

Access for All Programme (Stations Fund)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to provide Members of the Forum with an overview of the Access for All Programme.
- 1.2** This funding programme is made available by the Department for Transport and is aimed at making stations more accessible, for people to visit friends, get to the shops or to work. Accessibility benefits everyone – people with health conditions or impairments, people with children, heavy luggage or shopping and some older people.
- 1.3** Examples of accessibility improvements include lifts that are automatic and give an audible tone when the doors open and close; staircases and platform edges that have tactile warning surfaces; new ramps and footbridges with lowered handrails; open entrances and new ticket gates; accessible waiting rooms and toilets.

2. Access for All Programme

- 2.1** Through our colleagues at Fife Council, SEStran was made aware of the Access for All Programme. The Programme aims to provide an obstacle free, accessible route to and between platforms.
- 2.2** As part of the Government's Inclusive Transport Strategy, announced 25 July 2018, further funding up to £300m has been secured to continue with the Access for All Programme in Control Period 6 (CP6). Scotland's share will be based on the number of total Schemes.
- 2.3** Transport Scotland is working with ScotRail and Network Rail to develop a nomination list for stations for the next CP6 and are required to submit proposals based on the agreed set criteria.
- 2.4** These criteria relate to footfall; incidence of disability in a particular area; local circumstances such as the proximity to hospitals, a school for disabled children or a military rehabilitation centre, for example, or stations with relatively high numbers of interchange passengers; the availability of third party funding; stations that would help fill 'gaps' in accessibility on the network.
- 2.5** SEStran officers are working with local council colleagues to determine potential stations that could be put forward based on local needs and the criteria set out.
- 2.6** Transport Scotland will ultimately nominate the railway stations for Scotland and submit these to the Department of Transport. Department for Transport (DfT) will subsequently decide what proportion of the funding goes to Scottish train stations that were nominated.

2.7 The deadline for nominations by Transport Scotland is 16th November 2018.

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

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