

Key Travel information regarding AirBNB or similar organisations

Since the introduction of the Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007, organisations have a duty of care to employees and that includes ensuring they are safe and looked after while travelling on business.

Key Travel, use approved suppliers who have an audit trail ensuring the properties have been inspected and passed a health and safety check. Some reasons not to book through unapproved suppliers are:

- When booking outside of Key Travel through sites such as AirBNB there are no regulations to ensure properties are inspected or that they are safe.
- Whilst some of the properties may look appealing and appear good value for money, they are very often private houses or just rooms in houses, without any guaranteed or controlled standards. For example on the AirBNB website they state that they will continue to list properties even if the smoke and carbon detectors do not work.
- Another concern is that property may not match the description, or that the host may be unresponsive to traveller needs, which could leave the traveller at risk.
- If a traveller is unhappy with the accommodation AirBNB would have no obligation to find an alternative property.
- Hotels and serviced apartments have liability insurance providing cover against claims made by members of the public who have suffered injury or damage (including to their property), private vendors would not usually have this.
- Hotels and serviced apartments have support services including on site reception and post travel customer services.
- Wifi needs to be secure if working on company business, and private wifi may not be secure, also vendors may have access to Personal Identifiable Data, which could leave the traveller vulnerable.
- Major hotel chains are very aware of lone female travellers and tend to have simple security policies in place such as:
 - Handing over room details discreetly at check in, so they are not overheard
 - Where possible giving single female travellers rooms that are not on the ground floor or at the end of a corridor
 - Secure door entry systems and manned 24 hour reception
 - Bedroom door fitted with a deadlock or chain
- Generally confirmations take 24 hours, so are not immediate.
- Vendors are able to access the property at any time which may be a security risk.
- Travellers may have to wait outside the property for the vendor in order to collect keys