



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

Strategic Vision 2025

The University of Edinburgh: enlightenment for the 21st century world

Where are we now?

As a truly global university, rooted in Scotland, we seek to benefit society as a whole.

We build on a long and proud history of advancing knowledge for the public good – from our foundation in 1583, through our flourishing of talent and sceptical enquiry in the Enlightenment of the 18th century to the present day.

As one of the world's top 20 universities, the breadth and depth of our scholarship, learning and teaching and our entrepreneurial and creative culture enables us to make a positive difference to people's lives – both close to home and globally.

We offer our students and staff the experience of living, studying and working in one of the world's most attractive cities.

We bring in and develop the world's most promising students and outstanding staff, developing critical-thinking citizens who

expand and apply knowledge across and between a wide range of disciplines.

We need to sustain and enhance our ability to make such contributions in the future. There is an accelerating pace of change, demanding world challenges and rising expectations. The gap is growing between the very best universities, which can make the biggest impact, and the rest.

To ensure we are best placed to be able to make a strong contribution in the future we need to continue to build a virtuous cycle in which sustained global impact and excellence is underpinned by enhanced resource and the strength of our reputation.

We have led and continue to lead in the creation of new disciplines and domains from Geology and English Literature to Bayesian Statistics and Epigenetics.



Where do we want to be in 2025?

We will ensure we make a sustained and enhanced global impact through an approach shaped by innovations and excellence.

We will build and develop those aspects of the Edinburgh offer that are distinct; and, where we share features with similar leading global universities, we will be better.

We need to invest now in order to implement our strategic vision.



We expect to see:

- A **unique Edinburgh offer** for all of our students:
 - all of our undergraduates developed as student/researchers with clear, supported pathways through to Masters and PhD;
 - all our students offered the opportunity to draw from deep expertise outside their core discipline;
 - a highly satisfied student body with a strong sense of community.
- Strong and vibrant **communities** within and beyond the University – making the most of our unique offer of world-leading thinking and learning within one of the world's most attractive cities
- A larger, more international, **staff** who feel valued and supported in a University that is a great and collegial place to work, develop and progress.
- More **postgraduate** students – underpinned by the best support in the sector to ensure we attract the brightest and best regardless of ability to pay.
- A more **international student** body – offering all our students an international learning experience; enabling us to make a truly global impact through educating the brightest and best from and across the world.
- A strong culture of **philanthropic support** focussed especially on our students and on outstanding research capabilities.
- Many more students benefiting from the Edinburgh experience (largely or entirely) in their own country – supported by deep international partnerships and world-leading online **distance learning**.
- Sustained world leading reputation for the breadth, depth and interdisciplinarity of our **research** supported by strong growth in research funding and strong international partnerships – drawing from well-established and less well developed sources.
- An **estate** that matches expectations, responds flexibly to changing student and staff needs, and showcases the University.
- A deeper and earlier collaboration with **industry, the public sector and the third sector** – in terms of research; knowledge exchange; and in giving our students the best possible set of skills for their future.

We are a very broad and diverse institution and do not expect all Schools to tackle the above broad aspirations in the same way. But we hope and expect that our combined efforts will mean that we achieve this strategic vision across the University as a whole.