

## Edinburgh's purpose-built student accommodation market

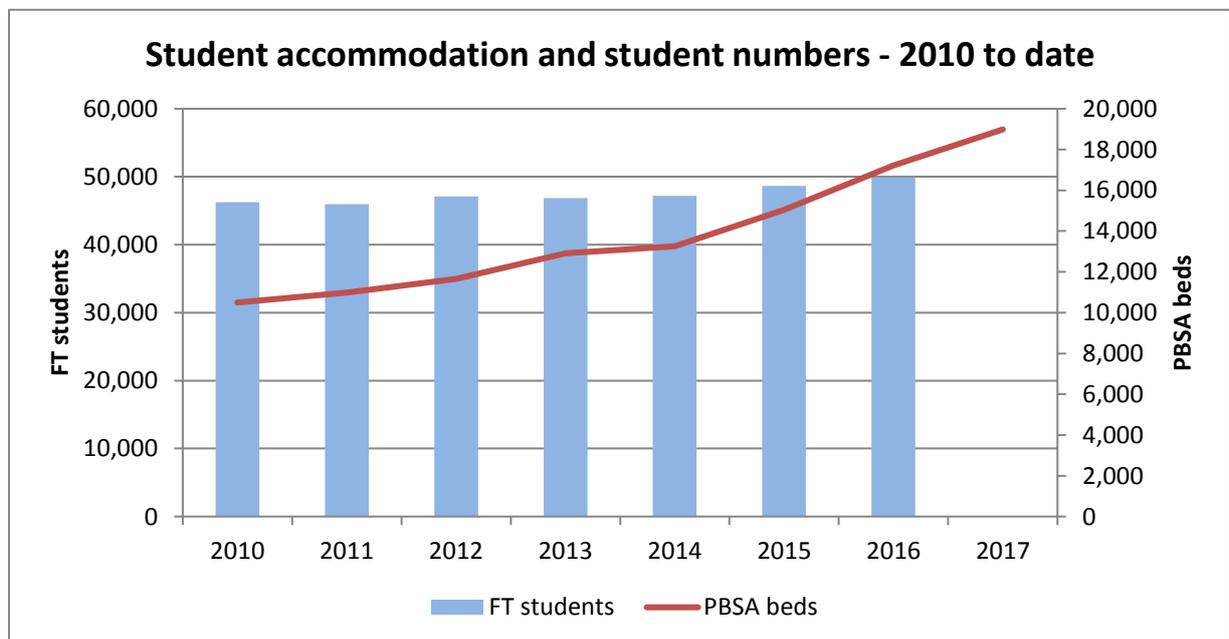
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### Context

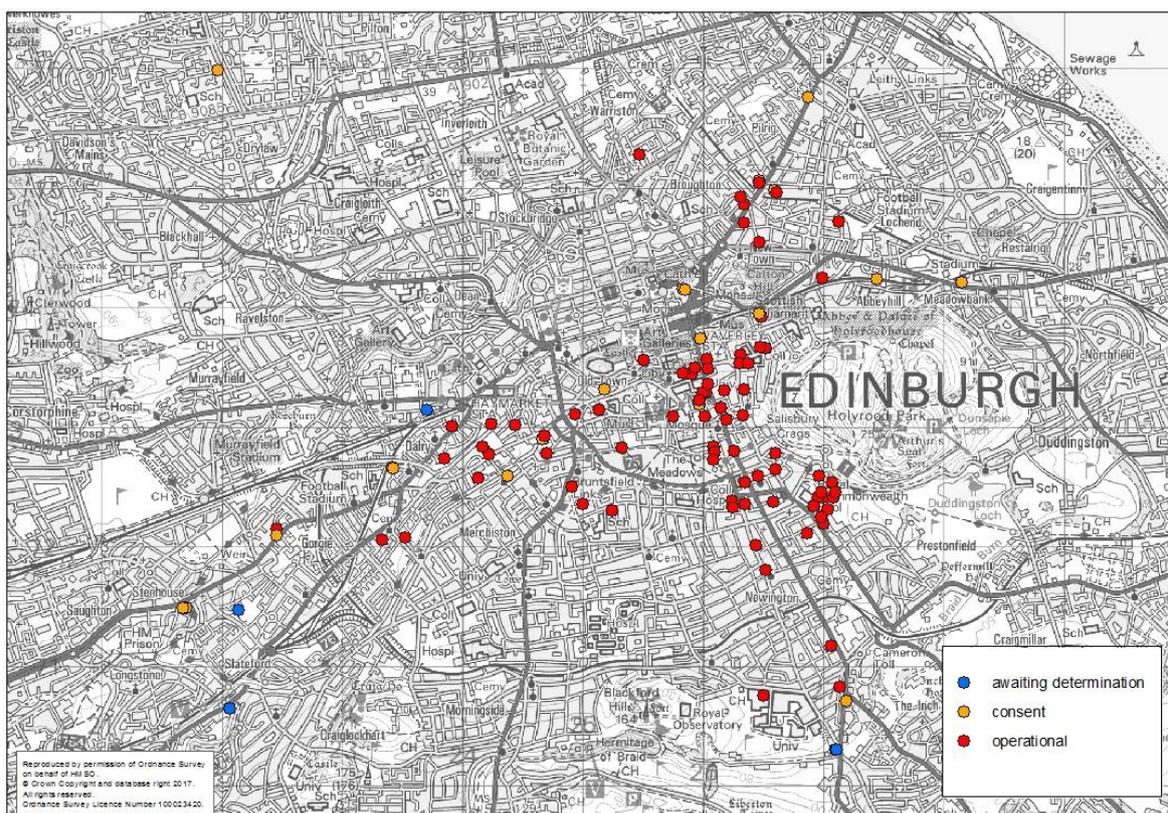
The Council has been monitoring the development of purpose-built student accommodation (PBSA) in the city since 2010. An annual development schedule is produced in January of each year detailing completions, properties under construction, planning consents, applications awaiting determination and closures. This bulletin highlights the growth in PBSA compared to the overall full-time student population in higher education.

### Student numbers and student accommodation

The number of full-time students (under-graduate and post-graduate) at Edinburgh's four universities has remained relatively stable since 2010 with a small increase over the past two years. There were 49,900 full-time students in Edinburgh in 2016. The number of PBSA beds has increased significantly in the same period, from 10,498 in 2010 to 18,988 in 2017. There are also existing consents for 2,074 beds.



## Distribution



## Guidance on student housing

The Council adopted new guidance for student housing in February 2016 whereby any development over 0.25 ha. in size would need to include 50% housing provision on site. There has been one application meeting this criteria to date, at Dundee Street. However, this was granted without a requirement for housing [on appeal to the DPEA](#).

## Key points

- The 18,988 PBSA beds in Edinburgh provide potential accommodation for 38% of full-time students. When including the 2,074 current consents, this figure rises to 42%.
- The above percentage is in effect higher as some students will still live at the family home. The Higher Education Statistics Agency estimate that 19% of students in 2014/15 were living at home.

## Further information

The Student Housing Schedule 2017 can be viewed on the [council's website](#).

## Contact

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