

SEStran Partnership Board

Item 4(a)

10.00am, Friday, 8 December 2017

Victoria Quay and City Chambers, Edinburgh

Present

Name

Organisation Title

Cllr Gordon Edgar (Chair)	Scottish Borders Council
Charlie Anderson	Non-Councillor Member
Cllr Chas Booth	CEC
Cllr Fiona Collie	Falkirk Council
Cllr Colin Davidson (Deputy Chair)	Fife Council
Cllr Karen Doran	CEC
Cllr Jim Fullarton	Scottish Borders Council
Cllr Chris Horne	West Lothian Council
Cllr Russell Imrie	Midlothian Council
Cllr Lesley Macinnes (Deputy Chair)	CEC
John Martin	Non-Councillor Member
Cllr Laura Murtagh	Falkirk Council
Neil Renilson	Non-Councillor Member
Sandy Scotland	Non-Councillor Member
Cllr Brian Small	East Lothian Council
Barry Turner	Non-Councillor Member

In Attendance

Craig Beattie	CEC
Angela Chambers	SEStran
Matt Davis	Sustrans
Elizabeth Forbes	SEStran
Peter Forsyth	East Lothian Council
Lisa Freeman	SEStran
Ken Gourlay	Fife Council
Jim Grieve	SEStran

Peter Jackson	SEStran
Gavin King	CEC (Secretary)
Catriona Macdonald	SEStran
Greg McDougall	CEC
Kerra McKinnie	Board Observer
Graeme Johnstone	Scottish Borders Council
Iain Shaw	CEC (Treasury)

Apologies for Absence

Cllr Dave Dempsey	Fife Council
Neil Dougall	Midlothian Council
George Eckton	SEStran
Cllr Phil Fairlie	Clackmannanshire Council
Cllr Ian Ferguson	Fife Council
Phil Flanders	Non-Councillor Member
Cllr David Key	CEC
Cllr Darren Lee	Clackmannanshire Council
Graeme Malcolm	West Lothian Council
Brian Sharkie	Non-Councillor Member
Cllr Peter Smail	Midlothian Council
Dr Doreen Steele	Non-Councillor Member

1. Adjournment

Decision

In the absence of a quorum the meeting of 8 December 2017 was adjourned until 19 January 2018.

2. Valedictory

Councillor Edgar paid tribute to Falkirk Provost, Tom Coleman, a previous member of the Partnership Board and Performance and Audit Committee who had recently passed away. A minute's silence was held.

3. Minutes

Decision

- 1) To agree the minute of the previous meeting of 22 September 2017 as a correct record.
- 2) To agree the minute of the Performance and Audit Committee of 24 November 2017 as a correct record.
- 3) To note the minute of the Chief Officers' Liaison Group of 9 November 2017.
(Reference – minutes, submitted.)

4. Active Travel in South East of Scotland

Following a suggestion by the Chair and Deputy Chairs that meetings of the Partnership should have a greater focus on debating and discussing strategic items, details were provided of possible actions for the Partnership in increasing the journeys made by active travel.

The Partnership discussed the following:

- Partnership working with organisations such as Young Scot were essential but cognisance should be taken of cost and whether there was always the money to match fund with other organisations.
- Planning played an important role in encouraging walking as design still favoured car travel. SEStran as a consultee would be able to have a strong voice as part of the 'place making' agenda in Planning.
- A major concern was the pressure on subsidised bus routes and SEStran could have a role in supporting Councils maintaining bus routes.

Decision

- 1) To highlight to Community Planning Partnerships that SEStran could help with any issues raised in Local Outcome Improvement Plans.
- 2) To not pursue a separate Active Travel Strategy but to comment and feed into other strategies where appropriate.
- 3) To support a further iteration of the Cross Boundary Study for the region.
- 4) To agree, subject to sufficient budget, that further investment to support the national Travel Planning online toolkit would be beneficial.
- 5) To explore lobbying the Minister for additional Active Travel funding but for supporting national campaigns rather than specific regional campaigns.

- 6) That the development of preventative actions in regard to encouraging outdoor activity through travel schemes for parents and children should remain a local issue for Councils and Integration Joint Boards.
- 7) To agree that how the Partnership could promote equality and safety of active travel should be explored further at the Equalities Forum.

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Horne declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Director of the Bike Station.

Sandy Scotland declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Director of Cycling Scotland.

5. Financial Planning 2018-19

Options were presented for the 2018/19 revenue budget including an option to reduce the constituent Council's requisition by 5%.

Decision

To request that options for reductions from the constituent Councils of 10% and 15% were explored and circulated to all members in advance of the next meeting and following the Performance and Audit Committee.

6. Finance Officer's Report

An update was provided on the financial performance of the core revenue budget of the Partnership for 2017/18. Details were also provided of the cash flow position of the Partnership in respect of its net lending to and borrowing from the City of Edinburgh Council.

Decision

- 1) To note that it was forecast that core expenditure in 2017/18 would underspend by £5000 against the revenue budget of the Partnership and that this underspend would meet project costs in 2017/18.
- 2) To note that all income and expenditure would continue to be monitored closely with updates reported to each Partnership meeting.
- 3) To note the month end balance of indebtedness between the Partnership and the City of Edinburgh Council and the reason for these balances as identified in paragraph 2.7 of the Treasurer's report.
- 4) To provide further information on the reasons why the Partnership Director authorised a budget transfer of £10,000 from the projects budget.

7. Treasury Management – Mid-term Review

Details were provided of the investment activity undertaken on behalf of the Partnership during the first half of the 2017/18 financial year.

Decision

To note the investment undertaken on behalf of the Partnership.

8. Policy Consultations

Four consultation reports had been submitted by the Partnership Director. These consultations were:

- A Healthier Future
- Low Emission Zones
- Local Bus Services and Smart Ticketing
- Financial Accounting Arrangements for Regional Transport Partnerships

Due to the adjournment of the last meeting, the consultation deadline had passed and the consultation responses had been submitted.

Decision

To note the responses had been submitted on all four consultations.

9. Policy and Project Report

An update was provided on key aspects of projects and initiatives progressed in the last quarter and the process for the UK leaving the EU.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To approve the SHARE-North related grant offer of £18,000 for the Edinburgh College Electric Vehicle Project.

10. Model 3 Consultation

An update was provided on the discussions undertaken by the Partnership Director since the 2016 December Board meeting on a model 3 Regional Transport Partnership.

Decision

- 1) To note that all 8 constituent Councils had been formally consulted on the proposal for SEStran to change to a 'Model 3' authority by means of an order under section 10 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005.

- 2) To agree to formally close the consultation opened in December 2016 and, in light of the responses received, not to progress any requests for consent from Scottish Ministers to support an order under section 10 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005.
- 3) To note the updates provided on the Tay Cities, Edinburgh Region and Stirling/Clackmannanshire City Deals.

11 Board Appointments

Under urgency provisions the Partnership Director had made a decision to replace Councillor Davidson, who had had to step down, from the Non-Councillor Member appointments panel with Dr Steele.

Decision

To note the Partnership Director's action under urgency provisions and that this report fulfilled the reporting arrangements under section 40 of Standing Orders.

12. Dates of Meeting 2018

The dates for future meetings of the Partnership Board, Performance and Audit Committee and Chief Officer Liaison Group meetings were outlined.

Decision

- 1) To approve the proposed programme of meetings for 2018.
- 2) To note the dates of the Forums will be confirmed at a later date.
- 3) To note the potential need to reschedule a Partnership Board meeting to accommodate the Minister's diary.