



2050
Climate Group



IMPACT



REPORT



2021-22



Hello!

Lucy Stanfield-Jenner
2050 Climate Group Chair



This year has been an incredible one for 2050 Climate Group.

As COP26 came to Glasgow, we gave a platform to young climate leaders in Scotland and Malawi, opening up the global climate talks through our “Let’s Talk COP26” Youth Summit. We delivered our fifth Young Leaders Development Programme, developed our Leaders Network and enabled even more young people to have a voice in policy making.

In the past year, our volunteers battled digital-fatigue to give over eight thousand hours, driven by their belief in our charitable mission and impact. As our organisation grows, we’ve also developed our core staff team, including supporting new entry-level roles to enable young people to access green careers. As a result I’m confident in the long-term sustainability and success of 2050 Climate Group for years to come.

Action on climate change is more vital than ever. At times it can feel daunting, but, as Chair of such an inspirational and energetic organisation, I’ve witnessed the power of what young people can achieve when empowered, equipped and enabled to take action.

2050

in

NUMBERS

We've had a

BIG

year

Here's proof!

131

Young Leaders
Development Programme
Participants

6888

Leaders Network
Members

1443

Registered Event
Attendees

23

Blog Posts

48

Operational Volunteers

8137

Volunteer Hours

= £263,188

Equivalent economic
value

16

Trustees

3360

Additional Social
Media Followers

13

2050x Funded Projects

3

New Staff Roles,
including 2
entry-level roles

Our Team

2050 Climate Group is a unique Scottish charity. We are volunteer-driven and run entirely by people between 18 to approximately 35 for those in the same age-range. Our activities are delivered by around 50 operational volunteers, with support from our small (but mighty) staff team and sixteen incredible young trustees.

Our Volunteers' Experience

92% of respondents to our 2021/22 team survey said they'd recommend volunteering with 2050 Climate Group to a friend, family member or colleague

Volunteering with 2050 Climate Group...

"has reinvigorated my passion to take climate action and make sure young people's voices are always heard"

"is one of the best things I have ever done"

Placements

We are huge proponents of providing Scotland's young people with meaningful opportunities for professional development. Over the past year we welcomed three phenomenal individuals into their first job in the environmental sector through Bright Green Business' Environmental Placement Programme and the UK Government's Kickstart scheme



Eve Redhead
Bright Green Business Placement

This placement has been transformative for my personal and professional growth. The past 12 months have been a journey of confidence building and challenging myself to build new skills. Working in a small team is demanding, but it comes with the perks of gaining wide-ranging experience and a holistic understanding of how charities work. My role with 2050 Climate Group led to me securing a permanent role as a Communications Coordinator for the University of Edinburgh Social Responsibility and Sustainability Department.

Well-being Days

At 2050 Climate Group, we foster a well-being focused organisational culture and are very proud of it.

The pandemic has had a very real impact on the well-being of our community. The lack of in-person activities has led to screen fatigue and reduced opportunities for team bonding. Thanks to support from NatureScot, through the Future Routes Fund, in Spring 2022 we held two well-being days (foraging and tree planting/conservation) to rejuvenate our team through connecting with each other and nature.



Tree planting day @Edinburgh with the Green Team



Conservation day @Edinburgh with the Green Team



Foraging day with West Highland Herbal @Beechbrae's Woodland Centre

Young Leaders Development Programme

Our award-winning, flagship Young Leaders Development Programme (YLDP) educates hundreds of young people in Scotland every year to become leaders in climate action. Our fifth iteration of the programme (YLDP5) which unfolded in a hybrid format, brought together a diverse group of 130 young people from 23 local authorities across Scotland, working in over 40 sectors. Through its six modules, participants were equipped with the skills, knowledge and confidence to take climate action in their personal, professional and political lives.



Lorna Slater
Member of the Scottish Parliament

Programmes such as YLDP provide passionate young people in Scotland with an essential platform to discuss important ideas, network and contribute to solutions to tackle the issues which will affect your generation

Here's what the Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity has to say about our YLDP!

Young Leaders' Stories



Briony Kincaid
YLDP5 Graduate

Being involved with 2050 Climate Group has enabled me to connect and communicate with different people about climate issues better. It emphasised the importance of making my voice heard with issues, and local and national problems. I've made a greater effort and got involved with local town issues and I've gained greater confidence to speak up.

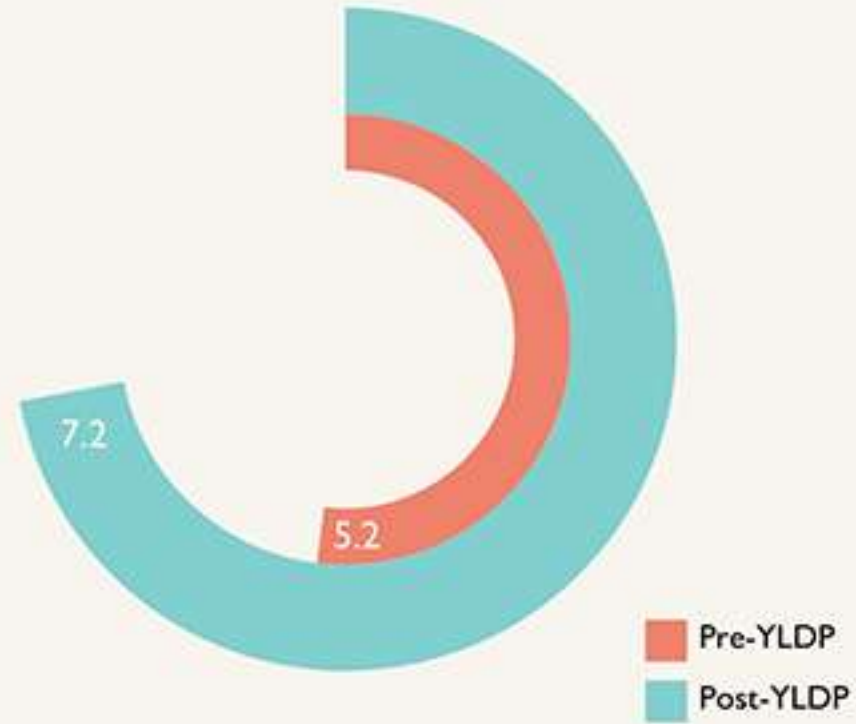
As a result of taking part in the YLDP, I'm starting a compost heap at my new home and going to start growing vegetables and fruit. I have also responded to the pavement parking government consultation. My confidence has increased in talking to people about climate issues and the YLDP has helped me understand my own strengths better and how to engage with politics more effectively. I feel better equipped to engage with organisations on issues I care about. I'd like to say a huge thank you to 2050 Climate Group for the opportunity, and for putting together such excellent modules with interesting and useful speakers.



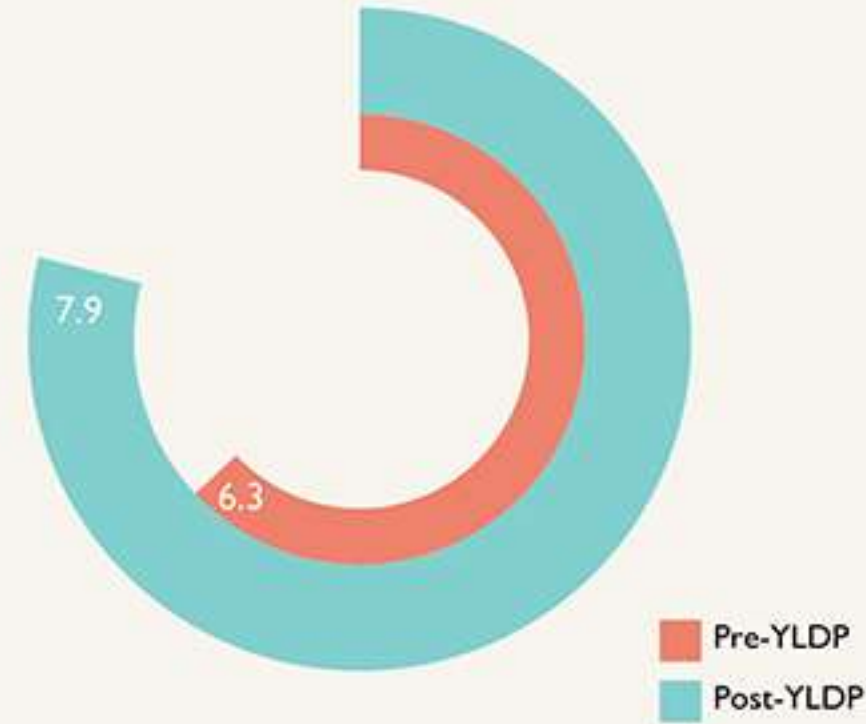
Nathan Jamieson
YLDP5 Graduate

Young Leaders Development Programme 5 | IMPACT

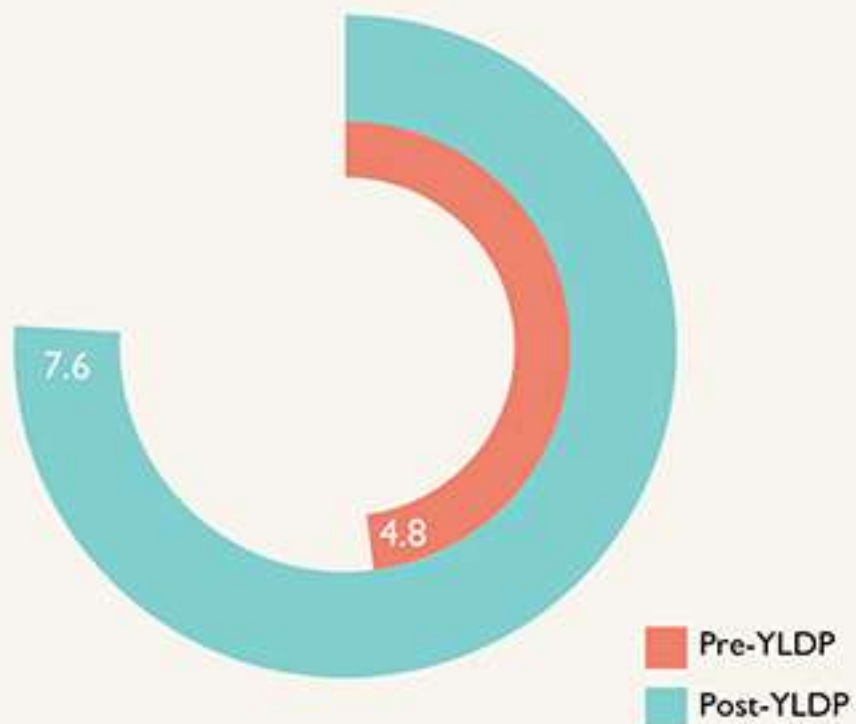
On a scale of 1-10, to what extent do you feel like you play a significant role in creating a sustainable future for Scotland?



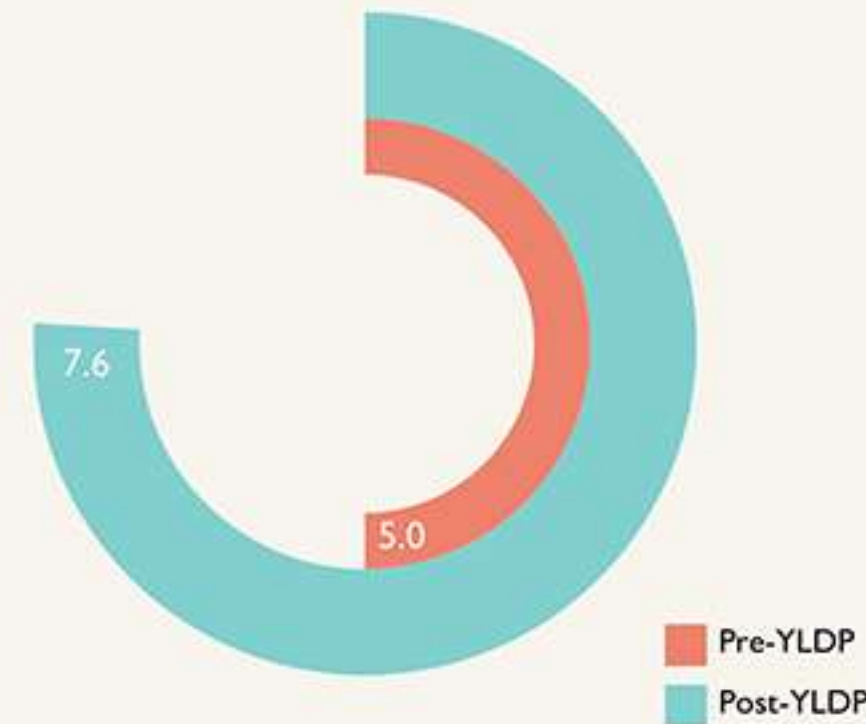
On a scale of 1-10, how well do you feel you know what the solutions to climate change are?



On a scale of 1-10, how confident do you currently feel about using your influencing and negotiating skills to create positive change?



On a scale of 1-10, how prepared do you feel to lead/take action on climate change?



Watch Now!



Our Leaders Network facilitates opportunities for Scotland's Young Leaders to continue to connect, collaborate and celebrate with each other as we work towards a just and sustainable society.

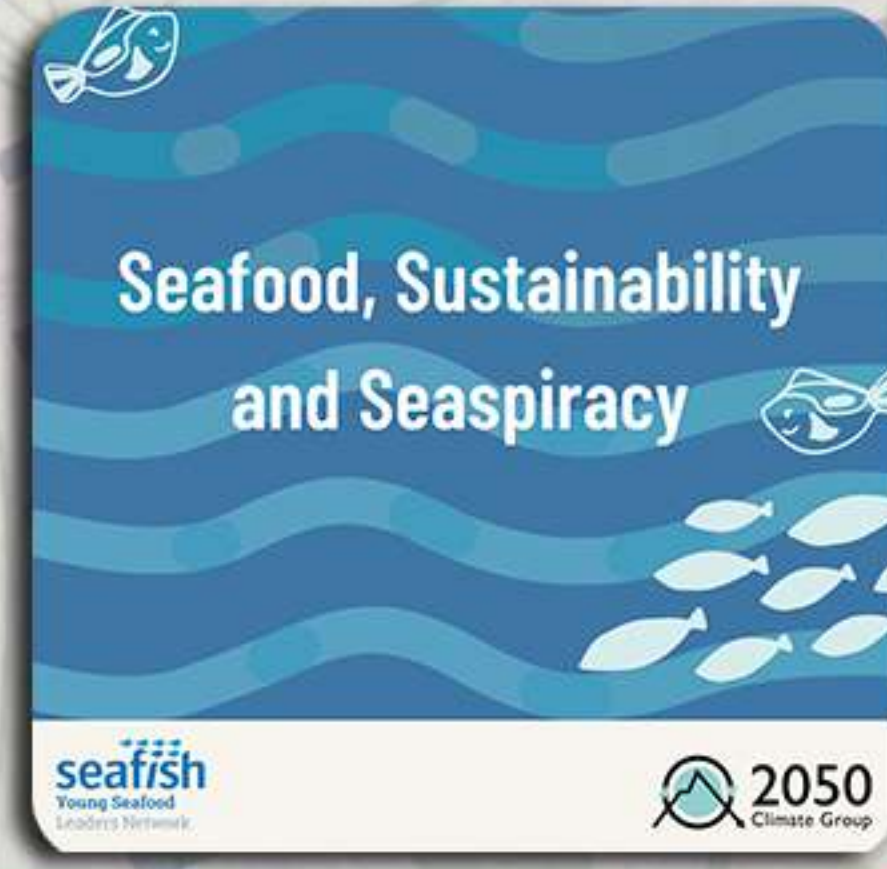
Community Building



Over the last year, we have been building our online community and developing new ways to thoughtfully include more young people across Scotland and beyond in our network.



Our 2050x Fund is driven by our Leaders Network volunteers, and supports youth-led climate action projects across Scotland. Alongside financial support, each project is paired with a "buddy" in our Leaders Network volunteer team who provides ongoing support for the duration of their project. Over the past year we've grown our 2050x Fund, distributing over £6,000 directly to thirteen youth-led climate action projects across Scotland



"Transport Circle"
Our newly launched online space open to 18-35-year-olds in Scotland, who are interested in sustainable transport.

"Seafood, Sustainability and Seaspiracy"
A knowledge sharing event with the Young Seafood Leaders Network

"Let's Get Trashed"
A knowledge sharing event with Malawi Young Leaders on the problem of waste management

2050X FUND STORIES



A Kinder World: Summer Art & Storytelling Activities for Young People

Over two Fridays at the end of July 2021, Kirsty Turpie, a young Community Artist based in Dumfries, alongside Lucy and Ed, coordinators of The Old Mill Gallery & Bookshop in Palnackie facilitated Storytelling and Art workshops for young people. Supported by the 2050x Fund, the workshops offered an opportunity for young people to explore the themes of environmental sustainability, climate change and human virtues in an imaginative and explorative way. You can read more about the workshops in Kirsty's blog here



Art for the Environment

Barholm Reforesting Project

Jack Barrie applied for 2050x Funding to help his efforts to reforest his family's hill farm in Dumfries and Galloway. The project aims to reforest key areas of the upland farm that have suffered degradation due to livestock grazing. Due to the support he received from the 2050x Fund, Jack was able to host a team of volunteers to assist with the project. In one day a team of fourteen volunteers, including four from 2050 Climate Group, successfully planted 450 mixed deciduous trees. Due to the success of the project, Jack has been able to apply for larger pots of funding with the ambition to plant a further 1,500 trees to reforest an additional 2 hectares of land.

You can read Jack's blog here



Reforesting for the win!

The Little Yellow Shed, Orkney

The Little Yellow Shed is a zero waste and refill shop, which aims to bring ethical, locally-produced and eco-friendly products to its potential customers on the island of Stronsay, Orkney. Its young founder, Leah Shearer, is passionate about climate action and through her new business aims to reduce community waste production whilst encouraging locals in her small island community to engage with issues surrounding the climate crisis. The 2050x Fund was able to support her ambitions by covering the cost of the shipping container that will house Leah's new shop. The Little Yellow Shed can be found on Instagram



COP26

26th United Nations
Climate Change Conference

In November 2021 the world's attention was on Glasgow for COP26. Throughout the conference, 2050 Climate Group was an organised and engaging voice on youth and climate action in Scotland and beyond.



In the build up to the conference our 4th Youth Summit, “Let’s Talk COP26”, equipped over 200 young people across Scotland and beyond with the knowledge and confidence to engage with the decisions being taken at the COP26. The event gathered 38,000 impressions on social media throughout the day.

During COP26, 16 delegates from 2050 Climate Group attended as official observers and many more participated in the surrounding events.



We were also one of the select few organisations chosen to host an event in the COP26 Green Zone, enabling Scottish and Malawian youth perspectives to be heard on the international stage.

2050 Climate Group spoke at numerous events and were featured across national press, podcasts, TV, radio and online media.



Throughout, we pushed for more ambitious action on the climate crisis, and emphasised the role of youth leadership.

Chloe Campbell

Laura Clegg

Tom McKenna

Voices from COP26



Bethany Tallis

2050 Climate Group
Policy Volunteer



Seeing the **Global Youth Statement** presented formally to **Alok Sharma** and **Patricia Espinosa** was the highlight of my **COP26** experience

My main takeaway (from COP26) was a renewed sense of **compassion and empathy**, having heard first hand from people already experiencing the climate crisis in their own countries.



Scott Crawford Morrison

2050 Climate Group
Leaders Network



...encouraged me

...to continue pushing and engaging in environmental politics despite set-backs

...engage in topics that I've always seen as difficult to wrap my head around - climate finance, nature-based solutions

...increased my confidence

...discuss, engage and fight for better climate policies

...one of the most profound experiences of my life

...immense privilege

...complex emotional experience - inspiring, frustrating, exhausting and enervating

...grateful to 2050 Climate Group for facilitating it

International Engagement: Malawi Scotland Partnership



The Malawi Climate Leaders Programme (MCLP) aimed to equip young Malawians with opportunities to hone their knowledge on climate change and develop the skills necessary to tackle it. The programme was delivered by 2050 Climate Group in collaboration with Malawi Scotland Partnership (MaSP) who are based in Lilongwe, the capital of Malawi.

What did Young Leaders take away from the MCLP?

“I was able to gain new knowledge around climate justice and loss and damage. In particular, I discovered what challenges young people in Malawi face and what solutions they deploy to overcome them.”

“A perspective on the impacts of the climate crisis in Malawi (and specific regions and communities within Malawi). It is really important that young people are engaging with others from different countries to broaden their understanding of climate challenges but also climate solutions. People in front line communities know what they need and the MCLP gives youth voices a platform to advocate for those needs.”

Over the past year, the project focused on COP26 with three regional youth consultations in the lead up to the conference. Over 200 young Malawians engaged in the project's Youth Hub during the global climate talks at COP26 and the 4th Leadership Programme saw another 35 young Malawians equipped with the skills to take climate action.



Brenda Mwale MCLP - interview with Sky News @COP26



Green Zone Panel Event @COP26

In Scotland, 2050 Climate Group hosted pre and post COP26 “Just Transition” events, exploring the impact of climate change around the world. We also powered young people's voices forward by supporting a Scottish Government consultation event on Loss & Damage.



Policy Engagement

Our Policy team enables young people to make their voices heard in political decision-making on a local, national and global level.

We shared the views of young people directly with policy-makers through consultation responses to the Scottish Government’s local food strategy “Local Food for Everyone” and Edinburgh City Council’s 2030 Climate Strategy.

<https://www.2050.scot/blog>

During the 2021 Scottish National Elections, we shared the

 **election priorities of young people** 

and empowered our audiences to make an informed vote by providing a

 **detailed breakdown of the main manifesto promises** 


on climate action.

Our podcast mini-series,

 **Budgeting for the Climate Crisis** 

equipped our audience with an understanding of what the Scottish budget means for our climate ambitions, and how young people can influence future Scottish budgets.

2050 Climate Group also participated in a number of initiatives, seeking to bring a youth voice to wider efforts to create a just and sustainable society. Over the past year we contributed to the:

- Climate Emergency Response Group** 
- Edinburgh Climate Commission** 
- Decoupling Advisory Group** 
- Scottish Forum on Natural Capital** 



THANK YOU

to our
Partners and Funders

Over the past year, we have learnt, adapted, pushed ourselves, grown, stumbled and stood back up again. We are filled with gratitude for the support and solidarity of each of our fantastic partners - thank you for powering our growing charity and our big ambitions. We are excited to accomplish even more with your continued support.



The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



SEPA
Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Buidheann Dion Àrainneachd na h-Alba



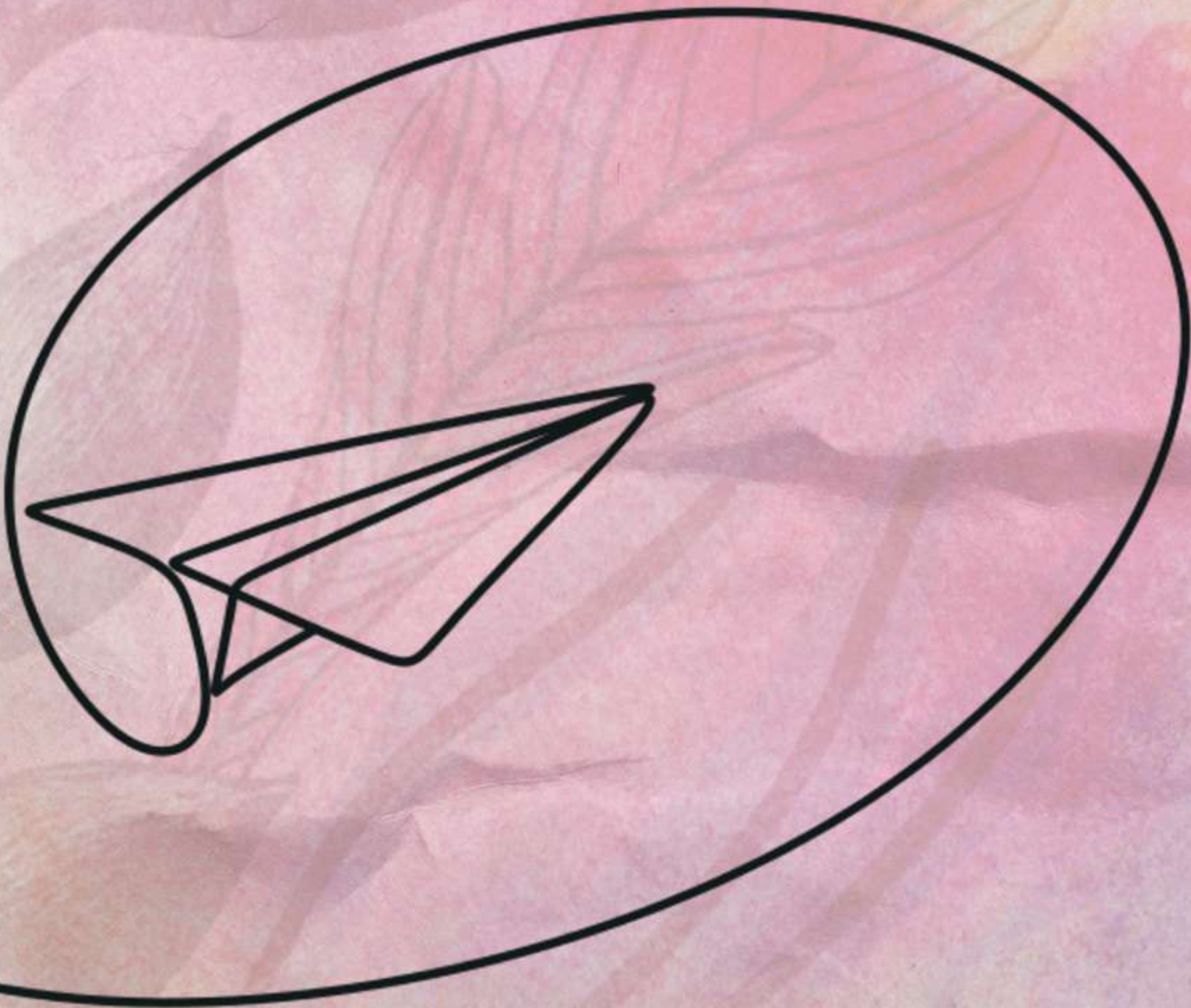
TENNENT'S



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



Contact Us



That was our very eventful year in a few pages. We hope you enjoyed that update from us and we look forward to doing more meaningful work in the coming year as we continue to empower, equip and enable young people to take real climate action.



www.2050.scot
contact@2050.scot



2050 Climate Group is a Scottish
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
(Scottish Charity Number SC047206)