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Living Lab project brief – SRS issues and best practice in the travel industry

Description of the paper

This paper describes a potential project to identify key SRS (both environmental and social) issues in the travel industry, for example trains and planes, and identify best practice in the industry globally. This could inform the University's approach with suppliers/booking travel.

Draft research question

What are the key SRS issues in the travel industry globally, and what good practice exists to improve SRS performance in this industry?

Background

The issue of SRS risks in the travel industry has been identified as an area requiring further exploration through the assessment of risks and opportunities related to the University's main procurement areas using Scottish Government tools. There are many challenges related to SRS in the travel industry, both environmental and social, such as carbon emissions, use of single-use items for on-board catering, and potential for disputes around working conditions. Given that many thousands of trips by train, plane or other public transport are taken by University staff in the UK and globally each year, we want to better understand the risks and what good practice looks like. Recommendations from this project could inform the way the University engages with its suppliers or partners regarding business travel.

Objectives

- Identify key SRS risks/issues in the travel industry globally – in particular trains and planes
- Identify and assess current best practice and initiatives to improve SRS performance in the travel industry
- Make recommendations regarding any schemes/best practice the University could choose to support when making decisions about business travel/booking trips, to help improve SRS performance