

EQUALITIES AND ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FORUM
2:00PM WEDNESDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2019

Present:

Jim Grieve (JG)(Chair)

Hannah Markley (HM)
Jim Stewart (JS)
Julie Vinders (JV)
Keith Fisker (KF)
William Dove (WD)
John Ballantine (JB)
Simon Law (SL)
Mark Craske (MC)
Thurston J Hodge (TJH)
Ken Reid (KR)

SEStran

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SEStran
NHS Fife
Edinburgh Access Panel
NHS Lothian
NHS Forth Valley
Borders Community Transport Service
East Lothian Access Panel

Apologies:

Margaret Simpson
Dean Fisher
Sumati Bala
Laura Jones
Mike Harrison
Lesley Crozier
Alex Bray
Rosy Burgess
Doreen Steele
Simon Hindshaw
Katherine Soane
Terry Barlow

SBSEC
SBSEC
SBSEC
Rnib
Middapp
Midlothian Council
Cross Country Trains
SYP
NCM
NCM
Transport for Edinburgh
SATA

Ref.		Actions
1.	Welcome and Apologies for Absence	
	JG welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.	
2.	Minutes from 2nd April 2019 and Actions Arising	
	The minutes of the last meeting were approved.	

3.	Draft Annual Report 2018/19	
	<p>KF noted that he presented the report to the previous Partnership Board meeting and members approved the report. KF then briefly discussed the report and highlighted some key topics;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KF reported that the RTPI system is currently going through some changes and is facing challenges out with Edinburgh. KF highlighted that the City of Edinburgh Council are currently working on a new content management system to bring all RTPI together. • KR asked if there is a solution for people who cannot see RTPI. KF explained that the feed can be collected through the content management system by a voice delivery, the Thistle Assistance programme is also looking at voice delivery and will get back to the group in due course. 	KF
4.	National Transport Strategy	
	<p>JS gave some background about the National Transport Strategy (NTS). The vision is underpinned by four priorities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes equality • Takes climate action • Helps our economy prosper • Improves our health and wellbeing <p>JS mentioned that the consultation is active and there is still an opportunity to comment. JS also made members aware that SEStran have a Regional Transport Working Group (RTWG) that consist of non-councillor and councillor members for transport and economic development.</p> <p>There was a question raised as to why Hate Crime isn't mentioned in the NTS. JV noted that there is an equality section in the NTS and the Hate Crime Charter came from the accessible travel framework. However, may be a good idea to include in the NTS since it's a big transport problem.</p> <p>A question was raised whether there will be an expansion in cycling infrastructure? KF noted that in June 2019, the Forth e-bike hub was launched at Helix Park, Falkirk Wheel and Forth Valley Royal Hospital in collaboration with Forth Environment Link, NHS Forth Valley, Transport Scotland, Clackmannanshire, Stirling and Falkirk Councils. The first four GO e-Bike hubs were launched in St Andrews, Buckhaven, West Lothian and Falkirk and SEStran has secured funding from the Low Carbon Travel and Transport (LCTT) Fund to expand the GO e-Bike scheme through 6 further hubs.</p> <p>JS highlighted that the Scottish Government increased the active travel</p>	

	budget and it would be a good idea to integrate the budget into schemes that are already connected.	
5.	Thistle Assistance Programme	
	<p>KF reported that SEStran are working with Scottish Enterprise to develop the thistle assistance app, which will include journey planning etc, for those with protected characteristics, such as sight and hearing difficulties.</p> <p>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. The findings will be published and circulated. Members will also be invited to The Phase 1 Presentations.</p> <p>KF mentioned, 50 000 cards have been distributed around Scotland. There have also been some various focus groups to develop the branding to become more visible and to develop the new website. SEStran are also developing a television campaign with other RTPs.</p> <p>KF then asked members for some feedback about the 3 different Thistle Card options. KR noted that the icons are helpful to give drivers simple and straight forward information. MC asked KF whether he could go back to the health board to ask for their input. KF will email the content to MC.</p>	<p>KF</p> <p>KF</p>
6.	Regional Transport Strategy	
	<p>Latest developments:</p> <p><i>Main Issues Report – In progress</i></p> <p>A paper was presented and agreed by the SEStran Partnership Board in June outlining the proposed project delivery and governance structure and proposing a timeline for the initial phases of the project.</p> <p>SEStran will now begin the process of preparing a “Main Issues” report, as a prelude to a complete review of the RTS. SEStran will employ external experts to prepare the Main Issues Report.</p> <p>A scoping exercise is nearing completion to identify the extent of work needed to deliver the new RTS and the tender documents are being prepared.</p>	
7.	General Discussion – Topics for future forum meetings	
	<p>Suggestions for future forum meetings included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety of bus stops- RTPI, number of bus stops available • Cuts to buses, not accessible 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus priority at St Johns – what is the best way to coordinate buses through the new surgery expansions • Status of the national entitlement card • Bus quarterly meeting in November 2019 update • Thistle Card – Phase 1 presentations update. 	
8.	AOCB	
	<p>KR highlighted the new accessibility legislation guidelines to members. KF noted that he is liaising with a developer to look at the options about the new design, the new content must go by the guidelines. However existing websites are covered for one year.</p> <p>MC asked if KF could email more information about the new accessibility legislation guidelines so he can advise his COMMS team.</p>	KF
9.	Date of Next Meeting	
	The date of the next meeting is (time & date tbc) 2020 in Room (tbc), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.	