

SESTRAN EQUALITIES FORUM
TUESDAY 26TH APRIL 2016, 10.00AM
MEETING ROOM 3H-55, VICORIA QUAY, EDINBURGH, EH6 6QQ

Tea and coffee available from 9.30am

AGENDA

1. Introduction
2. Thistle card update including App development
3. Mobility Scooters update including tram trial
4. Rail Issues -Disability Audit Reston/East Linton Station
 - Queen Street
 - Waverley/ Haymarket/ Edinburgh Gateway
5. AOCB
6. Next meeting

EQUALITIES FORUM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HOUSE, HADDINGTON

10AM FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2015

Present

Alastair Short (Chair)	SEStran
Cllr Jim Bryant	Midlothian Council
John Ballantine	SATA
Claire Bhugowaanden	Network Rail
Nikki Boath	SEStran
Dave Boyce	Network Rail
Neil Clark	ELC
Lesley Crozier	East & Midlothian Council
Peter Forsyth	ELC
Mike Harrison	Midlothian Access Panel
Trond Haugen	SEStran
Alex Macaulay	SEStran
Graeme Johnstone	SBC
Nina Munday	Fife Centre for Equalities
Iain Reid	ELC
Ken Reid	EL Access Panel
Dennis Wilson	Edinburgh Access Panel

Apologies

Terry Barlow	
Caroline Barr	
Jenny Gillies	Citizens Panel
David Griffiths	ECAS
Margaret Hickish	Network Rail
Jane Horsburgh	Guide Dogs
John Moore	LCTS
Jean Proudfoot	Borders Deaf & Hard of Hearing Network
Alan Rees	SATA
Jane Steven	

Ref		Actions
1	Introduction, Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising	
	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Mr Short welcomed the group and conducted round table introductions. Apologies were noted as above.</p> <p>The minutes of last meeting were outlined as follows:</p>	

	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>2. 08/15 – Thistle Card Update and Proposals Mr Short advised that this was an Item on today’s Agenda.</p> <p>3. 08/15 - Mobility Scooters . Alastair Short informed the Forum that that there had been a requirement to look into the proposed trial with Edinburgh Trams. He informed the group that he had received a copy of the proposed trial report. He outlined the scheme to the Forum and highlighted that the main focus was on the Class 2 scooters. He advised that Edinburgh Trams were proposing a trial but a date has not yet been released. This paper will be circulated to the group.</p> <p>5. 08/15 - Waverley/Haymarket Stations A consultation meeting will take place on 17 December 2015 at Jurys Inn, Edinburgh. This meeting is aimed primarily at the disability groups. Alex Macaulay suggested contacting Network Rail to request that the Equalities Forum be added to the distribution list for this meeting.</p> <p>7. 08/15 - Taxi Card Report Alastair Short informed the Forum that this item had been presented at last SEStran Board Meeting.</p> <p>8. 08/15 AOCB – Doorbell Alastair Short informed the Forum that the height of the doorbell had been passed on to the Landlord. Alex Macaulay informed the Forum that SEStran are leaving Claremont House in early 2016.</p> <p>No other matters were arising from the previous minutes.</p>	<p>Alastair Short</p> <p>Trond Haugen/ Alastair Short</p>
2	Thistle Card Update and Proposals	
	<p>Mr Short gave an update on Thistle Card distribution. He noted that the figures have dropped significantly. Mr Short highlighted that Elderly Care and Libraries are the most prominent take up groups.</p> <p>Mr Short reminded the Forum that at the last meeting a proposal had been put forward to introduce a phone app displaying the Thistle Card. Mr Short reported that enquiries have now begun and highlighted that that the cost would be in the region of £3,500 per platform. He explained that there are 3 platforms and they are Apple, Windows and Andriod. The total cost could be in the region of £10,000. He suggested that this cost could be shared with the other RTPs who have Thistle Card Scheme and would therefore reduce the costs. He reported to the Forum that he had received a call from SPT who are also taking up the Thistle Assistance Card Scheme. Potentially SPT could share the costs of the app also.</p>	

	<p>Mr Short highlighted that the app specification would replicate the existing card and have the ability to vary the type of disability and also the destination on the screen. At this stage this has not been formally decided. Mr Short highlighted that this is a basic app but it could be developed further.</p> <p>Alex Macaulay commented on the distribution level of the Thistle Cards and suggested that the Forum discuss this topic with their own groups to potentially identify any groups who have been overseen and feedback to SEStran.</p> <p>Ken Reid communicated to the Forum that there should be detailed specifications included in the app the main example he highlighted was Voice Over. He also mentioned that he was meeting a student from Napier University to discuss developing a travel app. Alex Macaulay requested that Ken Reid feedback the outcome of that meeting to Alastair Short.</p> <p>Mr Short reported to the Forum that SEStran had received an Achievement Award from SATA for the Thistle Card.</p>	Ken Reid
3	Traveline	
	<p>Mr Short explained that at present there was no further update to share with the Forum. Mr Short explained that Traveline are currently working on a hospital app. Mr Short explained what the app entailed and informed the group that it is up and running and working well for travel to/from the hospitals.</p>	
4	Presentation/discussion on proposed new stations at East Linton & Reston	
	<p>Mr Short introduced Claire Bhugowaanden and David Boyce from Network Rail.</p> <p>Claire then gave a detailed presentation - which is attached along with the Code of Practice - of Network Rail's proposed new stations at East Linton and Reston. Claire highlighted that Network Rail are still at the preliminary design process stage and this will not be completed until middle of 2016.</p> <p>The following points were highlighted by the Forum:</p> <p><u>Blue Badge Spaces</u></p> <p>Ken Reid enquired how many Blue Badge spaces will be available at each station. Claire confirmed to the Forum that 5% of the spaces will be given to those with mobility issues.</p>	

	<p><u>Ramp Gradient</u> The ramp length was discussed and it was decided that the gradient should be 1 in 20.</p> <p><u>Signage</u> The Forum stated that clear signage is vital.</p> <p><u>Colour Scheme</u> Ken Reid pointed out the importance of contrast colours for visually impaired customers in particular handrails, seating in waiting areas and on platforms.</p> <p>Other points that were discussed by the Forum were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Underpasses - Access Roads - Additional Parking <p>Claire Bhugowaanden and David Boyce will take all this information back to Network Rail to help in their design process for the proposed new stations.</p> <p>John Ballantine enquired when the final decision would be made regarding the building of the stations. Alex Macaulay outlined the detailed process which needs to be undertaken and as yet there is no definite date.</p>	
5	AOCB	
	Mr Short enquired if there was any further business to discuss. There was none and the meeting was closed.	
6.	Date of Next Meeting	
	The date and location of next meeting are to be confirmed. As soon as these become available the Forum will be informed.	Nikki Boath