

1. Introduction

- 1.1** The report provides Members with an update on the status and developments with the Thistle Assistance program.

2. Thistle Assistance

- 2.1** SEStran has been working with Scottish Enterprise Can Do to develop an intermodal journey planner and Thistle Card App, which will make it easier for people to use the Card when using public transport. The tender competition for the development of the App is scheduled to go live mid-November 2018.
- 2.2** The challenge seeks to identify and understand in detail the barriers faced by commuters with protected characteristics when traveling and journey planning. Explore the extent to which these barriers affect travel plans and modal choices for traveling and to develop an App-based door to door journey planning solution that helps alleviate these barriers.
- 2.3** The first phase of the project will develop a proof of concept for a multi-user interface that adapts to various disabilities, for example; sight impairment, hearing impairment, mobility issues, and Dementia.
- 2.4** SEStran is looking for organisations to apply for the fund to develop concepts to help people use public transport more easily. £150,000 will be available to fund up to five projects with a per project allocation of £30,000. The challenge will run up to June 2019.
- 2.5** The first information event will be held on 26th November 2018 at COSLA offices in Edinburgh. Registration is via EVENTBRITE
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/thistle-assistance-journey-planner-innovation-challenge-tickets-51717540556>

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** It is recommended that the Members take note of the contents of the report.

Keith Fiskien
Business Partner
25th October 2018

Policy Implications	None
Financial Implications	None
Equalities Implications	None
Climate Change Implications	None