

Materiality Assessment

We conducted our last detailed materiality assessment in 2022, where we worked with a specialist third-party to identify, assess and prioritise the most important issues for our business and our stakeholders, as described below. These issues inform our Sustainability Strategy and 10 commitments.

We plan to conduct a new double-materiality assessment – a dual assessment of how our activities impact people and the planet and how sustainability issues, like climate-change, may impact our business – to help define the next stage of our Sustainability Strategy and targets for post-2025.

Our 2022 materiality assessment used the following three-stage methodology:

Stage 1: Identify the issues

Drawing on our wide range of stakeholder engagement channels and research, a long list of issues were compiled, including those issues most common across most sectors and business, as well as those macro and strategic issues that are unique or specific to the food travel sector.

These external insights were complemented by internal SSP inputs, including Group strategy, reports, policies and standards.

Stage 2: Conduct internal assessments

All the issues identified in Stage 1 were grouped under common themes and a best practice scoring methodology was used to assess their level of importance to our stakeholders.

This included defined weightings for different stakeholder groups, as well as individual weightings for some of our most important stakeholders. Sector-specific issues were also weighted to ensure they were not artificially relegated to a lower level of importance by wider issues common across all types of stakeholders.

Interviews were then conducted with selected members of our Board and Group Executive Committee (including the Chair of our Board and Group CEO) to review the initial results and assess the current or potential impact on the SSP Group.

Stage 3: Prioritise the issues

The issues were then mapped onto our materiality matrix based on the level of importance to our business and stakeholders. The issues are grouped as either material, emerging or other issues.

The 18 issues with the highest level of importance, our material issues, form our Sustainability Strategy and reporting. We also continue to monitor emerging issues, such as biodiversity and deforestation, and are working on developing a strategic response.

Materiality matrix

