



EQUALITIES AND ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FORUM  
10:00am Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**Present:**

**Doreen Steele (Chair) (DS)**

Cheryl Fergie (Minute Taker) (CF)

Jim Grieve (JG)

Jim Stewart (JS)

Andrew Ferguson (AF)

Anna Herriman (AH)

John Ballantine (JB)

Diana Budziosz (DiB)

Mark Craske (MC)

Ken Reid (KR)

Cllr Cameron Rose (CR)

Richard Dunbar (RD)

Fergus Millan (FM)

Ally Nelson (AN)

Maureen Olliffe (MO)

Cllr Colin Davidson (CD)

Cllr Laura Murtagh (LM)

Iain Sneddon (IS)

**Non-Councillor Member**

SEStran

SEStran

SEStran

SEStran

SEStran

Edinburgh Access Panel

East Lothian Council

NHS Forth Valley

East Lothian Access Panel

City of Edinburgh Council & SEStran

Board member

Midlothian Council

The Scottish Government

Transport Scotland

Transport Scotland

Fife Council & SEStran Vice Chair

Falkirk Council & SEStran

Board member

NHS Lothian

**Apologies:**

Karen Armstrong

Cllr Gordon Edgar

Jane Hopton

Cllr Peter Smaill

Emma Scott

Catriona Burness

Susan Keenlyside

Mike Harrison

Allan Lindsay

Frank Henderson

Terry Barlow

The Scottish Government

Scottish Borders Council

NHS

Midlothian Council

Disability Equality Scotland

RNIB Scotland

Fife Council


Midlothian Disability Access Panel

Young Scot

Edinburgh Council

SATA

Ref.		Actions
1.	<b>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	
	Doreen Steele welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were	

	noted as above.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES FROM 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 AND ACTIONS ARISING</b>	
	<p>The minutes of the last meeting were approved. It was noted that the below actions from the previous meeting for Keith Fisken will be picked up before the next Equalities and Access to Healthcare Forum.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Keith Fisken to discuss old RTPI systems with Mark Craske. Keith Fisken will contact John Ballantine and Ken Reid to discuss user testing of the VoyagAR App.</p> <p>Doreen Steele asked the group if they thought it would be a good idea to track the Actions from this forum. This was agreed. Doreen will liaise with Cheryl Fergie to discuss.</p>	<p><b>KF</b></p> <p><b>KF</b></p> <p><b>DS CF</b></p>
<b>3.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION FROM EACH MEMBER ON THEIR ORGANISATION AND ASPIRATIONS FROM THE FORUM</b>	
	<p>Each member of this forum gave an introduction, and the following interests and aspirations were noted as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of framework objectives.</li> <li>• Best provisions of transport.</li> <li>• Set objectives and use talent in the forum to achieve.</li> <li>• Focus on access and make connections.</li> <li>• Improving access to healthcare for disabled people.</li> <li>• Improve transport in underrepresented groups.</li> <li>• Integrate and input strategic approaches.</li> <li>• There is room for improvement to prioritise patient's transport.</li> <li>• Using public transport to access healthcare.</li> <li>• Conscious input from panel to find out if things can be bettered.</li> </ul>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE - PRESENTATION</b>	
	<p>The Terms of Reference for this forum have had a refresh, Andrew Ferguson ran through them with the members. There was a discussion about who else to include. Jim Grieve asked members to email Cheryl Fergie with any changes, additions, or subtractions.</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>PRESENTATION – ACCESSIBLE TRAVEL FRAMEWORK ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN</b>	
	<p>Maureen Olliffe presented the Accessible Travel Framework Annual Delivery Plan, see below for presentation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">   Engagement Plan -  SEStran - 31 March 20 </p>	

	<p>A discussion took place, and the following points are noted below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear Pathways, The Edinburgh billboard ban has been a success but could be rolled out nationally.</li> <li>• Taxi and Private Hire, there should be consideration of a national licencing solution applied to all taxis including private hire on the percentage of accessible vehicles. This should be weighed against the next 5/6-year plans for decarbonisation.</li> <li>• NEC+1 card, A regional solution might be applied through discussion with RTPs to make this boundary sensitive application of the free companion travel acceptance by LA's less of a burden on card users.</li> <li>• Thistle Assistance, A further marketing campaign nationally as well as further staff training to raise awareness should be considered.</li> </ul> <p>Jim Grieve said there should be more discussion with RTPs regarding the Thistle Assistance to make it less boundary sensitive.</p> <p>Doreen Steele suggested we bring this discussion to a future meeting. There will be further engagement with Ally Nelson and Maureen Olliffe to discuss further.</p> <p>Maureen Olliffe will email the presentation to Cheryl Fergie to circulate with members, she asked for members to email her directly regarding their top 3 priorities to be addressed in the next financial year.</p>	<p><b>JG</b></p> <p><b>DS/SEStran</b></p> <p><b>MO CF</b></p>
<b>6.</b>	<b>LOOKING AHEAD – EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH NHS ON FUTURE PLANS AFFECTING TRANSPORT</b>	
	<p>Doreen Steele stated it is important to have awareness of NHS plans that are going to be changed, in advance, to obtain strategic planning of services. This needs to be recognised as a real issue. We need appropriate representation from NHS for this forum.</p> <p>Iain Sneddon said that it is critical that linkages are made. NHS Lothian need to link in with RTPs and members of this group regarding movement of services, he will flag this up and take this action away. John Ballantine said NHS patient transport needs improvement.</p> <p>Fergus Millan is aware of transport related issues, there is a strategic advisory group being set up. Engaging with Boards to manage links and navigate services in areas must be conveyed. Practical examples are good, and this forum is very helpful to engage and improve understanding. It allows understanding of gaps to get higher up the agenda and impacts on people to mitigate challenging journeys.</p>	<p><b>IS</b></p>

	<p>Andrew Ferguson noted SEStran are involved in technological pilots in East Lothian using MaaS. The same technology has already been used in the Tactran area and the NHS trust there have been impressed with the results. SEStran would like to engage with the NHS regarding the pilot in East Lothian. Andrew will give an update at the next forum regarding how the pilots are coming along.</p> <p>Ken Reid raised the question, are concession cards allowed in the DRT trial in Humby and Tranent. Ally Nelson will take this as an action to concessionary travel colleagues and let us know.</p> <p>Laura Murtagh said an explanation is needed on entitlement for the clarification of subsidy for DRT journeys.</p>	<p><b>AF</b></p> <p><b>AN</b></p>
<b>7.</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
	There was no other business to report.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	
	29 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	