

our focus on sustainability education, which brings a global perspective to the design and development of our course portfolio as well as informal learning opportunities for students.

The University continued to nurture and grow international partnerships, including making better use of technology and the digital environment. We are seeing a significant increase in applications from international students, and entered into a productive partnership with GUS to increase student recruitment in India.

Sustainability

In 2020 the University exceeded the targets of its Carbon Strategy 2010-2020, having recorded a 47% reduction in carbon emissions between 2005 and 2019, for Scope 1 and 2 emissions categories. An ambitious new Carbon Strategy to target 'Net Zero' emissions by 2030 has now been developed, to increase the scale of our action on accelerating climate change, to continue driving down energy-related emissions and target the wider indirect emissions arising in our supply chain and commuting.

The University's green campuses offered open space for local people to support their wellbeing during the pandemic. The urban greening and biodiversity improvement project completed at Oxstalls campus, received a 'nature based solutions' award from the Countryside Charity in 2020.

The Learning Innovation for Tomorrow programme (LIFT) supported academic innovation projects to introduce sustainability education into our course portfolio and share this new learning with our surrounding community. Major academic achievements in sustainability include winning Green Gown Awards for Research with Impact, and Learning and Skills. The University was an invited member of the UK expert group that released a revised version of the national guidelines on Education for Sustainable Development in March 2021. The guidelines were commissioned by the Quality Assurance Agency and Advance HE, for use in all future HE courses.

Environmental Reporting

The University is committed to improving our energy efficiency, continually looking at reducing energy use and its corresponding reduction in CO2 emissions. Environmental performance targets are reviewed on a regular basis and have now been agreed with the executive team for 2021 – 2030. These targets are incorporated with our Net Zero Carbon Strategy 2030.

As required by the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 ('the 2013 Regulations') and the Companies (Directors' Report) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Energy and Carbon Report) Regulations 2018 ('the 2018 Regulations') the University reports on the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR), results

	2020/21	2019/20
Natural Gas consumption for on site operations (heating, catering, etc) - Scope 1 KWh	7901541	5725230
Fuel used for site vehicle activity - Scope 1 KWh	36209.8	40735
Total CO2 emissions for Scope 1 activities (fuels used on site for organisational activity) Tonnes	1608	1063
Electricity supplied from off site generation for consumption by on site operations (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, lighting, computers, etc) - Scope 2 KWh	4216246	3389196
Total CO2 emissions for Scope 2 activities (energy generated off site and used on site for organisational activity) Tonnes	895	790
Total Scope 1 & 2 CO2 emissions Tonnes	2503	1853
Emissions from business travel in rental cars or employee-owned vehicles where company is responsible for purchasing the fuel (Scope 3) Tonnes	3	122
Total CO2 emissions attributed to activity of business (Scope 1, 2 & 3) Tonnes	2506	1976

Carbon emissions target set by business - 40% reduction in Scope 1 & 2 CO2 emissions by 2020 compared to 2005/6 emissions	52%	62%
Intensity Ratio - Tonnes CO2 emitted per 1000m2 Gross Internal Area	25.8	22.2

The reported data above was collected and analysed using a method based on the Green House Gas Reporting Protocol - Corporate Standard.

During 2020 the University considered a new Power Purchase Agreement for electricity supplied from windfarms but took the decision to wait until March 2022 as the current pricing was not beneficial. The pandemic continued to impact our capacity to deliver energy efficiency projects (reduced resources due to lockdowns and other priorities) and also our gas consumption (increases due to increased ventilation requirements). We also experienced an increase in electricity metrics in 2020/21 compared to 2019/20 due to the campus closure in the prior year as a result of Covid. The University actively looks to reduce its annual energy consumption, and a number of projects are planned for the coming year including the replacement of 6 gas boilers with air source heat pumps using a £1.2M grant from Salix under the PSDS2 scheme.

More broadly in relation to sustainability, the University published an annual report detailing our goals, actions and achievements in relation to the promotion of sustainability across all our activities. The report is available at <https://www.glos.ac.uk/docs/download/Sustainability/annual-sustainability-report.pdf>

SECTION 3 – FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Financial performance is key to ensuring that the University continues to be a successful and sustainable organisation, cash generation being a primary focus.

The University has prepared its financial statements in accordance with FRS 102 and the financial highlights below show an improvement within cash generation and liquidity on last year.

3.1 Key financial highlights

- The net asset position before pension provisions has improved to £97.9m (2020: £92.0m);
- The operating surplus after tax for the year has improved £0.9m (2020: £(1.5)m);
- The year-end liquidity position has strengthened, with net liquidity rising to 138 days (2020: 126 days);
- Cash generation from operating activities has increased, rising to 11.9% (2020: 11.1%)
- Investment of £7.7m in fixed assets;

3.2 Review of the year

• Operating performance

The University reports a consolidated operating surplus for the year of £0.9m (2020: £(1.5)m). The reported surplus is after accounting for the FRS102 LGPS & USS (non-cash) pension costs of £5.2m and the adverse Covid related impacts which includes £1m student residencies refunds in addition to increased IT and estates costs. Despite the very difficult market conditions and adverse financial impacts of Covid the University has achieved a strong operating performance with cash generation, liquidity and covenant compliance continuing to be our primary focus; all of which have remained strong throughout the year. The cash generated within the year has enabled the University to purchase a new 20,000sqm building, formerly occupied by Debenhams, supporting the University 10 year Growth Ambition Plan.

The University's strategy to extend the portfolio of courses on offer achieved a 21% increase in new student enrolments during 2020/21 increasing tuition fee income for the year.