



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH



# Social Responsibility and Sustainability

Report 2013/2014



Social Responsibility  
and Sustainability

“ A socially responsible University would understand its impact on the world. It would consider issues of justice and accountability, locally and globally, in creating a community that contributes to society and is truly responsible in action and thought. ”

**Professor Mary Bownes**  
Senior Vice Principal 2013/14

# Director's foreword

Social Responsibility is a key theme of the University's Strategic Plan, and is embedded in our work with the aim of the University making a significant, sustainable and socially responsible contribution to Scotland, the United Kingdom and the world, promoting health, economic growth and cultural well-being.

The purpose of this report is to take stock of achievements across the University and to support our social responsibility and sustainability journey. It gives a snapshot of progress and performance across a range of topics. This report builds on past SRS Highlights reports and is the first step by the University to align with best practices in reporting by moving towards using the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) framework for sustainability reporting.

In 2010 the University produced its first Social Responsibility and Sustainability Strategy, building on a longstanding commitment to develop a whole-institutional approach, to create the conditions in which students and staff are inspired and supported to engage with and contribute to social responsibility and sustainability throughout the University and beyond.

In working towards this commitment the University can be proud of its achievements across diverse and complex issues ranging from fair trade, investments in energy efficiency, continuous improvement in waste and recycling and raising awareness in the staff and student body.



In 2014 staff and students celebrated the tenth anniversary of the University becoming the first Fairtrade University in Scotland, as well as becoming the first higher education institution in the United Kingdom to sign up to Electronics Watch to monitor labour conditions in the electronics supply chain and the first Scottish university to become a signatory to the International Sustainable Campus Network.

As a diverse and complex organisation, embedding and achieving change is a complex challenge and achievements to date have often been the result of key individuals willing to go the extra mile. We must continue to encourage, promote, support and celebrate such endeavours.

In 2013 the University established the Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability, in recognition of the University's ambitions to show leadership in this area.

We aim to provide expert advice and support, and create innovative programmes that will raise awareness and inspire behaviour change. We want to help the University community to contribute to practical action, to learn about these issues and to give their input to future priorities.

Externally, there is increasing evidence of the importance of these issues to organisational success, to the priorities of the Scottish Government and Scottish Funding Council and to the expectations of our staff, students, alumni and local community.

Under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and Public Bodies Duty the University has a responsibility to consider climate emissions in ways which help contribute to the Scottish Government's commitments.

In 2015 we will continue to invest and undertake activities to support carbon reduction and management, and identify opportunities to contain rising energy costs, whilst ensuring our key activities are maintained. This is in recognition of the fact that whilst the carbon intensity performance of the University has improved in terms of carbon emitted per pound spent, that the University is currently not on track to achieve its absolute carbon reduction targets, particularly due to the growth of its teaching and research activities.

We recognise that with our commitment to social responsibility and sustainability comes with a commitment to accountability and transparency. We also recognise there is information that will not have been captured in this report and we will continue to work with staff and students across the University to further refine our approach. We welcome your comments and feedback.

The University will face a number of challenges over the next year as we work towards incorporating social responsibility and sustainability. This will include the continuing need to manage our carbon emissions, manage our supply chains responsibly and embed social responsibility in our teaching and learning. However, as this report demonstrates, the University can be proud of its achievements to date. The collective efforts of our staff, students and alumni bodes well for the future and I look forward to sharing our progress.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave Gorman'.

**Dave Gorman**  
Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability



## About the Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability

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, environmentally and economically sustainable for future generations.

Thousands of staff and students are already working to change the way we address local and global challenges.

We discover and promote changes that can help the University make best use of scarce resources and contribute to the well-being of our staff, students and wider society.

# External awards and recognition

The University of Edinburgh's efforts continue to be recognised across a range of social responsibility and sustainability topics.

## Green Gown Awards

The Green Gown Awards recognise the exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by universities and colleges across the UK. In 2014, the University was shortlisted as a finalist in four categories, including Construction and Refurbishment, Continuous Improvement: Institutional Change, Courses and Learning, and the Food and Drink category. This is our best performance since the awards were established in 2007.

## National Union of Students Green Impact Excellence Award

The achievements of Edinburgh University Students' Association and student groups working on sustainability in the curriculum were recognised. Efforts were undertaken as a direct response to the student manifesto 'Learning for Change: Students' Visions', which explored learning experiences that better equip students for contributing towards a more sustainable and socially just future during and after their time at University.

## People and Planet University League Performance

People and Planet's University League is an independent league table of UK universities ranked by environmental and ethical performance.

## National Union of Students Environmental Improvement Award

Stewart Anderson from Edinburgh Research and Innovation won the UK-wide NUS Environmental Improvement Award for developing a plugin for Microsoft Outlook which calculates the most sustainable routes to meetings; prioritising walking, cycling, and public transport.

## Athena Swan Award

The University continues its commitment to the advancement and promotion of the careers of women. The Athena Swan Charter celebrates achievements in science, engineering, technological mathematics and medicine, and in 2014 the Schools of Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences, and Clinical Sciences, were successfully awarded joint Bronze. The Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, and the School of Health each successfully attained Bronze Awards.

## BREEAM Outstanding

The Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI) became the first listed building in the UK to achieve the industry sustainability 'BREEAM Outstanding' award at design stage. The building also won the highly coveted Building Conservation Award at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Scotland Awards in 2014.

## Food for Life

Over the last year the University has widened its Food for Life certification, by adding additional retail catering outlets to its previous Food for Life Bronze accreditation. The certification originally covered meals served at the John McIntyre Conference Centre at Pollock Halls of Residence, but now includes all retail catering outlets managed by Accommodation Services.



The University was awarded a gold medal in the 2013 Britain in Bloom awards for the Large City category.

## Britain in Bloom

The University's efforts in landscape management and biodiversity were recognised along with other city-wide organisations, when Edinburgh was awarded a gold medal in the 2013 Britain in Bloom awards for the Large City category. This is the first time that the city has achieved this award.

Historic Performance



# Highlights



**2013**

The University became the first in Europe and the second globally to sign the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI).



**£20m**

Invested in combined heat and power energy centres and district heating since 2003.



**88%**

88% of staff and students walk, cycle or use public transport.



**85%**

Waste diverted from landfill in 2013/14.



**2004**

First Scottish university to attain Fairtrade status.



The University became the first in Scotland to achieve a “Food for Life” Bronze Catering Mark.



**GREEN GOWN AWARDS 2014**

Finalist in 4 categories.

## THE EDINBURGH CENTRE FOR CARBON INNOVATION

The ECCI officially opened in October 2013 and was the first listed building in the UK to achieve the industry sustainability “BREEAM Outstanding” award at design stage.



# Operations

The University's Strategic Plan sets out the aim to create the conditions under which our students, staff and the wider community are inspired and supported to engage with and contribute to social responsibility and sustainability across the University and beyond.

The realisation of our strategic aims is enabled by exceptional people, high-quality physical infrastructure, and financial sustainability. Meeting these aims will require minimising our environmental impact, maximising our contribution to society, having infrastructure which is developed and, where possible, operated to meet national and international sustainability and social responsibility objectives. We will demonstrate high ethical standards and balance our community's desire for around-the-clock access to responsive infrastructure against the impact on our costs and carbon footprint.

## Climate change, energy and carbon

The University recognises its responsibility to take action on climate change, including reducing the carbon emissions from our direct operations as well as our indirect emissions.

The Climate Action Plan 2010-20 set a goal of achieving a 29 percent carbon saving by 2020 against a 2007 baseline – with an interim target of 20 percent savings by 2015. At the end of July 2014 the University was not on track to achieve the set targets.

This was partially due to our own success in growing our teaching and research activities. The gross internal area and revenue turnover of the University has increased since 2007. Figure 2 provides an overview of the relative carbon performance over time against these two areas.

We continue to invest in energy efficiency measures, with over £20 million invested in combined heat and power energy centres and district heating since 2003. Opportunities to reduce energy wastage continue to be identified through current engagement activities with building users. In 2013/14 the University undertook a review of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, which is considered current best practice for corporate or organisational greenhouse gas emissions reporting.

Figure 1 opposite shows the upward trend of our emissions and includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions across both the academic estate and accommodation services. Scope 1 includes direct GHG emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the University such as natural gas combustion and University owned vehicles.

Scope 2 accounts for GHG emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, heat and steam generated off-site. Figure 1 also includes Scope 3 emissions from the transmission and distribution of electricity, staff and student commuting.

This does not include GHG emissions related to business travel and procurement. Over the past year there has been a slight increase in Scope 1 emissions and a slight decrease in Scope 2 compared to the previous year, this has been due to the increased use of CHP facilities. Electricity and natural gas remain the most significant contributors to our carbon emissions.

In 2015 we will continue to invest and undertake activities to support carbon reduction and management, and identify opportunities to contain rising costs, whilst ensuring our key activities are maintained.



Low Carbon Technology at the George Square combined heat and power unit (CHP)

Figure 1

## Carbon emissions 2007-14

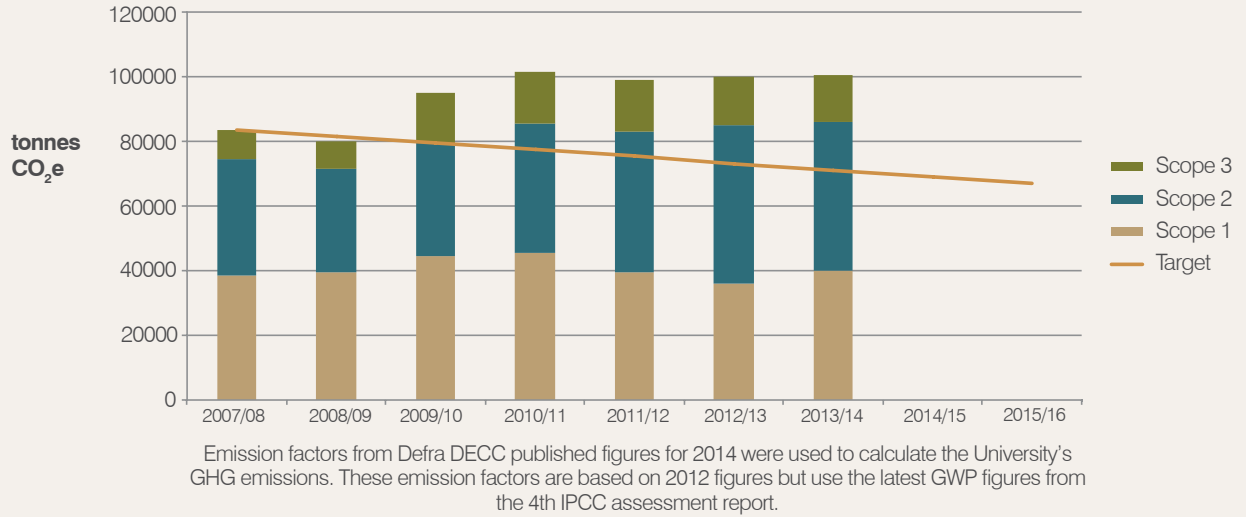


Figure 2

## Key performance indicators 2006-14

University Key Performance Indicators	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
CO2 emissions (kg) per £m of turnover	124	139	127	131	136	124	122	112
CO2 emissions (kg) per GIA 1000m <sup>2</sup>	99	110	114	126	131	107	111	107

Figure 3

## University travel mode share 2013

travel to work and study mode share

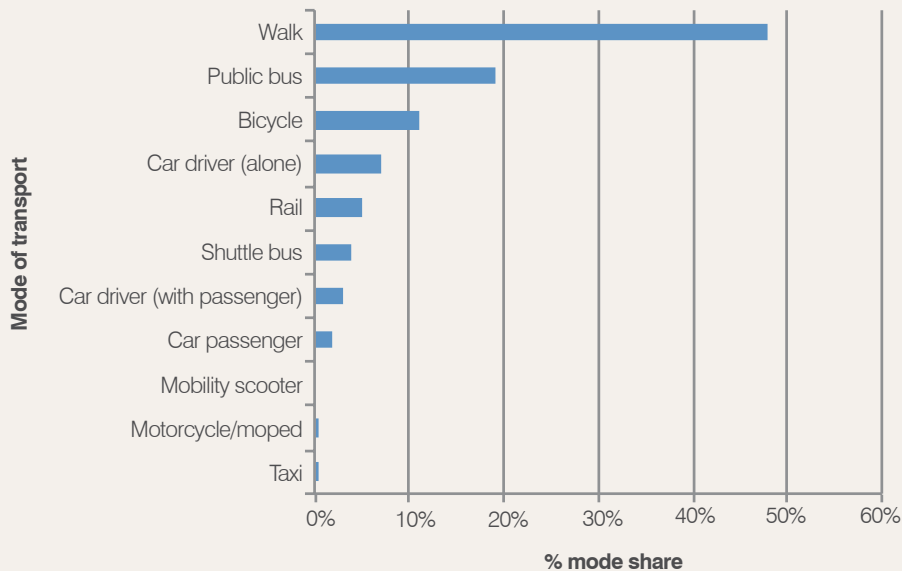


Figure 4

### Waste breakdown 2007-14

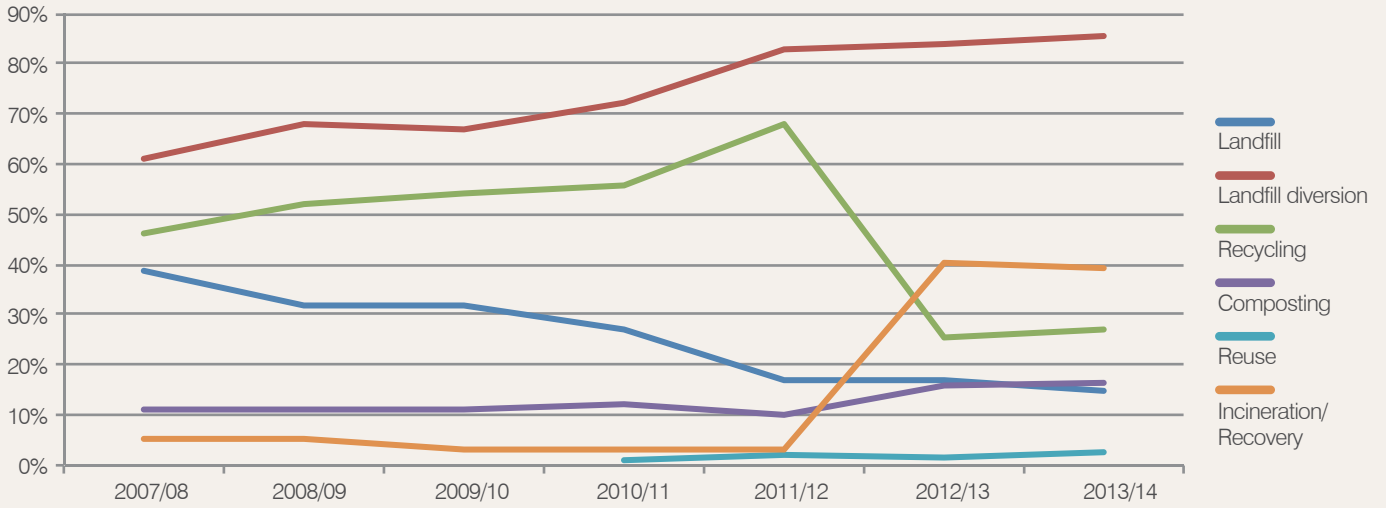


Figure 5

### Waste breakdown 2013/14

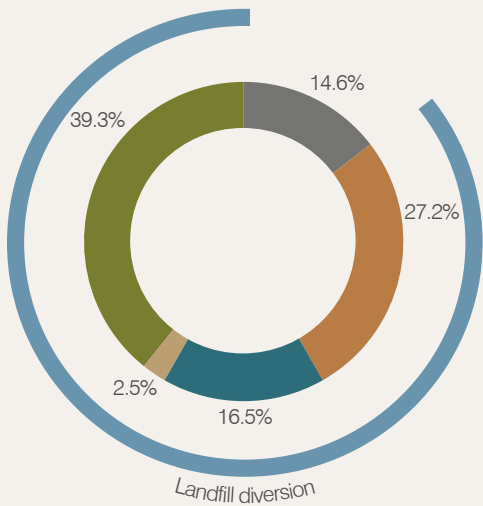
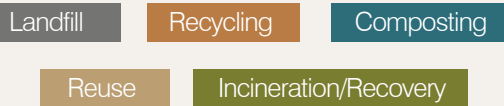
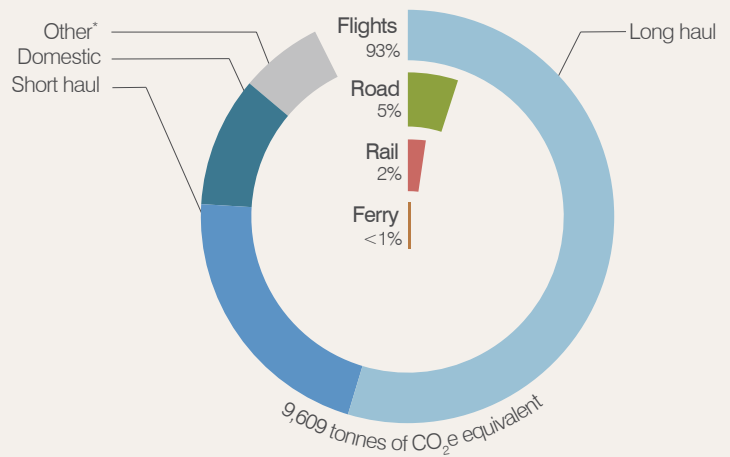


Figure 6

### Business travel emissions 2013/14 by mode of transport



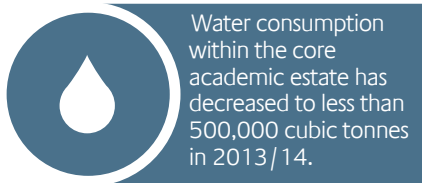
Waste Arising 2,983 metric tonnes.  
Core academic estate only.

\*Flights for which a distance could not be calculated.



## Water

The University is committed to reducing its water consumption as set out within the Energy Policy of 2003. Water consumption has remained at comparable levels from 2007 through to 2014. Water consumption within the core academic estate has decreased to less than 500,000 cubic tonnes in 2013/14. Growth in the range of accommodation we offer to students has led to an increase in water consumption within accommodation services.



In 2009 we approved our first Drinking Water Policy with the aim of clarifying the position regarding supplies of drinking water to University buildings and to eliminate freestanding bottled water coolers altogether.

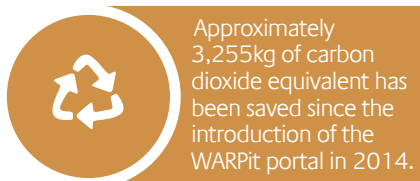
## Resource efficiency

In 2010 the University adopted a revised Recycling and Waste Management Policy, which sets out the intention to increase recycling and reduce waste to landfill.

Figure 5 highlights that we achieved our current performance indicator for the academic estate to increase the amount of waste diverted from landfill annually. This rate has increased from 61% in 2007/08 to over 85% in 2013/14. Only 14.6% of waste was sent to landfill.

Our total tonnage of waste from both the academic estate and accommodation services in 2013/14 was 4,618 metric tonnes, with a carbon footprint of 306 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

In 2013/14, the Waste and Environment Office have rolled out food waste bins across all University catering facilities. A student engagement strategy has also been developed for food waste reduction and recycling with students from the MSc Participation in Policy and Planning course. Waste audits were carried out in 12 catering outlets, with larger scale audits planned for the coming year. Local containers for glass recycling have been provided across the University to improve collection rates.



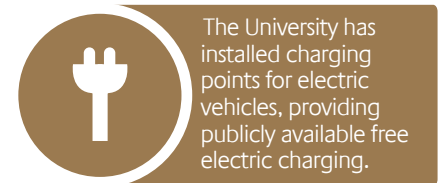
An online waste and recycling portal, WARPiT, was launched in 2014, making it easy for staff to pass on or loan unwanted items in their office to colleagues. Over 170 staff are now registered and are actively using the network, reducing the unnecessary purchase of expensive resources, cutting waste and making financial and emissions saving.

## Travel

The proportion of staff and students who use sustainable modes of travel continues to increase. Eighty percent of staff and students walk, cycle or use public transport.

In the Transport and Travel Planning Policy adopted in 2010, the University committed to develop and implement innovative travel plans, to reduce carbon emissions through the promotion of active forms of travel.

The average individual travel carbon footprint per staff member has significantly reduced by 35% with the carbon footprint per student reduced by 28% between 2010 and 2013. The Staff and Student Travel Survey is undertaken every two years to capture this information. Figure 6 provides a breakdown of business travel by mode of transport for 2013/14, with 93% of all emissions resulting from air travel. Further work will be carried out to analyse the data and we will collaborate with staff to investigate low carbon alternatives. In 2013/14 over 560 people attended a series of Cycle Roadshows, with cyclists being offered a range of free maintenance, security assistance, training and advice



Commuter Clinics were also held to coincide with parking permit applications to encourage staff to commute sustainably. As part of an Edinburgh-wide partnership, we have installed four charging points for electric vehicles, providing staff and students with free electric charging. We have continued this partnership approach by working with local higher education institutions to introduce a pool of electric bikes for staff to use at the start of 2015.



## Procurement

The Procurement Office has led efforts to facilitate and measure sustainability impacts and provide guidance to the wider higher education and public sector, where the University's good practice has been recognised.

**We manage our physical infrastructure and the procurement of goods and services in ways that maximise efficiency and effectiveness while minimising social, environmental and other impacts.**

*Procurement Strategy 2012-16*

We have worked closely with Advanced Procurement for Universities and Colleges (APUC) to develop a sector Supply Chain Sustainability Policy, Code of Conduct and the SUSTAIN project, which aims to benchmark and engage suppliers into improving on their own environmental and social impacts. Eighty percent of our procurement spend is influenced by the Procurement Office, of which 35% is through collaborative procurement.



Office supplies now offer a "green" option to purchasers. In March 2014, use increased to 41% compared to 35% in September 2013.

The Sustainable Procurement Priority Tool continues to be rolled out across the University to evaluate risks and engage with buyers and suppliers to highlight and influence the impact of what we purchase. We continue to support and promote fair trade.

Through our procurement we engage with and support small and medium-sized enterprises. As a percentage of our influenceable spend, 26% are small and 29% are medium-sized suppliers.

## Estates development

Estates are working towards developing a low carbon resilient estate for the University, supporting the delivery of world class teaching and learning, and research. Sustainability has been identified as a core principal during the development of the Estates Strategy 2025 and the University chairs the Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges (EAUC) group on Sustainable Construction.

The Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI) officially opened in October 2013 and was the first listed building in the UK to achieve the industry sustainability 'BREEAM Outstanding' award at design stage. The recently refurbished 50 George Square achieved significant energy savings through connections to the University's central area CHP along with other energy saving measures including new windows and insulation.

Ten new and recently refurbished buildings have achieved the BREEAM very good standard and above.

## Biodiversity

The Landscape Section continues to support the delivery of the University's Biodiversity Policy 2010, by maintaining green spaces, green roofs and orchards, as well as installing bird boxes and working in partnership with staff and students to support apiaries to raise awareness of biodiversity among staff and students. All green waste, such as leaves and grass, are taken away to our recycling site. The compost produced from this process is used as a soil improver during soil preparation for planting across the estate.

Both native and exotic species of plants are used to provide pollen and nectar plants that encourage bees, insects and other forms of wildlife.

## Food

Recognising the responsibility and influence of the University and the interconnectedness of global challenges surrounding food, we aim to contribute to the improvement of society as a whole by the creation of sustainable food systems.



Fourteen catering outlets achieved Food for Life Bronze accreditation for high-quality and sustainable food catering.

To support this vision, we became the first "Food for the Brain" University in the UK, the first University in Scotland to achieve a Food for Life Bronze Catering Mark and all catering outlets hold the "Healthy Living Award". In 2014 the University achieved the "Good Egg Award" in recognition of our commitment to use only free range eggs.

A University-wide food network has been developed, along with the creation of the Food Researchers in Edinburgh network to engage with academic staff. Work has been undertaken on a Sustainable Food policy with considerable interest and scope to develop this over the coming years.

## A decade promoting Fair Trade

2014 marked 10 years since we became the first Scottish university to attain Fairtrade status following a vote by students. Our Fair Trade Policy outlines our commitments to procuring and selling fair trade products, and raising awareness of fair trade. Hot drinks served in our catering outlets are Fairtrade and consumption of Fairtrade continues to grow.

Through our partnership with Just Trading Scotland, every 90kg of rice purchased by the University allows it to sponsor a child in Malawi. Procurement and catering staff continue to work to increase sales of fair trade products and we have encouraged research and teaching in this area through the Academic Network.

We are committed to social responsibility in supply chains to ensure that our global impact is fair and just. We are a member of the Workers' Rights Consortium and a founding member of Electronics Watch.



## Healthy University

Health and wellbeing are essential for student and staff success, engagement and retention. Launched in 2013, the Healthy University Project aims to actively promote and deliver tangible health and wellbeing benefits for the University community.

Early achievements include establishing a health wiki to promote and inform staff and students about health services available at the University, including the Centre for Sport and Exercise, the Student Disability Service, Student Counselling, Occupational Health and the Healthy Working Lives initiative.

In 2014/15 the priorities for the project include continuing to map our assets and gaps across all strands of the Healthy University model, and develop a strategic overview for health and wellbeing, based on models of best practice.



Edinburgh is one of 100 universities and research institutes which are members of the Athena SWAN Charter.

## Equality and diversity

Following the review of the University's Equality and Diversity Action Plan, an Equality Management Committee has been established to exercise strategic and management oversight of equality and diversity, ensuring policies and practices are managed and implemented effectively at all levels.

Over the last year the University ran a range of high-profile events and initiatives to promote equality and diversity.

These included the annual lecture series and other events for International Women's Day and included the launch of the first phase of the Inspiring Women's Portrait Exhibition.

**The University aims to recruit and develop the world's most promising students and most outstanding staff and be a truly global University benefitting society as a whole.**

*People Strategy 2012-16*

The University is a Stonewall Diversity Champion, and continues its participation in the Equality Challenge Unit Programme, working on the University-wide mentoring framework.

## Learning and development

The University is committed to providing all staff with learning and development opportunities, enabling all individuals to successfully achieve future goals and support our aims of embedding the principles of equality, inclusion and diversity throughout our community.

Human Resources have a dedicated team to work in partnership with departments to deliver training courses and workshops, designed to advance participants knowledge, understanding and skills, providing a comprehensive and continuous process of professional and self-growth that benefits staff, and ultimately the University.

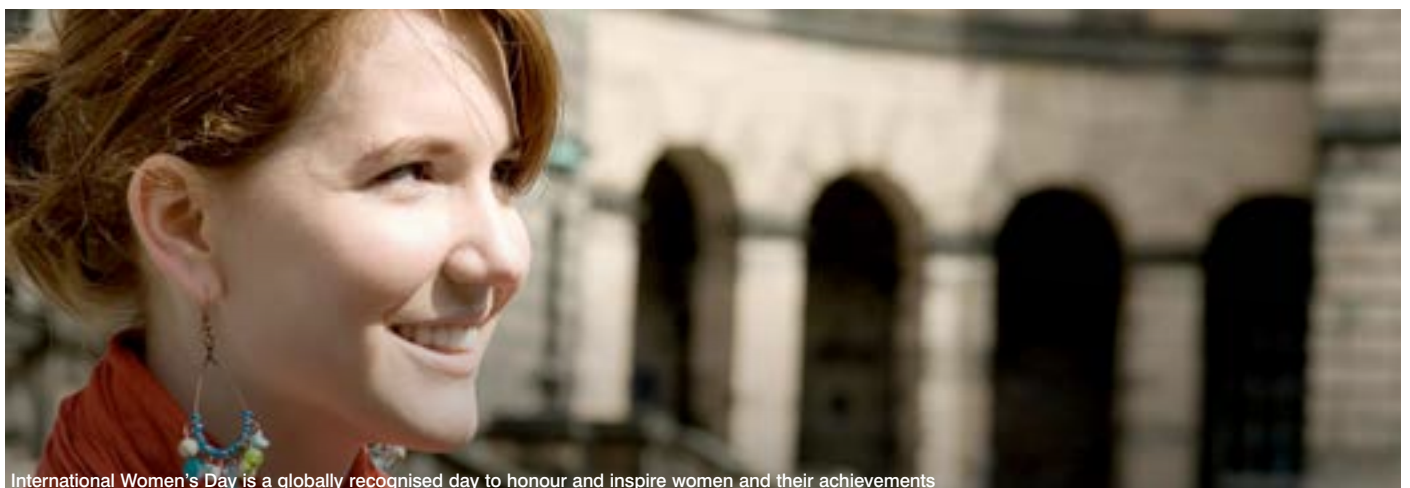
## Principles for Responsible Investment

In 2013 the University became the first in Europe and the second globally to sign the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI).

In follow up to the consultation with our community in 2014, an updated Socially Responsible Investment policy for the University is being developed.



For more information go to:  
[www.ed.ac.uk/about/sustainability/what-we-do/community/responsible-investment-consultation](http://www.ed.ac.uk/about/sustainability/what-we-do/community/responsible-investment-consultation)



International Women's Day is a globally recognised day to honour and inspire women and their achievements

# Across the University and beyond

Staff and students through their innovative and proactive actions continue to contribute towards social responsibility and sustainability.

## Learning for Sustainability Scotland

On the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013 Scotland's first United Nations Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development was opened at the University. Learning for Sustainability Scotland aims to enhance sustainability through education at both a local and national level. Its objectives are to ensure that education in Scotland encourages all learners to value the natural environment and ensure Scotland's economy contributes to sustaining our planet's ecosystem. A network of over 200 members has been established, which will undertake collaborative research and encourage Education for Sustainable Development practice and policy.

## Volunteering

EUSA Volunteering continues to promote student volunteering within the University and in the local community, providing students with opportunities to develop their employability skills and gain a wide range of experiences during their time at university. Over 420 organisations are registered, providing students with a great range of opportunities to volunteer with charities, community groups, and organisations from the local and wider community.

## Course provision

The Institute of Academic Development examined the University's undergraduate course descriptors to identify where and how social responsibility and sustainability is currently embedded in the Colleges of Humanities and Social Sciences and Science and Engineering.

The scoping exercise undertaken in 2012 identified 505 courses available within the two colleges. Almost half of the courses identified took an interdisciplinary approach, with one third taking a discipline specific approach. Thirty eight courses were identified that allowed students to engage with local community projects or businesses. In 2014/15 a review of undergraduate courses in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine will be completed.

## Widening participation

Widening participation is a strategic priority. We firmly believe that a diverse student community results in a more rewarding educational experience for all, and we are committed to admitting the very best students from a wide range of backgrounds.

We provide a range of sector-leading outreach projects such as the Lothians Equal Access Programme for Schools (LEAPs) and Pathways to the Professions to broaden the base of the applicant pool and to identify the students with the best potential to succeed.



In 2013/14, more than 1,500 students from low income families shared over £4m in bursaries.

## Marine energy

A world-class testing facility for marine energy devices was opened at the University, with researchers and industrial partners using the facility to develop and refine full-scale devices.

The FloWave Ocean Energy Research Facility is a 25-metre circular pool that can recreate waves and currents from coastlines around the UK, Europe and beyond. The pioneering facility will speed the development of devices to harness wave and current power, and further enhance our position as a centre of excellence in marine energy research.

## Sustainability Awards

The efforts of staff were again celebrated during the annual Sustainability Awards, with thirty-five departments receiving recognition for undertaking actions to make their departments more sustainable and socially responsible. A record breaking number of sixteen departments received a Gold Award compared to nine teams in 2013.

Laboratories based at the University can gain recognition for their efforts in improving efficiency and sustainability in the work place through the awards. Best practice and knowledge are shared with staff through peer to peer audits.



Case studies showcasing the achievements of departments are available to view online at: [www.sustainability.ed.ac.uk/awards](http://www.sustainability.ed.ac.uk/awards)



# Our approach to reporting

The University is committed to being a socially responsible organisation, and as part of this comes a commitment to being transparent in reporting our impacts on the environment and contributions to society.

Since 2009/10 we have reported our achievements through an annual 'Highlights' report, and we have more recently reported progress on social responsibility and sustainability issues within the University's Annual Report and Accounts.

In 2013/14 we identified that we could further improve our approach to reporting through alignment with good practice that would guide us to report on those issues that are most important to our stakeholders as well as the long term success of the University.


We have taken the Global Reporting Initiative as a starting point to guide us on our reporting journey. The GRI Guidelines provides organisations with a framework to report on environmental, social and economic issues that are most important to their stakeholders and is the most widely used international framework for sustainability reporting, using globally agreed metrics.

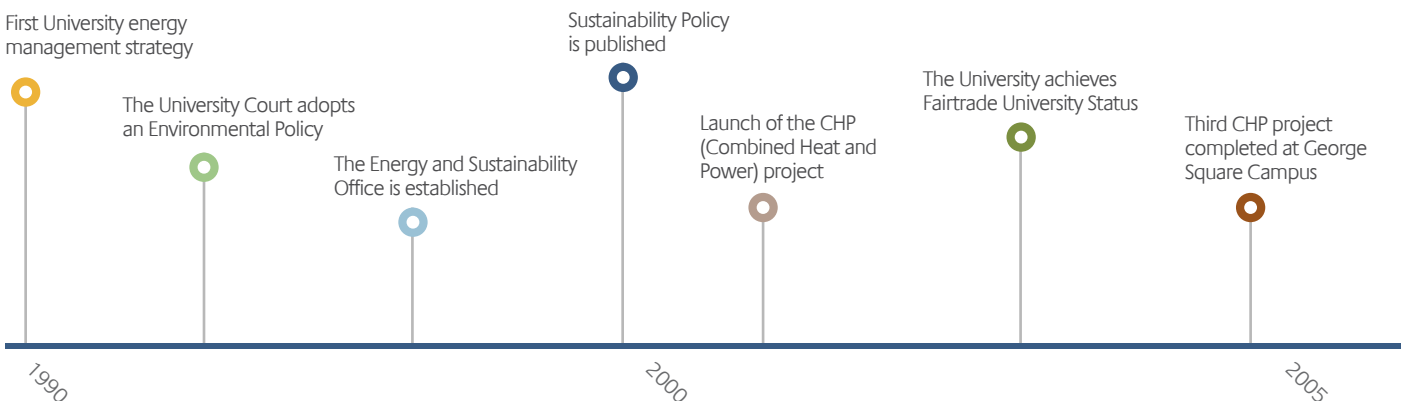
As a world leading university with a mission to facilitate the creation, dissemination and curation of knowledge we will have some different issues to report on in relation to social responsibility and sustainability than organisations outside of the higher education sector.

While this report is not seeking to be 'in accordance' with the GRI Guidelines it is seeking to keep the content focused on material aspects that are important to our stakeholders. To support our continuous improvement, a group of external experts are being invited to analyse and comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the report's content and structure. This advice along with lessons learned will improve future reporting.

This report contains Standard Disclosures from the GRI Sustainability Reporting Guidelines.

The GRI Content Index specifies where we have responded to the indicators set out by the GRI G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines, this is available both on the web based version of the annual report and as a physical document.

 Further information on this approach to sustainability reporting is available at: [www.globalreporting.org](http://www.globalreporting.org)



# Stakeholder engagement

The University of Edinburgh is a dynamic and vibrant community of staff, students, alumni and supporters.

We have a diverse range of stakeholders. On campus our community is made up of over 32,000 students and nearly 9,000 staff. Other important stakeholder groups include our alumni, the local community, the higher education sector and the wider public sector. The material aspects that are included within the annual report have been determined through engagement with stakeholders and reviewing the objectives within the University's strategic plans.

In 2013/14 a series of facilitated discussions occurred as part of the review of the University's Social Responsibility and Sustainability (SRS) Strategy, which also helped us define our issues for reporting:

## Edinburgh Sustainability Awards

**Workshop:** 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2014. Participants, including students, academic and operational staff, engaged in round-table discussions reviewing the success of the scheme and exploring how to further develop the Awards to recognise success in, and stimulate action towards, the University's objectives.

## SEAG Operations Away Day: 23<sup>rd</sup>

May 2014. Participants explored how the Social Responsibility and Sustainability agenda had developed over time, how the University contributed to setting the agenda, and how it had responded to external drivers of change. Attendees developed implementation plans, shared ideas and common themes.

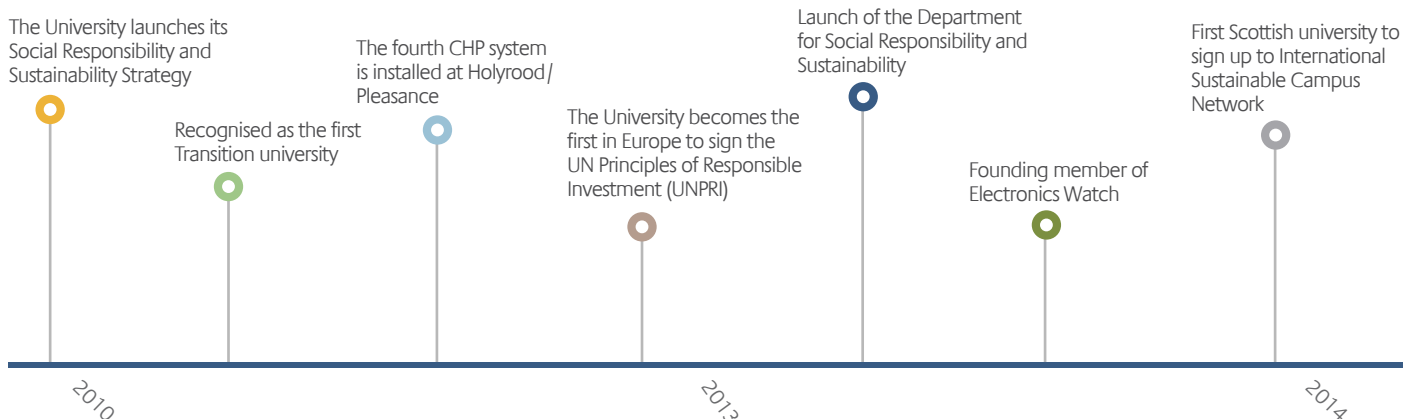
Follow up activities in the 2014/15 Academic year included an Academic workshop on 20<sup>th</sup> August exploring how the concept of Social Responsibility and Sustainability could be incorporated into the University using the Living Laboratory approach, which promotes action based learning by linking research and operations.

## A Student and Staff Academic

**Forum:** 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014. Participants discussed how to work together to further incorporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability in Learning and Teaching at Edinburgh. In 2013/14 we also undertook a wide consultation in relation to our commitments to Responsible Investment. The Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability engages widely with stakeholders in its mission to support the University to ensure that our learning and teaching, research and operations are socially, environmentally and economically sustainable for future generations.

The table below provides an initial mapping of key stakeholder groups and how we have engaged with them in 2013/14.

Stakeholders	Method of Engagement
Students	Events, Surveys, Newsletters, Website, Social Media, Academic Courses
Staff	Events, Surveys, Newsletters, Website, Training
Alumni	Events, Website, Social Media, Alumni Magazine
Local Community	Events, Meetings, Website
Higher Education Sector	Events, Network, Meetings
Public Sector	Networks, Meetings





“ We aim to make a significant, sustainable and socially responsible contribution to Scotland, the UK and the world, promoting health, economic growth and cultural wellbeing. ”

University of Edinburgh  
Strategic Plan 2012-16

This publication is available online  
at [www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability](http://www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability).  
It can also be made available in  
alternative formats on request.

**The University of Edinburgh**

Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability,  
9 Hope Park Square,  
Edinburgh EH8 9NP  
T: +44 (0)131 651 5588  
E: [sustainability.department@ed.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability.department@ed.ac.uk)


**[www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability](http://www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability)**

Published by:  
Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability,  
The University of Edinburgh

Printed by:  
Printing Services, The University of Edinburgh  
Sustainability Gold Award Winners 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014

Photography by:  
S Khan - cover page. *Apis mellifera*, The University of  
Edinburgh Apiary Project.  
R Lander - page 15.

All photos and images used in this publication  
are protected by copyright and may not be  
reproduced without permission. No part of  
this publication may be reproduced without  
the written permission of the University  
of Edinburgh.

 100% recycled  
printed using vegetable inks

© The University of Edinburgh 2015

 @EdSust    EdinburghSustainability

 EdSust

The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body registered  
in Scotland, with registration number SC005336.