



# THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH Social Responsibility & Sustainability

We enable the University to understand, explain and deliver on its vision to make the world a better place by offering the most successful social responsibility and sustainability service in higher education.



# Universities and Sustainability

## Driving Positive Change



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH  
Social Responsibility & Sustainability



edinburghsustainability

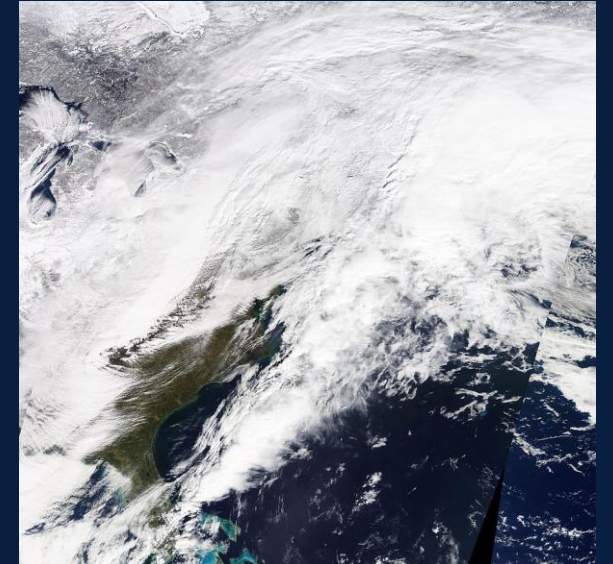


uoe\_sustainability



edsust

# Why should we care?



# Why does it matter?

“Universities have an essential role to play in leadership around the climate crisis, as anchor institutions in their local communities, as educators of the world’s future leaders, in the research to underpin the solutions we need, through outreach to surrounding communities and wider public, and through the climate impact of their own estates and activities.”

Professor Zoe Robinson, Director of Education for Sustainability

Keele University



# The role of universities in society...





This is a Climate Emergency

MAY 24 University of Edinburgh Student Climate Rally  
Public - Hosted by Jack Reed and Catherine Dunn



Our stakeholders want us to be leading the change



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH  
Social Responsibility & Sustainability



edinburghsustainability



ueo\_sustainability



edsust

# Sustainable travel



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH  
Social Responsibility & Sustainability



[edinburghsustainability](#)

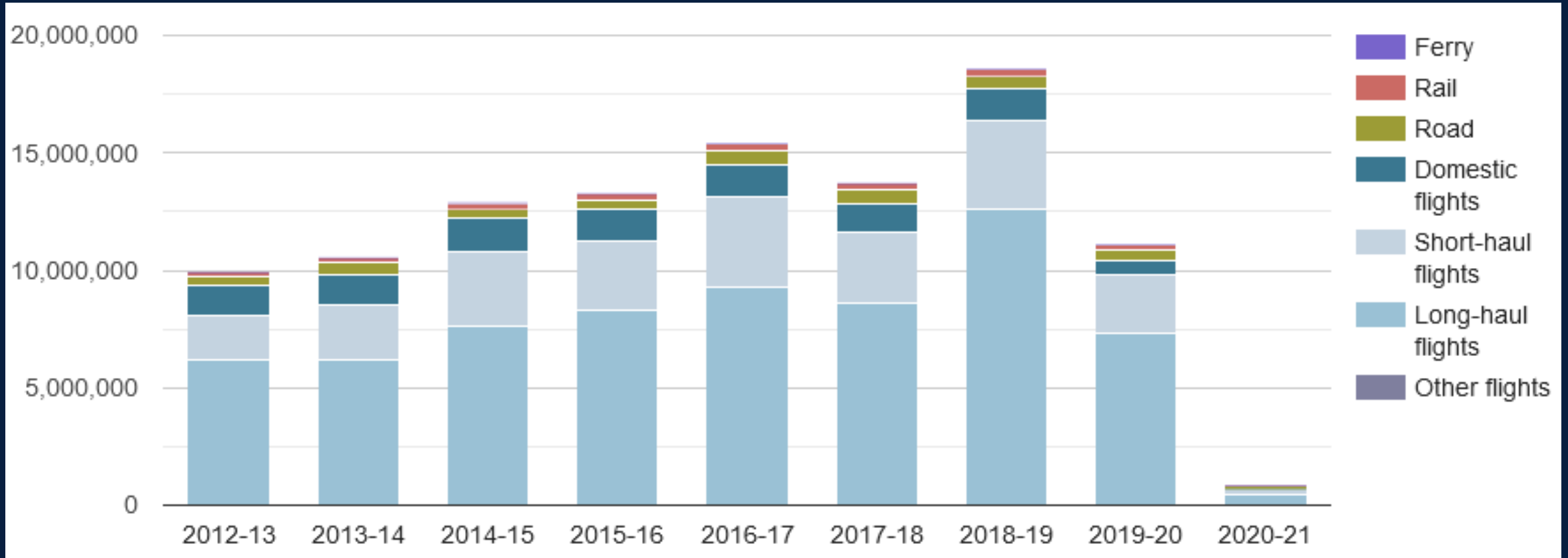


[uoe\\_sustainability](#)



[edsust](#)

# High growth pre-covid





# Climate conscious travel

- Continues to support essential travel – whether for research, learning or teaching.
- Enhances the safety of our staff, reduces the environmental impact of our travel, and manages our travel related finances.
- The policy also increases inclusion and improves career opportunities for those that are unable to travel.
- Effectively bans domestic flights for business travel.



# Student engagement



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH  
Social Responsibility & Sustainability



edinburghsustainability



uoe\_sustainability



edsust

# The Edinburgh Graduate Vision, Climate, Sustainability

- Be able to explain clearly what climate change is and how it can be addressed;
- Feel empowered to take bold action on the climate and biodiversity emergencies and sustainability;
- Grasp the relative importance of different actions in relation to climate and sustainability;
- Engage in compassionate, reflexive and critical consideration of the global inequalities inherent in the climate emergency and sustainability challenges.
- Work constructively across landscapes of practices, such as different disciplines and communities;
- Support their own and others' wellbeing in the context of complexity, rapid change and uncertainty.



# Inspiring student learning and action



## YOUNG PEOPLE'S GUIDE TO COP26



# Examples from the UNICA Network

- University of Oslo Climate and Environmental Strategy
- Free University of Berlin Climate Emergency Response
- Sector wide initiatives
  - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions' Green Charter
  - Green Erasmus Project



# Why does it matter?

“Universities have an essential role to play in leadership around the climate crisis, as anchor institutions in their local communities, as educators of the world’s future leaders, in the research to underpin the solutions we need, through outreach to surrounding communities and wider public, and through the climate impact of their own estates and activities.”

Professor Zoe Robinson, Director of Education for Sustainability

Keele University



# Questions?

Matthew.Lawson@ed.ac.uk

 Social Responsibility & Sustainability

 EdSust

 EdinburghSustainability

 UoE\_Sustainability

[www.ed.ac.uk/c/staff-sustainability](http://www.ed.ac.uk/c/staff-sustainability)



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH  
Social Responsibility & Sustainability



edinburghsustainability



uoe\_sustainability



edsust