

## **Projects, Delivery Plan & EU Exit Update**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1** The report provides the Committee with an update on key aspects of projects and initiatives progressed in the last quarter and covers the latest position on the process for the UK leaving the EU. The report also includes an update on the RTS “Delivery Plan”. Projects expenditure to date is shown in **Appendix 1**.

### **2. REAL TIME PASSENGER INFORMATION**

- 2.1** 80% of the TV display equipment has now been distributed to both public and private premises throughout the region. Efforts are on-going to find locations for the remaining 57 screens.
- 2.2** RTPI enabled “Ticketer” ticket machines, funded jointly by SEStran and the Smart Ticketing Challenge Fund, are now installed in 5 more operators’ vehicles. SEStran’s system supplier, Ineo Systans, has now developed an interface with the “Ticketer” system and has successfully now brought in services operated by Prentice Coaches and Borders Buses into Bustracker SEStran. Work is now underway to bring in all of the other operators in the region, who are equipped with the Ticketer facility, into the system.

### **3. SESTRAN THISTLE ASSISTANCE CARD**

- 3.1** The Card and App have now been expanded into all of the areas covered by the Regional Transport Partnership (RTP) areas, following agreement of each of the partnerships to adopt, promote and contribute to the costs of the Thistle Assistance Card initiative.
- 3.2** To further promote both the Thistle Assistance Card and Tripshare SEStran, an advertising campaign, through the STV television channel started in mid-September. This has encouraged both an increase in number of enquiries for the card and an increased number of Tripshare journeys recorded on the system.

### **4. Sustainable and Active Travel Grant Scheme**

- 4.1** Work continues to progress the projects funded by the above. Because both EU projects ShareNorth and Regiomob are complimentary to the electric Bike project, a contribution from each; €40000 and €17000 (net €20,000 and €14,500), respectively is supporting the fund and enabling deliverables within both the EU projects to be realised.
- 4.2** A requirement of the Regiomob project is to select and trial a Best Practice promoted by another partner country. A Best Practice from the Italian partner, based in Rome, entitled PASTA (Physical Activity Through

Sustainable Transport Approach) has been selected for implementation in the SEStran region. PASTA “aims to show how promoting active mobility (i.e. walking and cycling) can lead to a healthier, more physically active population...” and provides a match to the electric bike project and a clear opportunity to progress the projects jointly, making the best use of available resources and sharing knowledge, which is what underpins the Regiomob project.

## **5. Regional Cycle Network Grant Scheme (RCNGS)**

- 5.1** The £100,000 funding provided by Sustrans Scotland has been allocated for this financial year. With awards going to East Lothian Council, Edinburgh bioQuarter group, and Musselburgh Area Partnership.

## **6. European Projects Update**

- 6.1** ‘**SocialCar**’ aims to integrate public transport information, car-pooling and crowd sourced data in order to provide a single source of information for the traveller to compare multiple options/services.
- 6.2** The latest SocialCar meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup>– 9<sup>th</sup> November. Sessions on innovation management, data governance and target groups were held. Members focused discussions around each of the app test phases. Test C to be conducted throughout November. Recruitment of Test users will be conducted in partnership with Queen Margaret University. Test users will be asked to test the app over a three-week period, and invited to return their feedback in December.
- 6.4** ‘**SHARE-North**’ addresses the concept of ‘Shared Mobility’ and looks at the development, implementation and promotion of Car Clubs, Bike Sharing and Car Sharing. The planned living labs will integrate modern technology with activities to support changes in mobility behaviour. The objectives are: resource efficiency, improving accessibility (incl. non-traditional target groups), increased efficiency in the use of transport infrastructure, reduction of space consumption for transport, improving quality of life and low carbon transport.
- 6.4.1** An element of the SHARE-North budget was earmarked for shared electric vehicles and their monitoring, in partnership with Edinburgh College. It is intended, therefore, to award a grant of £18,000 to the College as part of the project.
- 6.5** **REGIO-MOB** aims to promote “learning, sharing of knowledge and transferring best practices between the participating regional and local authorities to design and implement regional mobility plans (or Regional Transport Strategies) bearing in mind the stakeholders with regional relevance and contributing to the sustainable growth of Europe.”. The project attracts 85% funding from Europe.

**6.5.1** SEStran Officers attended a REGIO MOB partnership meeting in Brussels, in October. This coincided with the European Week of Regions and Cities. The next stage of the project will be implementing the PASTA project in the SEStran region. SEStran will begin this process by tendering for Active Travel Audits at key sites to set a baseline for the project.

**6.6** **SURFLOGH** aims to improve the role of logistics hubs in the network of urban logistics in the North Sea Region.

**6.6.1** The Kick-Off Meeting was held in Amsterdam in September with all partners of the SURFLOGH project. The lead partner is currently working to complete all project formalities including completion of the necessary Partnership Agreement. SEStran will be leading on a work package with Napier TRI creating business models for urban freight hubs. SEStran will also be trialling a last mile delivery solution in the region.

## **7 Opportunities for New European Projects**

### **7.1 Interreg, North West Europe**

**7.1.1** **SCRIPT** (Sustainable Carbon Reduction in Port Transport)

**7.1.2** SEStran was advised in October that the partnership bid for the above was unsuccessful.

## **8 Further Initiatives**

### **8.1 Borders Corridor Study**

**8.1.1** In the Scottish Government's Programme for Government a commitment was given to examine the case for improvements to the A1, A7 and A68, along with an extension of the Borders railway. Transport Scotland and its consultants are now considering a number of issues including accessibility in the Borders and links between its communities and the key markets of Edinburgh, Carlisle and Newcastle. The study will identify issues and opportunities on transport routes and identify where improvements can be made.

SEStran has been represented throughout the series of progress meetings, held to steer the strategy. At a meeting, held on 12 October, a range of emerging options along with a project Risk Register and Programme was discussed. The consultants have employed a GIS tool called "Storymap" to assist with the compilation and presentation of the significant amount of data gathered and this will be fed back to the stakeholders consulted initially on the study. The latest meeting, on 16 November, discussed the emerging draft study document, further stakeholder meetings (to feed back the draft findings), the programme, risk register and next steps towards completing the study.

## **8.2 East Coast Mainline Authorities Consortium (ECMA)**

- 8.2.1** SEStran, along with TACtran, Hitrans and NEStrans has re-joined the association for 2017/18 and will take part in ensuing discussions which will include views on the latest HS2 announcements and their implications for the east of Scotland.

SEStran's Chair, accompanied by the Head of Programmes attended the last meeting, held in York on 3 October. In summary, there was discussion on the group's leadership, an approach from the HS2 project on possible joint working, political lobbying (possible all-party group), focussing on East Coast Main Line (as distinct from the wider transport corridor) and agreement that ECMA remains a worthwhile forum and needs to push on.

## **8.3 Can Do Innovation Challenge Fund**

- 8.3.1** SEStran submitted two Expressions of Interest (further development of the Thistle card and reporting defects whilst on the daily commute) to the above, which is sponsored by Scottish Enterprise, but both were unsuccessful.

## **8.4 Hate Crime**

- 8.4.1** West Lothian, Clackmannanshire and Fife Councils have agreed to pilot the regional hate crime transport charter. A questionnaire will soon be sent to operators to gauge their current levels of training with regard to hate crime on their network and their willingness to participate in the charter.

## **8.5 yTravel**

- 8.5.1** SEStran awarded a grant of £60,000 to Young Scot in October 2017. SEStran is working with Young Scot to formally launch the yTravel project in January 2018.

## **8.6 X-Route: Star Paths**

- 8.6.1** The trial of the 'star paths', as funded through the Scottish Road Research Board, was installed in Knightsridge, West Lothian in early October and was officially launched in partnership with Young Scot in November.
- 8.6.2** The application to the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, to create an 800m stretch of glowing path as an extension of the trial, was unfortunately unsuccessful.

## **9 EU Exit**

- 9.1** The negotiation process continues with press coverage that rarely provides any factual detail. There appears to be a degree of posturing going on by

both sides. The Prime Minister recently proposed setting a date of exit on 29 March 2019, in association with EU (Withdrawal) Bill. However, at the time of writing, others have suggested that to set a firm date which would take effect regardless of having an appropriate deal in place is perhaps not tactically sound.

## **10 RTS Delivery Plan**

- 10.1** As reported previously, the Delivery Plan was refreshed and approved by the Scottish Ministers in 2015 and now covers the period 2015 to 2025. Albeit that future funding streams for SEStran continue to be highly unpredictable, as explained in the refresh, there are clear strategic priorities for transport that emerge from the RTS based on national policy, the Strategic Development Planning process and from Local Authorities, upon which SEStran should focus.

Based on these, the Delivery Plan seeks to provide a framework for SEStran's ongoing work programme, set out in the annual Business Plans.

- 10.2** In terms of project delivery, other than those discussed above, no additional funds have been made available to SEStran since the Delivery Plan was refreshed.
- 10.3** It is also now clear that, in respect of transport infrastructure investment, that the award of the Edinburgh & South East Scotland City region Deal will focus only on the grade separation of the Sheriffhall junction on the A720 city bypass and on west Edinburgh transport improvements.

## **11 Recommendations**

- 11.1** The Committee is invited to note the contents of the report:

Jim Grieve  
**Head of Programmes**  
16<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Policy Implications	None
Financial Implications	As described in the report
Equalities Implications	None
Climate Change Implications	None

## Appendix 1: Projects Expenditure to Date

### EXPENDITURE

	Description	Budget	Actuals @ 6/11/17
	R15 PARK & CHOOSE STH TAY BRIDGE	10,000	0
	R17 SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL AWARENESS	190,000	733
	URBAN CYCLE NETWORKS	120,000	19,883
	RTPI - REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	339,000	31,458
	RESEARCH - DEVELOPMENT	50,000	0
	EU SOCIAL CAR	47,000	31,214
	EQUALITIES FORUM ACTIONS	10,000	5,793
	SHARE - NORTH	40,000	19,774
	REGIO - MOB	33,000	37,453
	SURFLOUGH	0	1,565
		<b>839,000</b>	<b>147,872</b>

### INCOME

	R15 PARK & CHOOSE STH TAY BRIDGE	0	-10,000
	URBAN CYCLE NETWORKS	-100,000	-18,812
	RTPI - REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	-160,000	-139,018
	REVENUE PROJECTS GRANT	-494,000	-326,883
	EU SOCIAL CAR	-47,000	-58,815
	EQUALITIES FORUM ACTIONS	0	-3,600
	EU CHUMS	0	55
	SHARE - NORTH	-20,000	1,536
	REGIO - MOB	-28,000	-720
		<b>-849,000</b>	<b>-556,256</b>

### NET EXPENDITURE/ (INCOME)

**-10,000                      -408,383**