



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH



Social Responsibility and Sustainability

Report 2015/2016



**Social Responsibility
and Sustainability**

Foreword

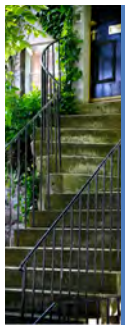


In the first report since our Zero by 2040 target was launched, I am proud to draw attention to the progress that students and staff have made over the last year.

Our Climate Strategy lays out a comprehensive whole institution approach to achieve that ambitious net zero carbon target.

We have also adopted a new Responsible Investment Policy, made commitments on conflict minerals and modern slavery, have been supporting efforts to promote sustainable procurement within our supply chains, and approved a new Dignity and Respect Policy to strengthen our commitment to a culture of equality and diversity.

Dave Gorman
 Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability



About us

Launched in April 2014, the Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability supports the University to ensure that our learning and teaching, research and operations are socially responsible.

The University's definition of Social Responsibility & Sustainability includes:

- Climate change
- Sustainable estates
- Sustainable procurement, fair trade and supply chains
- Responsible investment
- Social responsibility & sustainability in learning & teaching
- Fair employer and equality & diversity issues
- Widening participation
- Community engagement
- Public engagement

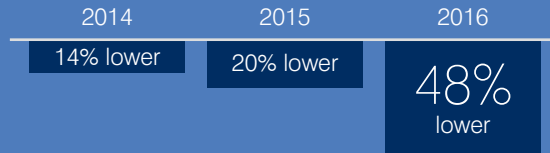


We're saving paper by printing only the highlights.

Read the full report at www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability/report

£2.75m

Sustainable Campus Fund available for staff and students to apply for over the next three years to gain support for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and other sustainability projects that generate cost savings and environmental benefits. This was established in 2016.



The University's carbon footprint of direct investments is increasingly lower than the agreed benchmark.

Measured in carbon intensity of millions of dollars of sales.

£63,000

Estimated savings from the six month PC Reuse Project. A total of 174 PCs were reused internally, along with 257 other IT items.

£8.8m

Awarded by the University through bursaries in academic year 2015/16, its highest total to date.

66%

Applications received for academic vacancies were from non-UK nationals in 2015/16, a slight drop.

£11m

Committed to develop a new combined heat and power energy centre and network at the University's Easter Bush campus.

90%

Local citizens believe the University is an asset to Edinburgh and 77% believe the University serves the city as a whole, not only staff and students.

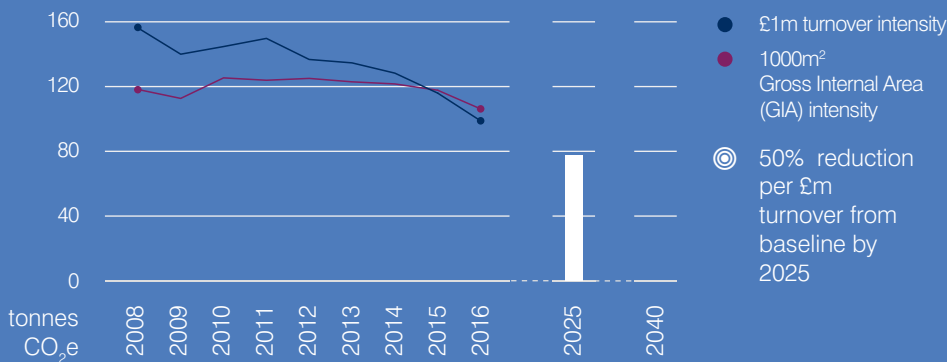
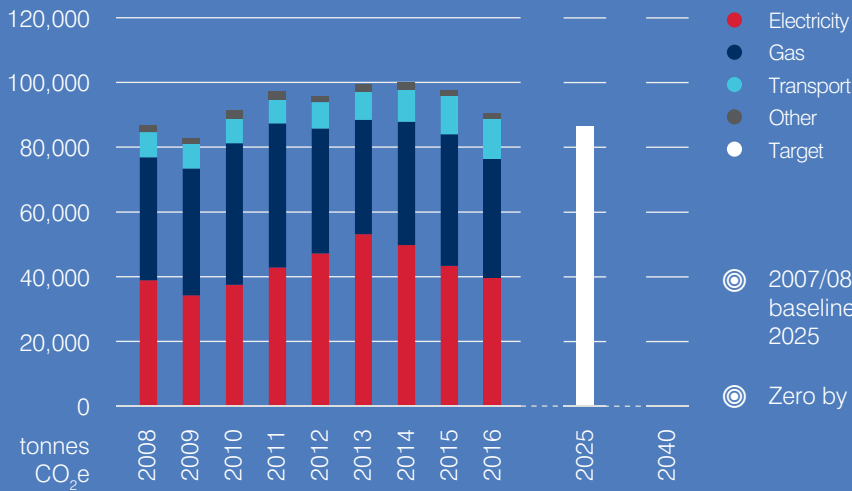
1st

Higher education institution in the United Kingdom to adopt a policy which aims to ensure that goods that the University procures do not contain conflict minerals.

£50m

Secured by researchers over the past seven years to fund work on climate science, emissions mitigation and sustainable solutions.

Carbon footprint and relative indicators



Zero by 2040 sets out a whole institution approach to targets.



Social Responsibility & Sustainability event attendees



Volunteering hours undertaken by students



Student volunteers in 2015/16

90%

Fall in the proportion of Edinburgh's direct portfolio linked to fossil fuels since 2008, halving since 2013. It is now negligible at around 2% of our overall direct portfolio of investments or 1% of total endowment fund.



Scottish domiciled entrants in the 2015-16 academic year that had a one or more widening participation characteristic.

5%

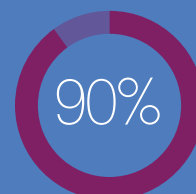
Reduction in the University's Staff and Student Commuting Carbon Footprint since 2013, largely due to less car-based travel among staff.



Procurement spend through small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

1st

HEI in Scotland to be successful in its submission for an Athena SWAN Institutional Silver award, and only the 7th to obtain this level in the UK.



Staff and students use active travel and public transport (2016 survey)

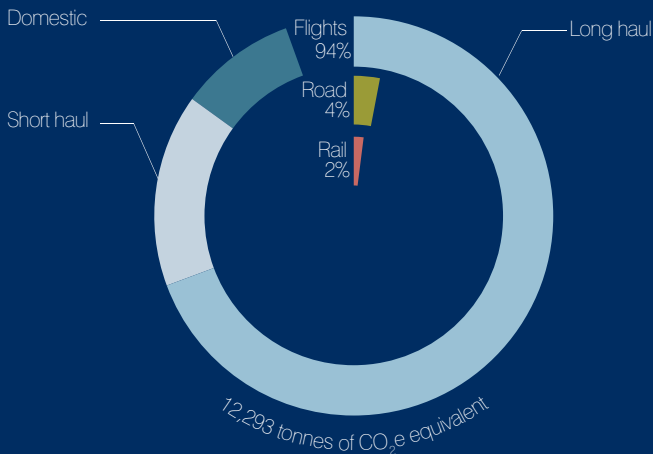
A+

Received for strategy and governance from PRI benchmark indicator.

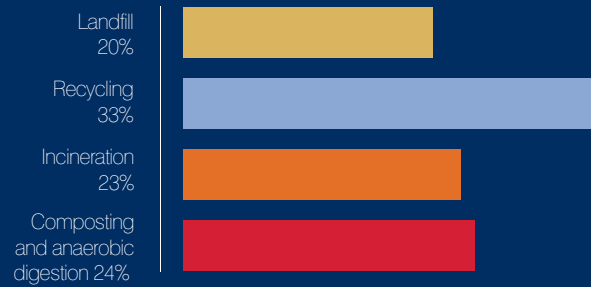
25%

Females to 75% males at professor level, slightly higher than that seen in other Russell Group Universities (23%), however, there is still much progress to be made.

Business travel 2015/16



Waste and recycling 2015/16



Improved data that includes entire estate (accommodation and academic estate)

5,019 tonnes waste

Efforts have continued to build and strengthen the University's relationships between the city and local communities through the endorsement of a new Community Engagement Strategy.

98%

Participants in Educated Pass left school for a positive destination. Educated Pass has addressed the academic under achievement and under engagement of boys – working with those in S2 prior to their first curriculum choices.



The University's Accommodation, Catering & Events received Visit Scotland's 'Taste our Best' award for sourcing from local food and drink suppliers in Scotland and continues to be recognised by the Sustainable Restaurant Award scheme.

1 of 9

UK university physics departments to be awarded the prestigious Juno Champion status, recognising its commitment to gender equality. The School of Physics and Astronomy became Scotland's second Juno Champion.

You can read the full report online at www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability/report and it can be made available in alternative formats on request.

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Sustainable laboratories programme recognition:

- Facilities & Services Award Winner (Green Gown Awards 2015)
- Shortlisted for the Guardian University Awards (2015/16)
- Shortlisted for the International Sustainable Campus Excellence Awards (2015/16)

Student engagement outreach programme recognition:

- Student Engagement Award Finalist