

Waverley Masterplan – Public Consultation

Response by SEStran, 25 April 2019

Link to consultation document:

https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/waverley/supporting_documents/NR%20Waverley%20Masterplan%20Web.pdf

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Submitted to **Waverley Masterplan, Public Consultation Phase**

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Introduction

1 What is your name?

- Name: Julie Vinders

2 What is your email address?

- Email: julie.vinders@sestran.gov.uk

3 If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, what is your organisation?

- Organisation: SEStran - South East of Scotland Transport Partnership

Your current experience of Waverley Station

4 Your arrival experience

- arrival experience - Waverley station is easy to access: Disagree
- arrival experience - The entrances/exits to the station are high quality and easy to identify: Strongly Disagree

5 Moving around the station

- moving around - It is easy to find where I need to go in Waverley station: Strongly Disagree
- moving around - The concourse areas that I use are generally free from congestion: Disagree
- moving around - It is easy to use the station as a shortcut from north to south (Princes St to Market Street): Neither Agree nor Disagree

- moving around - It is easy to use the station as a shortcut from east to west (Waverley Bridge to Calton Rd): Neither Agree nor Disagree

6 The quality of your Station experience

- Quality of station experience - The Station provides a high quality environment for passengers: Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Quality of station experience - The retail/food & beverage facilities at Waverley offer everything I need: Agree
- Quality of station experience - The heritage of Waverley Station is shown to its best advantage: Neither Agree nor Disagree

7 Your onward Journey

- Onward journey - Access for pedestrians and cyclists is simple and accessible: Strongly Disagree
- Onward journey - Access to onward public transport is simple and accessible: Strongly Disagree
- Onward journey - Access to taxis is simple and accessible: Neither Agree nor Disagree

What do you think of our proposals?

8 Your arrival experience

- arrival experience - Providing entrances that are accessible for all pedestrians: 8
- arrival experience - Improving the quality of public space immediately outside the station: 3

9 Moving around the station

- Moving around - Reducing overcrowding and congestion within the station: 8
- Moving around - Improving access for disabled passengers: 7
- Moving around - Making it easier for everyone to find their way around: 8
- Moving around - Reducing level changes that passengers are required to make: 8

10 The quality of your Station experience

- Quality of station experience - Making the station a more pleasant and enjoyable environment to be in.: 8
- Quality of station experience - Improving the passenger services that could be provided (e.g. seating areas, information services, food and retail outlets): 8

11 Your onward Journey

- Onward journey - Improving access for pedestrians and cyclists: 5
- Onward journey - Improving access to public transport: 3
- Onward journey - Improving taxi pick up and drop off: 5
- Onward journey - Improving drop off facilities for private vehicles: 10

Further comments

12 The preferred Masterplan requires a trade-off between the extent of existing historic structure that is retained and the benefits delivered by modern reconstruction. To what extent do you agree that the preferred masterplan strategy achieves the right balance?

Agree

13 Please include any other feedback you would like to include in the text box below.

Feedback:

The Waverley Station Masterplan proposes some significant improvements to the accessibility and passenger experience around the station itself. These changes will improve pedestrian access and way-finding around the station. Given the predicted increase in footfall over the next 30 years, however, a Waverley Station Masterplan should consider how the station will better function as a transport hub and interchange. Where do people travelling through Waverley Station come from, and where will they go next? How can Waverley Station be better connected with onward transport modes, including buses, tram(s), bicycles, by foot, car-sharing, taxis, etc. If Waverley Station is to accommodate over 49 mln passengers in 2048, the Masterplan must address current and future issues of connectivity and integrate rail travel with other sustainable transport modes. While it is important to promote mixed use and create a vibrant place at Waverley Station, creating a successful transport interchange should be the focus of the Masterplan. Such an interchange should not be hidden away and should be provided in such a way that its usage is actively encouraged. Furthermore, access onto Princes Street for onward bus and tram connections has an extremely important role to play if Waverley Station is to successfully function as a transport hub/interchange. It is unclear from the current Masterplan how this is proposed to improve and cope with the predicted increase in footfall.

Maximising the potential access/egress from this entrance is key to spreading the demand across a number of entrances and is important in creating the north/south Connectivity & Accessibility identified as a key challenge in the consultation document.