

Client: Gravis Capital Partners
Source: Dow Jones
Date: 09 March 2016
Page: N/A
Reach: 231400
Value: 6204

Buchanan

DJ GCP Student Living Posts 43% Rise in Pretax Profit for 2015

DJ GCP Student Living Posts 43% Rise in Pretax Profit for 2015

LONDON--GCP Student Living PLC (DIGS.LN) Wednesday reported a 43% rise in pretax profit for 2015 and said there continues to be an under-supply of modern, purpose-built student residential accommodation in London and other key markets across the U.K.

"The removal of the student cap for the 2015 and 2016 academic year has increased the supply to demand imbalance in markets with well-regarded higher education institutions and strong international student numbers," said Chairman Robert Peto.

"The directors are confident of continued investor interest in the student accommodation sector because of its defensive income qualities as well as the prospect for continued income growth, against a backdrop of wider equity market instability and investor concerns over the sustainability of U.K. equity dividends," Mr. Peto added. The student accommodation real estate investment trust in the U.K. said that in the year it has recorded a rental growth of 4.5% and a total rental income of 9 million pounds (\$12.5 million), adding that its portfolio of 1,800 beds located in and around London has a valuation of GBP400.5 million.

For the year ended Dec. 31 the company made a pretax profit of GBP17 million compared with GBP11.9 million for the previous year, as revenue rose to GBP9 million from GBP5.6 million.

The board has declared for the year a dividend of 2.82 pence per share, up from 2.8 pence a year earlier. Shares at 0845 GMT up 0.25 pence, or 0.2%, at 136 pence valuing the company at GBP296 million.

Write to Olga Cotaga at olga.cotaga@wsj.com, Twitter [@OlgaCotaga](https://twitter.com/OlgaCotaga)

(END) Dow Jones Newswires

March 09, 2016 03:45 ET (08:45 GMT)

Copyright (c) 2016 Dow Jones & Company, Inc.