GO SEStran
South East of Scotland Transport Partnership

EQUALITIES & ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FORUM

WEDNESDAY 3rd APRIL 2019

CONFERENCE ROOM 4/5, VICTORIA QUAY

Present

Keith Fisken (KF) (Chair)	SEStran
John Ballantine(JB)	Edinburgh Access Panel
Beth Harley-Jepson (BHJ)	SEStran
Julie Vinders (JV)	SEStran
Jim Stewart (JS)	SEStran
John Moore (JM)	LCTS
Simon Hindshaw (SH)	NCM
Andy Hyde (AH)	Go Upstream

Apologies

Lesley Crozier	East Lothian Council
Caroline Barr	
Terry Barlow	

Ref		Actions
1	**Welcome & Apologies**	
	KF welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2	**Minutes of 27th June and actions arising**	
	The minutes of last meeting were approved.	
3	**Draft Business Plan 2019/20**	
	JV presented an overview of the Draft Business Plan 2019/20. Particular focus was given to the strategic objective of Accessibility. JM asked if SEStran had checked the suitability of the wheelchair icon with Disability Equality Scotland (DES). JM also highlighted the use of language on p16 regarding 'those with disabilities' and suggested checking this with DES to ensure appropriate language was used. JM raised a question about the meaning of 'reduce the need for travel' under the Environment strategic objective. JB explained this was related to the increased use of technology to reduce the need for face to face meeting. However, JB noted that this theory was not being played out as for instance passenger numbers at Waverley were increasing. JB also highlighted the continuing need for face to face interaction particularly in decision making. JM noted that in the context of accessibility some individuals will want to increase the ability to travel. AH suggested this was an issue of language and the use of efficient or effective travel might be better. JV noted these suggestions. JS stated that it will be made clear in the Strategy the intention of that statement and what we want to achieve from it.	**JV**

4	**Equalities Outcomes and Mainstreaming Progress Report**	
	KF presented the report on behalf of Angela Chambers. KF provided an overview of the key statutory obligations and responsibilities upon SEStran and the relevant timescales in relation to equalities outcomes and mainstreaming. SEStran Officers are consulting with the Partnership's Legal Advisers at Anderson Strathern LLP throughout this process. KF noted SEStran last published a report in April 2017 - Mainstreaming Equality 2015-2017 and is due to publish a report for the period 2017-2019 by no later than 30 April 2019. Officer training is taking place through Anderson Strathearn. The SEStran Board will also be receiving unconscious bias training at the 21st June or 27th September Board meeting.	
5	**Thistle Assistance Programme**	
	KF provided a brief update on the TAC as further details would be provided at the two workshops immediately preceding the forum. KF reported that SEStran are working with Scottish Enterprise to develop the thistle assistance app, which will include journey planning and way finding etc, for those with protected characteristics, such as sight and hearing difficulties. SEStran launched a tender for developers to start the first phase of creating the app and proof of concept. Five developers have been selected through this tender process. The five developers will work up concepts for the app from which 1-2 concepts will be taken through to Phase 2. JM asked if the next phase would be to move to a national card. KF stated that this was the ambition and has the support of the Scottish Government and the 7 Regional Transport Partnerships. KF stated that they are also keen to work flexibly with the card to meet the needs of different areas.	
6	**Bus Real-Time Passenger Information**	
	KF reported that the system is currently going through some changes and is facing challenges out with Edinburgh. Stagecoach and First are progressing with an alternative system. KF highlighted that the City of Edinburgh Council are currently working on a new content management system to bring all RTPI together. JB stated the importance of making the information accessible to meet the different needs of users. KF noted that there is currently a government consultation on how journey information is displayed to the public.	
7	**Partner Updates**	
	JB raised a point of interest that SATA has recently become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation and noted the considerable work put in by Mike Harrison to make this happen.	
8	**AOCB**	
	None	
9	**Date of Next Meeting**	
	10:00am on 2nd October 2019, Conf. Room 2, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ	