The underlying financial performance of the University continued to improve, reflecting the implementation of targeted growth, and careful cost control.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>2019/20</th>
<th>2020/21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>£22.8m</td>
<td>£27.7m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income, excluding capital grants</td>
<td>£18.1m</td>
<td>£21.1m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year on year change in surplus before other gains / (losses) and share of operating profit/(loss) of associates and pension provision movements</td>
<td>£27.7m</td>
<td>£45.2m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income
Total income grew by £22.8m to £535.3m, whilst income, excluding capital grants, grew by £18.1m to £521.1m.
The increase in tuition fee income reflects growth in student numbers with increases primarily in full time home and EU students where fee income increased by £14.6m (11% increase). For the postgraduate cohort, the introduction of January start courses for our most popular post-graduate degrees resulted in income of £10.1m, to some extent offsetting the reduced student numbers seen in response to the pandemic.

Total student numbers as at 1 December 2020 census point increased by 5% to 28,439 with increased growth in undergraduate student and home student numbers.

The Funding body grants increased slightly from £76.0m to £76.4m. The revenue element of these grants decreased slightly to £69.4m (2019/20 £69.6m), whilst the capital element increased slightly to £7.0m (2019/20 £6.4m).

Research grant and contract income, excluding capital grants, increased by 1% to £113.3m. This has therefore increased compared to last year when research labs were closed between mid-March and early June as a result of Covid-19.

Other income excluding capital grants, but which includes income from residences, catering and services to the NHS increased by £2.3m.

Investment income has reduced by £0.9m to £1.2m as a result of continued low interest rates available on the investment of surplus cash.

Operating Expenditure
The finalisation of the USS 2018 Valuation resulted in a one-off credit to staff costs in 2019/20 in the Income and Expenditure account of £43.7m. Excluding this, and the movement in the pension provision in 2020/21, expenditure increased by 1% to £490.1m.

Staff costs decreased by 1%, reflecting the decrease in staff numbers in the year from 4,466 full-time equivalent (FTE) to 4,334 FTE as a result of cost control measures put in place during the Covid-19 pandemic.
Other operating costs increased by 5% to £164.8m reflecting additional financial support payments to students, the additional costs associated with operating a Covid-secure campus and residences and the first year of Department W premises costs. Depreciation and amortisation remained at a similar level to last year at £27.0m (2019/20 £26.6m).

Interest and finance costs decreased by £1.3m primarily as a result of a £1.2m decrease in the net interest charge on the USS pension scheme provision.

If you are interested in Queen Mary's financial performance, the full financial statements for the year to 31 July 2021 are available: [http://www.finance.qmul.ac.uk/statements/index.html](http://www.finance.qmul.ac.uk/statements/index.html)