



EAUC Living Lab Community of Practice

Top 3 Challenges - summary



Background

As part of the EAUCs advocacy strategy (to help members advocate sustainability initiatives and share learning within their institutions) the Living Lab Community of Practice requested members to provide their 'Top 3' issues faced in relation to Living Labs.

During February 2019, six colleagues responded from a total of five institutions

- Nottingham Trent University
- University of Leeds
- University of Leicester
- University of Manchester
- University of Warwick

Responses have been split into three key themes



1. Resources

- Securing and maintaining a funded role with responsibility for promoting and delivering living labs
- Obtaining funding to promote and support projects (particularly long-term)
- Time consuming to coordinate and govern amongst other priorities
- Business planning and forecasting for project funding



2. Communication & Engagement

- Communication and engagement (both internally and externally)
- Engaging non-STEM stakeholders into living lab projects
- Finding a shared definition of living labs that suits all stakeholders



3. Operational

- Silo approach to working / too many people working on the same ideas
- Priorities and timescales differ between stakeholders e.g. estates and a researcher
- Seen as an optional and additional way of working, rather than a standard solution/tool
- Capturing and reporting student dissertation outputs effectively (before they leave)
- Obtaining reports and recommendations suitable for operational consumption