



# Report and Accounts 2022

## Video transcript

The last financial year saw a relatively strong performance from our investments despite challenging conditions in the aftermath of the pandemic, rising inflation, and the initial impacts of armed conflict in Europe.

We also completed the 2020 valuation, which resulted in changes to members' benefits but contributed to a more resilient funding position.

In the defined benefit part of USS, the Retirement Income Builder, investments have grown by 9.6% in the year to 31 March, outperforming our benchmark by 2%.

This growth, combined with contributions from members and employers, has seen the Retirement Income Builder fund increase to £88.9 bn.

By March 2022, around 97,000 members were also saving in the Investment Builder, the defined contribution part of USS.

The Investment Builder has grown from £1.6 bn to £1.9 bn in the last financial year.

While performance was relatively strong last year, we continue to be challenged by uncertain economic conditions, but we remain focused on delivering the best possible outcomes for all of our members.

We are making progress towards our aim of reducing the emissions that our investments generate by introducing a climate tilt to £5bn worth of assets under our management. Climate change represents a material financial risk to our investments, and we're committed to tackling that.

In February, we set out Net Zero targets, including working with the companies we invest in to cut emissions related to our investments by 50% by 2030.

We've also been working hard to deliver value to you. Growing the in-house expertise of the USS Investment Management team has resulted in annual investment management costs that according to the latest independent assessment, are the equivalent of £101m lower than other schemes similar to USS.



Out of everything helping you feel confident about your retirement is our key priority.

That's why we've continued to develop the support we offer:

- With regular emails to help you make the decisions that are right for you now and in the future,
- webinars to help you understand your pension scheme,
- more opportunities to support your retirement planning with bespoke guidance and financial advice services,
- and exclusive access to annuity and drawdown products.

You're at the heart of everything we do.