the State Second Pension, where contributions payable are held in a trust separately from the Union.

The scheme is subject to triennial valuation by independent actuaries, the last valuation being carried out as at 31 March 2022 using the project unit credit method in which the actuarial liability makes allowance for projected future earnings.

The following actuarial assumptions were applied:

Investment returns	2.9% per annum
Inflation	3.6% per annum
Salary growth	3.7% per annum
Pension increases	2.9% per annum

At the last actuarial valuation date the market value of the assets of the scheme were sufficient to cover 104% of the benefits that had accrued to members after allowing for the effect of future increases in earnings. The common rate of contributions payable by each employing authority as at 31 March 2022 is 18.9% of pensionable pay.

The contributions paid into the scheme in respect of eligible employees amounted to £13,570 (2023: £13,064).

National Employment Savings Trust (NEST)

Following the Student Unions auto enrolment staging date in May 2014 the NEST scheme has been set up in order to provide pension arrangements for any staff that become eligible employees.

The contributions paid into the scheme during the year were £40,452 (2023: £33,775)

25 Contingent Liability:

There is an ongoing HMRC VAT challenge with Students' Unions relating to the decision by HMRC that VAT should be chargeable on catering to students from a bar. The dispute is likely to be settled by a Judicial Review. A provision of £72,000 (2023: £60,000) has been made to cover any potential liability arising from the outcome.

26 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of winding up the liability of each member is limited to £1.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD STUDENTS' UNION
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

27 Comparative statement of financial activity as adjusted for the prior year adjustment

	Note	Unrestricted Funds General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	2	1,181,634	22,949	-	1,204,583
Charitable Activities	3	1,045,448	-	81,000	1,126,448
Other Trading Activities	4	99,493	-	-	99,493
Investments	5	32,496	-	-	32,496
Other Income	6	-	-	-	-
Total income		2,359,071	22,949	81,000	2,463,020
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		84,857	1,907	-	86,764
Charitable Activities		2,132,317	137,604	76,273	2,346,194
Total expenditure	7	2,217,174	139,511	76,273	2,432,958
Net income/(expenditure)	8	143,897	(116,562)	4,727	30,062
Transfers between funds	20	(23,431)	23,431	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		118,466	(93,131)	4,727	30,062
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward as previously stated	20	361,038	327,457	102,932	793,427
Total funds carried forward	20	479,504	236,326	107,659	823,489

