**Travel Better Workshop: Re-Imagining the FHE Sector with Reduced Air Travel**

**March 12th, 2020**

**3.24 St. Leonard’s Land, the University of Edinburgh**

Group 1: Fears

* The group began to write challenges about reducing air travel they fear will have an effect on themselves, a loved one, their institution and/or a member of an underrepresented group
  + Fear include:
    - Loss of income to their institution (from less overseas students, less collaboration etc.)
    - Can’t visit family overseas
    - Loss of social engagement
    - Restriction of mobility due to high prices of rail tickets
* The group then chose “loss of income” and analysed the fear
* How could this not be true?
  + Switch to virtual learning
  + Financial support from the government
* What makes us believe this is a challenge?
  + Reliance on income from international students
  + Being told/taught that we need to travel regularly to benefit society through exchange of ideas
* Re-write the challenge into an opportunity
  + Can we better support international students through a reduction in air travel? Eg. Tighter knit community, hosting internationals students
  + Scale back institutions, less focus on institutions being a business and more focus on academia

Group 2: Alter Egos

* The group, comprised of 3 individuals working in colleges, found it a challenge to imagine rewarding a reduction in air travel as there is not much air travel in colleges compared to universities
* Group decided to focus on the student exchange programme at colleges and what the head of this programme would do
* Say
  + “innovation in international relations”
* Do
  + Try to influence behaviour/attitudes to sustainable travel
  + Promote environmental benefits of air travel
  + Seek local alternatives
* Think
  + Think rewarding a reduction in air travel would disadvantage the institution as well as students
  + Anticipate reduced income for institution
* Feel
  + Reluctant to reward a reduction in air travel because they would think that students would no longer engage in the programme if they can’t travel to their exchange destinations

Group 3: Alter Egos

* Group 3 chose to use all suggested individuals and try and understand how they would react to rewarding reductions in air travel in the FHE sector
* Found they were all interconnected and the people they influence/affect are also interconnected