

## 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 As part of this, the report summarises 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 NOTICE OF INTENTION FROM BEWEGEN TECHNOLOGIES LTD. FOR GO E-BIKE

- 3.1 On 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023, SEStran were issued with a notice of intention from Bewegen stating a period of transition would be required to cover unsustainable maintenance operation costs.
- 3.2 On 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023, SEStran received a further notice of Bewegen's intention to file for bankruptcy. This was accompanied by an independent document from an insolvency agent listing a notice to creditors for a potential proposal. SEStran are currently listed on the basis of the procurement of wayfinding panels totalling £15,000.
- 3.2 Anderson Strathern were engaged and having reviewed the relevant notices and contractual documents, have summarised that they are in no position to act any further, suggesting that legal support could be sought through Canadian firms in the wider grouping.
- 3.3 Until a final proposal is received from Bewegen to creditors, it is unclear what further action can be taken at this time.
- 3.4 SEStran have been engaging with other schemes in Scotland operated by Bewegen to establish the likelihood for a localised maintenance programme on the basis that IT support is still available, but this is also dependent on 3.3.
- 3.5 SEStran have agreement from Transport Scotland that the £186,000 previously allocated to Bewegen can be utilised in the support of e-bike development at a community level in this financial year.

#### **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 A8, notes that funding bids have been successful in extending the current GO SEStran pilot to June, as well as funding the associated DRT pilot to March 2024.
- 4.2 Additionally, there is a need to integrate any new DRT and consolidate DRT and other digital solutions being developed by partners to streamline journey apps for people in the region and beyond. This work is under way, with particular close joint working with Tactran and ongoing discussions with Clackmannanshire, City of Edinburgh Council, Fife and Borders Councils.

#### **5 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 The Board is asked to:
  - a) note progress recorded in the past quarter, summarised in the attached Appendix 1,
  - b) note the ongoing process with a Notice of Intention on behalf of Bewegen, as outlined in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.5,
  - c) agree that officers pursue work to extend DRT and related activities in the region, with available funds, as outlined in paragraph 4.2,

Brian Butler  
**Partnership Director**  
10 March 2023

**Appendix**

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 March 2023

### Table of Contents

<b>1. STRATEGY .....</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1 Regional Transport Strategy .....	5
<b>2. STRATEGIC ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECTS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 GO e-Bike.....	5
2.2 Regional Cycle Network Grant Scheme .....	6
2.3 Regional Active Travel Development Fund – Transport Scotland.....	7
2.4 Cycle Training and Development – Cycling Scotland .....	8
<b>3. STRATEGIC PUBLIC TRANSPORT PROJECTS.....</b>	<b>9</b>
3.1 Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) .....	9
3.2 Thistle Assistance Programme.....	10
3.3 Newburgh Train Station Study.....	11
3.4 Bus Service Improvement Partnerships.....	11
3.5 The GO SEStran project .....	12
<b>4. FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS PROJECTS .....</b>	<b>13</b>
4.1 Forth Freight Study.....	13
<b>5. EUROPEAN-FUNDED PROJECTS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
5.1 SHARE-North .....	14
5.2 SURFLOGH .....	15
5.3 BLING.....	16
5.4 PriMaaS .....	16
5.5 CONNECT.....	17
5.6 REGIO-Mob.....	18
<b>6. SESTRAN FORUMS AND UPCOMING EVENTS .....</b>	<b>18</b>
6.1 SEStran Forum Meetings .....	19

# 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*

- Completed draft RTS was submitted to the Minister for Transport for approval on 7 March 2023
- Tender evaluations completed for Programmed Investment Plan to track transport investment and delivery of RTS priorities

**Overall Stages Achieved**

*On track*

- Main Issues Report published May 2020
- Development stages of SEStran RTS 2035 completed with input from partners March 2022
- Statutory assessments completed with input from partners March 2022
- Board approval of draft RTS September 2022

**Next Steps**

*On track*

- 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:

- Severe Issues
  - **Last quarter**
    - Notice of Bankruptcy filed by **Bewegen Technologies Ltd** under Canadian Bankruptcy law and passed to SEStran on **27<sup>th</sup> January 2023**.
    - Officers notified **Anderson Strathern** upon receipt of notices and are working to gain a greater understanding of procedures.
    - Discussion with other Bewegen operations in Scotland has taken place since notices were issued.
    - **Transport Scotland** have been appraised of the situation and are keen to see a solution that allows schemes to continue to operate.
    - Until a creditor proposal is issued by bankruptcy agents on behalf of Bewegen, the future of the scheme is uncertain.
    - The immediate requirement is to establish a maintenance operation that can keep existing bikes in operation, which is being discussed at a national level to cover all schemes affected.
  
- Delayed
  - **Stages achieved**
    - Transport Scotland notified of risk to fund expenditure.
  
- In progress
  - **Next steps**
    - Identifying opportunities to use funding to support existing community e-bike hubs to expand and supplement current work, with approval from Transport Scotland.
    - Cargobike Movement, Socialbite Village, Walkerburn CDT, CLEAR Buckhaven, will be in receipt of support in a range of e-bikes and e-cargo bikes, storage, and tracking devices, complemented with cycling training sessions through the partnership with Cycling Scotland.

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.

This project fund will end at the close of FY 2022/23 with the equivalent awards being moved into the wider Transport Scotland fund for Active Travel Projects.

Project Development:

▪ **Edinburgh BioQuarter**

*Delayed*

- Route has been reviewed for future transit opportunities, this has resulted in some design changes from previous design elements.
- Sweco have had fruitful discussions around signals along the route and with Lothian Buses.
- Once 3D designs are completed after discussions the project will move to the stage of cost estimation.
- This project is still projected for completion at this stage within 2023.

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. 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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: Attitudinal Survey** Complete
  - **Next steps:**
  - A final publication will be compiled by officers for publication taking insights from the two years of results.
  
- **Project: SEStran Strategic Network** In progress
  - **Last quarter:**
    - **ARUP** have been collating the utilities and topographical surveys into packages for the individual routes and are ready to be passed to next stages with local partners.
    - All survey work complete by start of March.
    - **ARUP** have started a small exercise to review the multi criteria assessment used for the formation of the SSN, this will include a test of newly available data against the prioritisation of projects.
    - All work is on track for completion in March.
    - **VIVACITY** have undertaken a number of site surveys for the installation of multi-modal monitoring sensors in **Clackmannanshire, Falkirk** and **West Lothian**.
  - **Stages achieved:**
    - Survey work undertaken with final collation ongoing.
    - Sites identified for installation of monitoring sensors.
  - **Next steps:**
    - All projects updated on SSN dashboard.
    - Sensors installed and operational.
  
- **Project: 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 Scotland coordinators. It promotes, encourages, and develops cycle training opportunities across SEStran projects.

Project Development:

- In progress
 ▪ **Bikeability Scotland**
  - **Last quarter:**
  - Delivery of Bikeability Scotland across the region for 2022-23 mostly on track to meet or exceed 2021-22 delivery.
  - Continued to work with LAs to increase delivery rates.
  - Support set up of two CPD days in the region.
  - Mid-year review meetings held with Local Authority Bikeability Scotland Coordinators.
  - **Next steps:**
  - 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.
  
- In progress
 ▪ **Adult and Family Cycle Training**
  - **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.
  - **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:

- **Last quarter:** In progress
  - PC replacement for the old system has 92% of the PCs delivered now 'live'.
  - New installations of standalone screens purchased via the framework continue to be utilised by Local Authorities.
  - Integration of Lothian Buses data – work almost complete with final testing due in March 2023.
  - Weekly meetings held with Local Authority partners and projects team.
- **Stages achieved:** Complete
  - 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.
  - Training on new content management system completed with local authority representatives.
  - Integration of McGill's operations from First Bus East after takeover complete.
  - The purchasing framework is being utilised by SEStran and Local Authorities to provide additional Real Time infrastructure for the region.
- **Next steps:** In progress
  - 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.
- **NOVUS FX** In progress
  - First round of training complete, addition training will be provided based on future requirements.

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.
  - Development continues on VoyagAR platform the journey planning and wayfinding tool. Due to be completed by end March 2023.
- **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](http://www.thistleassistance.com)
- Development of transport operator guide.

▪ **Next steps:**

*In progress*

- Further public testing of VoyagAR, public recruitment of testers to take place in March, aiming to recruit 20 to 30 testers.
- 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:**

*In progress*

- Received feedback and comments from Transport Scotland, currently reviewing.

• **Stages achieved:**

*Complete*

- Case for Change, Initial Options Appraisal and Detailed Options Appraisal.

• **Next steps:**

*In progress*

- Arrange workshop with Transport Scotland to discuss comments and define next steps.

### 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:** In Progress

  - Forth Valley Bus Alliance set up and working with STAG appraisal work funding received from Transport Scotland.
  - Midlothian Bus Alliance set up and working with STAG appraisal work funding received from Transport Scotland.
- **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 was due for completion in March 2023. The Go SEStran app was launched in early August and can be downloaded from Google Play and Apple app store.

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

  - Significant progress has been achieved, which will be discussed in more detail in the separate report on the agenda. The project has now been extended to end June 2023, with the DRT pilot funded till March 2024.
  - The app has achieved its initial target of 1000 downloads 6 weeks early. 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 to The Routing Company. The DRT service is due to commence in early March.
- **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 now carrying out a number of improvements to the app in response to feedback.
  - 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 in March.
  - SEStran and Tactran are collaborating on a number of fronts to ensure funding of the app will continue past June 2023.
  - SEStran continue to have conversations with other local authorities include City Of Edinburgh Council to explore expanding GoSEStran further across the region.

#### 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:**

*Delayed*

- Updated the Scottish Freight & Logistics Group in Feb 2023.
- Awaiting feedback from Transport Scotland.

• **Stages achieved:**

*Delayed*

- Case for Change approved December 2021.
- Initial Options Appraisal work is complete.
- Submitted to Transport Scotland in August 2022 for comments.

• **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:



- Ongoing engagement with partners in Tactran and Perth West development consultant.
- Present final work in March 2023 in Germany.

### 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 developed a logistic pilot with the University of Edinburgh, which will showcase innovative use of the technology in a transport environment and also to produce a snapshot report on Blockchain use cases and potential in Scotland.

Project Development:

▪ **Last Quarter:**

- Final report finished ready for presenting at final conference.

*In progress*

▪ **Stages achieved:**

- GeoPact pilot proof of concept delivered.
- Research paper written and shared.
- Project extension approved.

*On track*

▪ **Next steps:**

- Final BLING conference is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to be hosted by the Partners in the North Netherlands.

*In Progress*

### 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:**

- 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

*In Progress*

▪ **Stages achieved:**

- The Action Plan and best practices have helped to ensure the success of the GoSEStran Platform and shaped the work put towards the set-up of the new DRT service in East Lothian.

*On track*

▪ **Next steps:**

- Continued monitoring of the Action plan over the next 12 months
- A final face to face event is planned in the Coimbra region of Portugal in May 2023.

*In Progress*

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:**

- Along with several partners visited Forth Ports Grangemouth to share and capture ideas.

*In progress*

▪ **Stages achieved:**

- Draft report on inland waterways complete.

*In progress*

▪ **Next steps:**

- SEStran team will visit Hamburg for a further project workshop in March 2023.

*In Progress*



## 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 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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 next forum will take place on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 venue, agenda and format TBC.
- **Equalities and Access to Healthcare Forum**
  - The next forum will take place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> of September. The last forum took place on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.
- **Integrated Mobility Forum**
  - The next forum meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday 2<sup>th</sup> of April 2023.