

Projects Performance Report

1 Introduction






- 1.1 This report and its appendix update the Board on performance within SEStran's various workstreams and projects over the last quarter, for noting, and outlines to the Board on proposed approach to streamlining project performance reporting, for agreement.
- 1.2 In addition, the report summarised the details around a contract to be issued to Bewegen, for provision and operation of hire e-Bikes, and outlines the next steps in relation to development of GO SEStran, the digital MaaS app pilot.

2 Performance Reporting

- 2.1 For funded projects, programmes and workstreams, progress against agreed outputs and/or Business Plan milestones is indicated in the attached report template. For each, a high level 'RAG' (Red-Amber-Green) status is used, with 'Blue' for completed projects. Once reported as complete, these projects are removed from future updates. Where required, a note explaining progress is provided.

RAG Status	Meaning:
BLUE	Complete
GREEN	Progressing to plan
AMBER	Some issues or delays encountered
RED	Severe issues or delays

- 2.2 The alignment of project work to SEStran's Strategic Objectives is indicated using the following symbols.

	Economy
	Accessibility
	Environment
	Safety and health
	Corporate

3 Bewegen Contract Extension for GO e-Bike

- 3.1 In June 2019, following an OJEU listed open and competitive tender process, SEStran agreed a contract with Bewegen for the provision and promotion of an on street public hire e-Bike system. The aim of the contracted GO e-Bike hire system is to improve access to active travel opportunities and provide an additional transport connection between town centres and station sites. The existing GO e-bike hire scheme is operated by Bewegen on Bewegen-built technology, e-bikes and lock/station assets; the technology includes geo-fencing of bikes, card payment / charging facilities and system maintenance and promotion. The GO e-bike hire scheme was originally due to commence in April 2020, but due to Covid related set-backs, became operational in early April 2021. The scheme has been operating consistently from three stations in Midlothian and East Lothian. A fourth station requires relocation – it was first removed for public realm works in Dalkeith, but a replacement site found wasn't suitable, and work is now ongoing to secure a long term location with good visibility.
- 3.2 Additional requests for GO e-Bike stations have been received from several Councils since the system began operating, with discussions to identify the most appropriate locations under way. Transport Scotland's Active Travel grant award to SEStran in 2022/23 included an amount of up to £186,000 for this purpose, and funds are committed within the 2022/23 budget for this purpose.
- 3.3 The extension to the GO e-Bike system needs to tie in with the existing GO e-Bike scheme and technology provided by Bewegen to avoid the risk of system incompatibility; this is important both from a technical (system operating) point of view, to avoid having a system with different technical characteristics which would result in technical difficulties in operation and maintenance, and also from an end user perspective, to avoid having any hire charge inconsistencies within the system. For these reasons, and in keeping with the provisions of Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, provision 72(1)(b), and Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016, provision 6(4)(b), and SEStran Contract Standing Orders 2.2.3, 2.2.4 and 5.5.2, the Partnership Director has agreed officers now pursue a contract with Bewegen and this reports the proposed contract to the Board.
- 3.4 Accordingly, a contract will be formed with Bewegen, based on SEStran's Standard Terms and Conditions of Contract, with a value not exceeding £186,000 to expand the existing GO e-Bike hire scheme, in line with details described above.

4 GO SEStran MaaS, DRT and technology development

- 4.1 Progress within the GO SEStran MaaS and DRT pilot and Tactran pilot is the subject of a separate report on this agenda. The report, at Item A6, notes that several funding bids have been prepared and submitted, seeking to extend the current GO SEStran pilot. The outcomes of these bids should be known in early 2023.
- 4.2 Additionally, within the 2022/23 SEStran budget, funds are earmarked for work to progress DRT solutions in the region. At the same time there is a need to integrate any new DRT and consolidate DRT and digital solutions being developed by partners

to streamline journey apps for people in the region. This work is planned to be procured and to commence this year (2022/23).

5 Project Performance Reporting arrangements

- 5.1 In the more recent past, it has become routine to present a Projects Performance Report to both the Performance and Audit (P&A) Committee and the Partnership Board; the former for information and the latter for both information and decisions.
- 5.2 Prompted by the desire to avoid repetition and to make the best use of Committee and members' time, the P&A Committee at its meeting on 23 November 2022 considered a recommendation from the Partnership Director to:-
- a) drop the Projects report for noting from the P&A agenda and instead focus on scrutinising SEStran's three year Business Plan. The current document is valid for 3 years from 2020/21 and it commits to an annual review of progress against objectives. This activity would be more in line with the Terms of Reference for the P&A committee, and
 - b) on the basis that the majority of recommendations within the Projects Reports are for noting, to place the Projects Progress Report in the "B" agenda in future Partnership Board meetings which would allow members to consider its content and ask questions at the meeting. Where particular issues arise that require the Board's attention or when a Board decision is required, an appropriate report will be included in the "A" agenda.
- 5.3 The P&A Committee agreed to support and endorse the Partnership Director's recommendations above, and to report this to the Board.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Board is asked to:
- a) note progress recorded in the past quarter, summarised in the attached Appendix 1,
 - b) note the awarding of a contract to Bewegen, of up to £186,000 as outlined in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.4,
 - c) agree that officers pursue work to extend DRT activities in the region, with available funds, as outlined in paragraph 4.2,
 - d) agree to the suggested change to Project Performance Reporting arrangements as outlined in paragraph 5.2 (b).

Anna Herriman
Senior Partnership Manager
December 2022

Appendices

Appendix 1

Projects Performance Report September 2022


Policy Implications	Outlined project work contributes to the objectives identified within SEStran Regional Transport Strategy.
Financial Implications	All project work is delivered from within confirmed budgets.
Equalities Implications	There are no adverse equalities implications arising from SEStran projects. A number of projects actively work to reduce inequalities.
Climate Change Implications	There are no negative climate change implications arising from SEStran projects. A number of projects actively work to tackle climate change through creation of, or support for more sustainable transport options.

SEStran Performance December 2022


Table of Contents

1. STRATEGY	6
1.1 Regional Transport Strategy	6
2. STRATEGIC ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECTS.....	6
2.1 GO e-Bike.....	6
2.2 Regional Cycle Network Grant Scheme	7
2.3 Regional Active Travel Development Fund – Transport Scotland.....	8
2.4 Cycle Training and Development – Cycling Scotland	9
3. STRATEGIC PUBLIC TRANSPORT PROJECTS.....	10
3.1 Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI)	10
3.2 Thistle Assistance Programme.....	11
3.3 Newburgh Train Station Study.....	12
3.4 Bus Service Improvement Partnerships.....	13
3.5 The GO SEStran project	13
4. FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS PROJECTS	15
4.1 Forth Freight Study.....	15
5. EUROPEAN-FUNDED PROJECTS	15
5.1 SHARE-North	15
5.2 SURFLOGH	16
5.3 BLING.....	17
5.4 PriMaaS	18
5.5 CONNECT.....	18
5.6 REGIO-Mob.....	19
6. SESTRAN FORUMS AND UPCOMING EVENTS.....	20
6.1 SEStran Forum Meetings	20

1. Strategy

1.1 Regional Transport Strategy	
Start date: November 2020	
Initial completion date: March 2022	
Expected completion date: September 2022	
Overall project progress:	On track
Brief description: A new Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) to cover the period up to 2035, to provide a regional framework for potential for managing future travel demand, behaviour and developing the region's transport system.	
New RTS aligns to the National Transport Strategy 2, National Planning Framework 4, Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2019, as well as spatial and economic strategies under development across the SEStran area. A new monitoring framework, the 'Programmed Investment Plan' will track transport investment and delivery of RTS priorities. SEStran's current RTS runs until 2025. As reported previously, in March 2022, the expected completion date was revised to allow further consideration of rural issues with Scottish Borders Council. The RTS remains on target.	
Milestones from last quarter	On track
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed draft RTS was submitted to Transport Scotland for review and presentation to Scottish Ministers.Tender evaluations completed for Programmed Investment Plan to track transport investment and delivery of RTS priorities	
Overall Stages Achieved	On track
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Main Issues Report published May 2020Development stages of SEStran RTS 2035 completed with input from partners March 2022Statutory assessments completed with input from partners March 2022Board approval of draft RTS September 2022	
Next Steps	On track
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Report Ministers' approval to Partnership Board (timescale unknown)Develop PIP	

2. Strategic Active Travel Projects

2.1 GO e-Bike	
Start date: April 2018	
Initial completion date: ongoing programme	
Expected completion date: ongoing programme subject to funding	
Overall project progress:	In progress

Project description: GO e-Bike is a regional bike-sharing programme that aims to increase the visibility of e-bikes and increase access to e-bike use. The first (completed) phase funded through SHARE-North provided shared e-bikes in four community hubs – two in Fife and one each in West Lothian and Falkirk. In the second phase Low Carbon Travel and Transport (LCTT) Fund and Transport Scotland (TS) funding for GO e-Bikes in to two further locations. In addition, a public e-bike hire scheme operated by Bewegen delivered 40 e-bikes across 4 station sites in East Lothian and Midlothian, was launched in April 2021. This phase remains ongoing beyond the LCTT funding period. In 2021, with funds from Transport Scotland, SEStran supported the development of the Cargo Bike Movement hub in Edinburgh, to promote cargo bikes as a fairer, healthier, and carbon-free vehicles for delivery of goods and for individuals and families. Go e-Bike added two e-cargo bikes to the project.

Project Development:

- **Last quarter** In progress

 - Ongoing discussion with Bewegen on expansion and contract extension.
 - Maintenance, operation, and marketing contract agreed with Bewegen for additional 12 months.
 - Site visits at Penicuik, Dalkeith and Roslin. Preferred sites identified.
 - Over the last full quarter (July-Sep 2022) there were 406 trips from station sites.
 - One e-bike on loan to Porty Community Energy as part of their cycle loan project.

- **Stages achieved** On track

 - All planned hubs operational (May 2021)
 - LCTT funding fully maximised with 6 new hubs.
 - The final report to LCTT and Transport Scotland completed.

- **Next steps** In progress

 - Groundworks for new wayfinding panels as required at Go e-bike stations.
 - Work with partners to promote scheme in East and Midlothian. Upgrade signage for existing Bewegen stations.
 - Identify sites for expansion of the Bewegen system. Work with Midlothian Council on relocation of Jarnac Court e-bike station.
 - Bewegen marketing plan being implemented to increase awareness of the scheme and engage with potential partners.

2.2 Regional Cycle Network Grant Scheme

Start date: April 2014

Initial completion date: ongoing programme

Expected completion date: ongoing programme subject to funding

Overall project progress:



In progress

Project description: Provided through a partnership between Sustrans Scotland and SEStran, the Regional Cycle Network Grant Scheme delivers an annually agreed set of improvements to the cross-boundary utility routes.

Project Development:

- **Edinburgh BioQuarter** *Delayed*
 - Following an internal City of Edinburgh Council review of potential transit routes across the city the BioQuarter project has restarted.
 - Sweco have been engaged to recommence final stages of design in light of the review addressing some specific junctions and signalling requirements.
 - This project is now projected for completion this year.

2.3 Regional Active Travel Development Fund – Transport Scotland



Start date: Financial year 2022/23

Initial completion date: March 2023

Expected completion date: March 2023

Overall project progress:

In Progress

Project description: The Regional Active Travel Development Fund was established between Transport Scotland and the Regional Transport Partnerships in 2018/19 and allows for an annual award for delivery of agreed project work. SEStran’s proposal for projects in 2022/23 to Transport Scotland has been awarded up to £597,000 for this fifth year of funding. A number of projects from 2020/21 carried forward with agreement of Transport Scotland, are now completed as reported below.

Funding for 2023/24: The application for funding for next year has been brought forward to align with other Active Travel Delivery Partners, with draft proposals submitted to Transport Scotland at the end of October. Officers are awaiting feedback, with a final submission due for completion on 16th December 2022.

Draft proposals include the continued development of the Strategic Network, with further work to be undertaken on existing routes and the initial stages of development for new routes in some additional areas. Additionally, a further request for expansion to the GO e-Bike bike share system has been made to the level of previous years.

Once feedback is received and an understanding of Transport Scotland’s view of the current submission is known, a further update will be provided to the Partnership Board.

Project Development:

- **Project 1: Attitudinal Survey** *Complete*

- **Next steps:**
- A final publication will be compiled by officers for publication taking insights from the two years of results.

- **Project 3: SEStran Strategic Network**

In progress

- **Last quarter:**

- **ARUP** have undertaken a series of stakeholder catch-ups with partner authorities to establish any localised progress within the project areas since that last phase.
- A sub-contract has been agreed with Malcolm Hughes Land Surveyors to undertake utilities investigations along the current study routes with work commencing 21st November 2022.
- The procurement exercise for a Transport Monitoring solution for the study routes has ended with Tender Returns to be assessed and awarded w/e 25th November 2022.
- All work is on track for completion in early March.

- **Stages achieved:**

- Sub-contractor now onboard for survey work.
- All partner authorities up to date on project progress.

- **Next steps:**

- Final award for Transport Monitoring solution and discussions with local partners on final placement along study routes.

- **Project 4: GO e-Bike**

In progress

- **Last quarter:**

- £186,000 funding was secured for further development of GO e-bike as described in section 2.1.

2.4 Cycle Training and Development – Cycling Scotland



Start date: core workstream

Initial completion date: ongoing

Expected completion date: ongoing

Overall progress:

In Progress

Project description: This workstream is made possible through a partnership arrangement with Cycling Scotland and supports the delivery of Bikeability Scotland National Standard cycle training delivered by local authority Bikeability coordinators. It promotes, encourages, and develops cycle training opportunities across SEStran projects.

Project Development:

- **Bikeability Scotland**

In progress

- **Last quarter:**
- Delivery of Bikeability Scotland across the region was largely at or exceeding pre-pandemic levels over the 2021/22 school year with a record number of pupils taking part in the programme across Scotland. Support Plus Funding for 2022-23 mostly awarded.
- Continue to work with Falkirk Council to increase delivery rates through third party support.
- Bikeability Scotland awards announcement. Annual Achievement award was received by Bikeability Scotland Coordinator in East Lothian. Instructor of year awarded to staff member at Livingston Village Primary School in West Lothian.
- Bikeability Scotland Mentor training course run in October. This course will support an increase in capacity to deliver training in the region.
- Inclusive Bikeability delivery session for Edinburgh school staff and Thistle staff and volunteers in September.
- **Next steps:**
- Mid-year review meetings to be scheduled with the eight Local Authority Bikeability Scotland Coordinators.
- Support will continue with particular focus on areas currently struggling to meet targets, to increase awareness of the programme and availability of trained school staff or third-party delivery.

▪ **GO e-Bike cycle training**

In progress

- **Last quarter:** Training is offered to all hubs as they are completed and as part of ongoing development plans.
- **Next steps:**
- Explore options for tying in training offers with Go e-bike hire schemes including ‘demo days’ in East Lothian and Midlothian.
- Looking at options for using the e-bikes for fleet driver training in East Lothian.

▪ **Adult and Family Cycle Training**

In progress

- **Last quarter:** Grant funding awarded to cycle training providers and organisations who would like to start running cycle training activities and increase capacity.
- Cargo bike training is being supported in partnership with Sustrans Scotland and other organisations.
- Essential Cycling Skills training supported in Midlothian in September/October
- **Next steps:**
- Continue to identify opportunities to improve access to cycle training through engagement with partners.

3. Strategic Public Transport Projects

3.1 Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI)



Start date: 2010

Initial completion date: ongoing workstream

Expected completion date: ongoing workstream

Overall progress:

In Progress

Project description: SEStran began implementing a region wide network of RTPI screens, providing bus timetable information to make bus travel more predictable and reliable in 2010. SEStran has worked with partners to build up a comprehensive network of over 200 maintained screens in travel hubs such as railway stations, park and choose / ride sites, hospitals, colleges, universities, shopping centres and large employer hubs. More recently SEStran has worked with the City of Edinburgh Council to develop a new, Regional RTPI System that will improve the information provided in the public facing regional screen network incorporating Lothian Buses information.

Project Development:

- In progress*

▪ **Last quarter:**

 - PC replacement for the old system has 90% of the PCs delivered now 'live'.
 - New installations of standalone screens purchased via the framework continue to be utilised by Local Authorities.
 - Training on new content management system completed with local authority representatives.
 - Integration of McGill's operations from First Bus East after takeover complete.
 - Bay Travel in Fife have successfully tested real time for some of their services with tracking appearing in the system.
 - Weekly meetings held with Local Authority partners and projects team.
- Complete*

▪ **Stages achieved:**

 - System testing was completed, and the system accepted in November 2021.
 - The system is live with bus operator data being integrated into the live system.
 - The purchasing framework is being utilised by SEStran and Local Authorities to provide additional Real Time infrastructure for the region.
- In progress*

▪ **Next steps:**

 - Roll out of new PCs will continue, 175 have been distributed to date from the total of 200.
 - The new regional real time system is being updated with real time data from bus operators. Data integration has significantly improved.
 - Moffat & Williamson to be integrated.
 - Instillation of new signs purchased via framework to continue.
- In progress*

▪ **NOVUS FX**

 - The NOVUS FX platform training will be conducted with local authority reps in December.

3.2 Thistle Assistance Programme



Start date: 2005

Initial completion date: ongoing workstream

Expected completion date: ongoing workstream

Overall project progress: *In Progress*

Project description: SEStran has developed the (national) Thistle Assistance Scheme to make using public transport easier for older people and those with disabilities, illness or mobility issues. SEStran is leading on the development of a new journey planning aspect of the scheme.

Project Development:

- **Last quarter:** In progress
 - Thistle Assistance was promoted in key publications, Enable, Inspire and Possibility magazine with editorial highlighting the new journey planning project.
 - Transport Operators guide highlighted to operators via CPT network and a test being run with McGill's internal staff system.
- **Stages achieved:** Complete
 - Journey planning project prototype ready for testing.
 - Rebranding of Thistle Assistance including development of promotional material.
 - Development of standalone website – www.thistleassistance.com
 - Development of transport operator guide.
- **Next steps:** In progress
 - Stage one initial testing of journey planning prototype has commenced.
 - Options for further development/use - SEStran will be discussing with key stakeholders Transport Scotland and Traveline Scotland.
 - Develop an awareness survey to gauge engagement and usage.
 - Discussion with local authority in England about use.
 - Discussions with Lothian Community Transport about use and promotion.

3.3 Newburgh Train Station Study



Start date: December 2019

Initial completion date: March 2020

Expected completion date: March 2022

Overall project progress: Complete

Project description: SEStran procured Systra to carry out a transport options study for Newburgh, on behalf of SEStran. The study is funded by the [Local Rail Development Fund](#) that was introduced by the Scottish Government in February 2018, with the aim of providing funding to develop community led options to improve local rail connections.

Project Development:

- **Last quarter:** Complete
 - Highlighted at Fife Rail forum.
 - The final report can be viewed using this [LINK](#).
- **Stages achieved:** Complete
 - Case for Change, Initial Options Appraisal and Detailed Options Appraisal.
- **Next steps:** Delayed
 - Awaiting feedback from Transport Scotland.



3.4 Bus Service Improvement Partnerships

Start date: May 2020

Initial completion date: ongoing area of work

Expected completion date: March 2026

Overall project progress:

In progress

Project description: The Bus Partnership Fund (BPF) is a £500m Transport Scotland capital fund for the delivery of infrastructure to tackle the impacts of congestion on bus priority and reliability. Bids can be made by partnerships working towards a Bus Service Improvement Partnership (BSIP) status. BSIPs must be collaborative, involving bus operators that provide services in a local authority or BSIP area, and other relevant partners. SEStran has supported five bus alliance groupings to become established and supported the development of bids in the region, namely Forth Valley, Fife, Midlothian, West Lothian and Edinburgh. Funding contributions have been made to bid development costs in four partnerships. Across the region, all bids submitted have now received funding to progress some or all of their proposals. SEStran is now also contributing by providing project management services to Midlothian and Forth Valley Bus Alliance bids.

Project Development:

▪ **Last Quarter:**

In Progress

SEStran remains involved in and supportive of all the Alliances as they work through the STAG appraisal process, supported by consultants. Current activities include development of the Case for Change for each alliance, and consultation on the proposals as they develop.

• **Stages achieved:**

Complete

- Work is continuing around STAG appraisal, consultation, and development and refinement of governance structures. Full Scottish Government Guidance and regulations on the emergent Bus Service Improvement Partnerships (BSIPs) is awaited.

• **Next steps:**

In Progress

- SEStran will continue to work with all Partnerships on proposed governance structures, plans, and schemes, pending the emerging Guidance and regulations from Scottish Government.
- Engage with Transport Scotland on issues relevant to the emerging BSIPs in the region, including governance arrangements and efficient application of STAG Appraisals.
- Continue to convene regular region-wide meetings of Alliance project managers, including Tayside Bus Alliance, to discuss matters of common interest, ensuring a consistent approach to the development of bids and sharing best practice.
- Continue to provide project management services (funded from the Bus Partnership Fund awards for Midlothian and Forth Valley Bus Alliances).

3.5 The GO SEStran project



Start date: March 2022

Planned completion date: March 2023

Expected completion date: as above.

Overall project progress:

In progress

Project description: SEStran has worked with a wide range of stakeholders across the South East of Scotland to develop the GO SEStran project, an innovative MaaS and DRT project proposal that was submitted to the Transport Scotland's MaaS Investment Fund Round 2 (MIF2). The GO SEStran project was awarded £212,440 for the development of MaaS, which integrates DRT pilots in the SEStran region over the course of a one-year period, which is due for completion in March 2023.

GoSEStran is an app that can be consistently updated to integrate various localised modes, for example private bus operators in the area. The app will show you real time information for bus timetables and you can also filter the results to your preference, such as the cheapest option or the lowest emission. SEStran is delivering the project in partnership with three project partners; Fuse Mobility as MaaS providers, East Lothian Council and Tactran.

Project development:

▪ **Last Quarter:**

In progress

- The Go SEStran app was launched in early August and can be downloaded from [Google Play](#) and [Apple app](#) stores.
- Significant progress has been achieved, which will be discussed in more detail in the separate report on the agenda.
- Full marketing activity in November has produced an encouraging uptick in downloads of the app. Marketing is key to the success of apps of this nature.

▪ **Stages achieved:**

In progress


- A number of integrations have been completed by Fuse, including local transport modes such as community transport, Bewegen e-bikes and Enterprise Car Club in East Lothian. Remaining integrations consist of Co-wheels, a car club provider, and the DRT operation.
- A tendering process has been completed for the proposed digital demand responsive transport (DDRT) pilot in East Lothian, and an award made.

• **Next steps:**

In Progress

- SEStran continues to work with Transport Scotland to report on progress on a monthly basis.
- SEStran is working with all partners to maximise the marketing of the app, which has so far received very encouraging feedback.
- Fuse are continuing with the work needed to integrate the remaining travel modes to the app, comprising a car club provider and the DDRT service mentioned above.
- SEStran is working with East Lothian Council, Prentice of Haddington and the DRT tech provider with a view to enabling the launch of the DRT pilot early next year.
- SEStran and Tactran are collaborating on a number of fronts to ensure funding of the app will continue past March next year.

4. Freight and Logistics Projects



4.1 Forth Freight Study
Start date: May 2020
Initial completion date: December 2021
Expected completion date: June 2022 (end date revised by funder, Transport Scotland)

Overall project progress: In progress


Project description: [This study, delivered by SEStran](#) in partnership with Forth Ports, explores the potential in the region, particularly around the Forth, for developing sustainable, multimodal freight gateways. It aims to identify key locations for potential freight consolidation centres that would maximise the sustainable movement of freight at national, regional, and local levels. The study is being carried out for SEStran by appointed consultants Aecom. The study is funded by the [Local Rail Development Fund](#) that was introduced by the Scottish Government in February 2018.

Project Development:

- **Last Quarter:** In progress
 - Initial Options Appraisal work is complete.
 - Submitted to Transport Scotland in August 2022 for comment.
 - Met with City of Edinburgh to discuss linkages with city mobility plan.
 - Updated SEStran Freight & Logistics forum in November 2022.
- **Stages achieved:** On track
 - Case for Change approved December 2021.
 - Draft Initial Options appraisal.
- **Next steps:** Delayed
 - Begin work on Detailed Options Appraisal subject to Transport Scotland approval.

5. European-funded Projects

5.1 SHARE-North
Interreg North Sea Region, ERDF



Start date: January 2016
Initial completion date: December 2019
Expected completion date: June 2022 (following successful extension application and 6-month Covid-19 extension)

Overall project progress: Complete

Project description: SHARE-North focuses on shared mobility and its potential to address sustainable transport challenges in the North Sea region. This includes developing, implementing, promoting and assessing car, bike and ride sharing and other forms of shared mobility in urban and rural areas and employment clusters. One example is the establishment of Mobility Hubs. A Mobility Hub seeks to raise the profile of shared mobility (car club, bike-sharing, carsharing), by integrating these modes of transport with existing public transport provision. Following the completion of the Mobility Hub Strategic Study in 2020 SEStran has been working with partners to identify potential opportunities to plan for Mobility Hubs.

Project Development:

- **Last Quarter:** Complete
 - SEStran hosted the final project meeting of the SHARE-North project in at the end of June 2022. The meeting reviewed partner highlights from the project across the partner countries.
 - The final claim for EU grant funding has been prepared at submitted. The additional geo-fenced Bewegen e-bike hubs is complete and will be monitored.
- **Stages achieved:** Complete
 - Project completion and hosting of the final project event
- **Next steps:** Complete
 - The Share North project officially ended 30 June 2022. However, shared mobility policies are included in the draft Regional Transport Strategy which is due to be considered for approval by the Board in September 2022. How shared mobility is integrated and expanded into the transport network is a key focus of future work.

5.2 SURFLOGH

Interreg North Sea Region, ERDF

Start date: June 2017

Initial completion date: October 2020

Expected completion date: June 2023

Overall project progress:



In progress

Project description: SURFLOGH aims to enhance the role of sustainable logistics in urban logistics networks in the North Sea Region. SURFLOGH has created a trans-national network of ‘city hubs’ promoting innovation in city logistics. These hubs bring together different partners to exchange knowledge and work on innovative pilot projects and business models that can work in real world urban logistics systems. SEStran’s Edinburgh pilot operating near Haymarket has now been running successfully since 2018. The next stage of SURFLOGH will look at combining the first phase outputs based on the project pilots and research. The development site at [Perth West](#) will be used as a location for this work, stage one for Perth West includes a mobility hub unlocking an active travel programme, alongside mobility as a service options and a last mile delivery centre, all connected to a smart energy network. This will be Scotland’s 1st green, city ‘living lab’.

Project Development:

- **Last Quarter:** In progress

- Interviews with key business stakeholders in Perth took place in October.
- Presented work to the SEStran Freight & Logistics forum in Nov 2022
- Commissioned an infomercial to be developed to highlight the Edinburgh Zedify hub and the benefits of a sustainable approach to city logistics.
- Met with City of Edinburgh to discuss linkages with city mobility plan.
- Presented paper on drones at Transport Scotland STAR conference.
- **Stages achieved:** On track
 - Development of Edinburgh Pilot – ZEDIFY cycle logistics hub.
 - Business model framework developed following extensive research with Edinburgh Napier University <https://tinyurl.com/emxdd4ep>.
 - City hub case studies for each of the pilots developed
- **Next steps:** In progress
 - Develop and test framework for Perth West.
 - Ongoing engagement with partners in Tactran and Perth West development consultant.
 - Present update on the work at POLIS conference in Brussels in November.

5.3 BLING

Interreg North Sea Region, ERDF

Start date: January 2019

Initial completion date: June 2022

Expected completion date: June 2023



Overall project progress:

In progress

Project description: Blockchain is a key enabling technology that will underpin efforts to deliver innovative services under the Digital Agenda for Europe. The Blockchain IN Government (BLING) project focuses on providing one of the first dedicated platforms to bring these tools and approaches into local and regional services. SEStran’s role is to develop a pilot with the University of Edinburgh, which will showcase innovative use of the technology in a transport environment.

Project Development:

- **Last Quarter:** In progress
 - SEStran hosted a Partnership meeting at the beginning of October in Edinburgh with a workshop led by consultants [Optimat Ltd](#) “Exploring the art of Possible” presenting initial findings for opportunities and challenges to the wider implementation of blockchain technology, smart contracts, and distributed ledger technology, in local government within the Scottish policy landscape, with a particular focus on the impact on transport.
- **Stages achieved:** On track
 - GeoPact pilot proof of concept delivered.
 - Research paper written and shared.
 - Project extension approved.

▪ **Next steps:**

In Progress

- Policy paper to be finalised in December 2022 prior to publication and promotion.
- Final BLING conference is scheduled for 26th April 2022 to be hosted by the Partners in the North Netherlands.

5.4 PriMaaS

Interreg Europe, ERDF

Start date: August 2019

Initial completion date: January 2023

Expected completion date: July 2023 (following 6-month extension due to Covid-19 impacts)



Overall project progress:

In Progress

Project description: Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) is a concept that changes the way people travel and pay for mobility services. The main vision of PriMaaS is to promote MaaS and incorporate wider societal goals through interregional collaboration, sharing best practices, and policy development.

Project Development:

▪ **Last Quarter:**

In Progress

- Phase one of the PriMaaS project officially concluded on 31 July
- SEStran also presented a paper to a related EU project's conference, CISMob, in Stockholm in May.

▪ **Stages achieved:**

On track

- Completion of Phase One of the project which included the submission of the Action Plan and submission of the best practices; Go Borders DRT trial and Tactran ENABLE Platform

▪ **Next steps:**

In Progress

- Monitoring of the Action plan will take place over the next 12 months
- A final face to face event is planned in the Coimbra region of Portugal in June 2023.

5.5 CONNECT

Interreg North Sea Region

Start date: October 2019

Initial completion date: March 2022

Expected completion date: December 2023



Overall project progress:

In Progress

Project description: [CONNECT's](https://northsearegion.eu/north-sea-connect) overall objective is to support the growth of 'smart inter-modality' in the North Sea Region, through smart efficiency enhancements within freight movement. It looks at connecting the North Sea Region's TEN-T nodes, focusing on implementing new smart processes and working tools (smart inter-modality) and development of strategies for smart efficiency enhancements (smart involvement). <https://northsearegion.eu/north-sea-connect>

Project Development:

- **Last Quarter:** In progress
 - SEStran visited SSPA in Gothenburg for a Project Partnership Meeting in September with a study visit guided by the Port of Gothenburg discussing integrating freight modes and sustainability and the challenges faced on a busy waterway.
 - The planned study visit to Forth Ports has been reorganised to early in 2023 to allow for full participation of the project partners.
- **Stages achieved:** In progress
 - Not applicable.
- **Next steps:** In Progress
 - SEStran awaits the result of the Green Ports Funding and whether this can be incorporated into the research that forms part of the work package undertaken.
 - CONNECT partners will be visiting Forth Ports in November 2022 on a study visit.
 - SEStran will be review with Forth Ports their approach to enhancing sustainable ports operations and increasing commercial efficiency, this work will be reported back to the project team.

5.6 REGIO-Mob

Interreg Europe, ERDF

Start date: April 2016

Initial completion date: March 2020

New start date: October 2021

New completion date: September 2022 (following approval of additional 1 year funding for project activities in relation to Covid-19 impacts)

Overall project progress: In Progress

Project description: REGIO-Mob aims to promote “learning, sharing of knowledge and transferring best practices between the participating regional and local authorities to design and implement regional mobility plans (or Regional Transport Strategies)”.

The additional REGIO-MOB activities, through a partnership made up of six partners from six European regions (Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Greece, UK), will allow for an exchange of experiences aimed at learning about the best solutions developed to deal with the Covid-19 crisis and to improve six policy instruments for public transport policies to meet the new needs of planning and guarantee a safer and sustainable mobility.



Project Development:

- **Last quarter:** In Progress
 - The Interregional exchange process took place in Edinburgh on 7th and 8th September where the best practices from SEStran and the Italian partners was presented and discussed which focused on the interventions and response to COVID-19.
 - Brief summaries on the key learning were shared across participating regions.
- **Stages achieved** In Progress
 - Exchange of information between the project partners through the Interregional exchange process.
- **Next steps:** In Progress
 - Despite the Regio-Mob project now being complete, SEStran will continue to communicate with the other partners involved and use the knowledge shared to influence any further best practices to help implement the new Regional Transport Strategy.

6. SEStran forums and upcoming events

6.1 SEStran Forum Meetings



SEStran hosts three different forum groups, the Integrated Mobility Forum, the Equalities and Access to Healthcare Forum and the Logistics and Freight Forum. The aim of the forums is to provide a platform for interested parties to come together and to formulate a regional voice in various transport-related matters.

Latest Forum meetings:

- **Logistics and Freight Forum**
 - The forum met on the 22nd of November with presentations on the development of Perth West and also the use of drones for deliveries.
- **Equalities and Access to Healthcare Forum**
 - The next forum will take place on Wednesday 12th October. The last forum took place on 31st March 2022.
- **Integrated Mobility Forum**
 - The next forum meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 6th October 2022. The last forum took place on 7th October 2021.