

EQUALITIES AND ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FORUM
10:00am Tuesday 28th February 2023

Present:

Doreen Steele (Chair) (DS)

Cheryl Fergie (Minute Taker) (CF)

Brian Butler (BB)

Andrew Ferguson (AF)

Peter Jackson (PJ)

Keith Fisker (KF)

Jim Stewart (JS)

Hattie James (HJ)

Angela Chambers (AC)

Peter Jackson (PJ)

Anna Herriman (AH)

Cllr Jule Bandel (JB)

Cllr Margaret Anslow (MA)

Cllr Russell Imrie (RI)

Cllr Derek Glen (DG)

Cllr Paul Garner (PG)

Linda Bamford (LB)

Jonathan Padmore (JP)

Mike Harrison (MH)

Anne Cowan (ACo)

Fakhriya Abdulkadir (FA)

Ghanima Abdulkarim (GA)

Kirstie Henderson (KH)

Non-Councillor Member

SEStran

SEStran

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Edinburgh Council &

SEStran Board Member

Falkirk Council &

SEStran Board Member

Midlothian Council &

SEStran Board

Member

Fife Council & SEStran

Board Member

Falkirk Council &

SEStran Board

Member

Non-Councillor Member

Tactran

Midlothian Disability Accessibility Panel

Fife Council

The Mental Health Foundation

The Mental Health Foundation

RNIB Scotland

Apologies:

Cllr Jane Cox

West Lothian Council &
SEStran Board Member

Cllr Sally Pattle

West Lothian Council &
SEStran Board Member

Cllr Colin Davidson

Fife Council & SEStran Board Member

Cllr Jenny Linehan

Scottish Borders Council & SEStran Board
Member

Cllr Fiona Law

Clackmannanshire Council & SEStran
Board Member

Cllr Dianne Alexander

Midlothian Council & SEStran Board
Member

Cllr Tom Conn

West Lothian Council & SEStran Board
Member

Catriona Burness

RNIB Scotland

Tony McRae

Fife Council

Ken Reid

East Lothian Access Panel

Gillian Hallard

RNIB Scotland

Iain Sneddon

NHS Lothian

Lucy Logan


Transport Scotland


Rhianne Forrest

Children's Health Scotland

Allan Lindsay

Young Scot

Ref.		Actions
1.	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	Doreen Steele welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.	
2.	MINUTES FROM WEDNESDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2022- AND ACTIONS ARISING	
	<p>The minutes of the last meeting were approved.</p> <p>It was noted that Cheryl Fergie will circulate the information from the Action: BHJ to find out revenue, the cost of the scheme, number of users and level of subsidy and feed this information back to Cllr Lawson.</p>	CF
3.	ACCESSIBLE TRAVEL FRAMEWORK ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN	
	Lucy Logan from Transport Scotland submitted her apologies, so this item was not covered.	
4.	GO SESTRAN PROJECT, ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE USING DRT & MAAS	
	<p>Andrew Ferguson & Jonathan Padmore presented slides on GO SEStran and Go NHS TAYSIDE. The following points were raised, a discussion took place.</p>  <p>2023 02 28 SestransEqualitiesAccr</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships between Health Boards and Transport Partnerships. • The challenges of bringing transport planning into appointment setting stage. • RTPi has been linked with the GO SEStran app. • Linked to concessionary travel. • Keeping the app simple with less adverts. • The benefit of sending texts to patients with a link to the app along with an appointment letter. • Time pressures on people that are setting appointments. • The financial benefit to the NHS if people can attend appointments. • Journey planning with confidence helps reduce anxiety. • The Monitoring and Evaluation Report will include a section on protected characteristics. • The suggestion of including if people need any assistance to the app. • The need to let people who will use the services get involved at the design stage. <p>Linda Bamford said the Ambulance Service is updating their patient needs assessment. It's important to signpost to alternative transport</p>	

	<p>modes and makes sense to think about this. Transport needs to be an integral part of the care pathway.</p> <p>Jonathan Padmore noted he will continue to look at protected characteristics, how best to engage people and try to pull together the right people to map out transport planning and journeys into the process. He is involved in ongoing conversations with Tayside NHS.</p> <p>Doreen Steele said this app has great potential and additional funding will help. She noted that the entire clinic system needs to be looked at as there are millions of missed appointments per annum. She questioned how this forum can influence joined up thinking and stated there is lots of work to be done.</p>	
5.	THISTLE ASSISTANCE	
	<p>Keith Fisken gave a brief verbal update: The Thistle Assistance Programme is going through an internal audit process, this has enabled SEStran to make improvements to the mailout systems. The survey design has been delayed due to the audit process. There are posters and leaflets being distributed to transport providers to create more awareness. The VoyagAR app is progressing, there will be more apps integrated with this in the future. There is still work to be done on final testing and adjustments.</p> <p>Linda Bamford stated the work on the survey is integral to help measure equalities outcomes as the number of cards sent out does not measure this. Keith Fisken agreed.</p>	
6.	REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY	
	<p>Jim Stewart gave a brief verbal update: The draft RTS has been submitted to Transport Scotland and as far as Jim is aware the report is now with the Minister. He is hopeful the final RTS report will be brought to the March Board meeting for approval.</p> <p>Doreen Steele thanked Jim for all his work on the RTS and wished him well in his retirement.</p>	
7.	DRAFT UPDATE 2023: EQUALITIES OUTCOMES 2021-2025 & MAINSTREAMING REPORT	
	<p>The Draft Update 2023: Equalities Outcomes 2021-2025 & Mainstreaming Report was circulated prior to the meeting. Angela Chambers presented the report to the forum for feedback & comment. There was discussion and comments made as below:</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>2023 02 28 Item 7 Draft Update Report I</p> </div> <p>Linda Bamford thinks the report was an easy read. There was a good refresh of public sector equality duties A,B & C. Feedback was given on</p>	

<p>the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1. Assess the impact of equality. Although staff training is helpful, it's only part of it. We must ensure the voices of people with protected characteristics will be at the table, it's not just a tick box exercise. It's positive that the staff get training in this, but stronger to say that it will assist in engagement with people with protected characteristics. • Section 16. Hate crime charter. This could be linked to women's and girls' safety when using public transport. This will assist with equalities outcomes and help with funding. • It's disappointing that nonstandard e-Bikes cannot be procured. <p>Angela Chambers will make amendments to the report to reflect Linda's first two comments.</p> <p>In response to Linda's comment on Go e-Bike, Anna Herriman updated the forum on the current issues and challenges with the provisions of nonstandard cycles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEStran have been in talks with the provider on provisions of trikes but the procurement side of this is particularly challenging due to the provider stating there is not a market there for this. • There is a need to balance funding and support. • This has been discussed before in meetings and there is clearly an appetite to have this. • SEStran have done lots of work around this in the background but have not released the details. • The operator will cease trading in the maintenance side of things, this will be a challenge but could also create opportunity. <p>Linda Bamford had a few suggestions that may help with Go e-Bike and will circulate information to SEStran to support this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacting Wheels for Wellbeing, it would be useful to hear from them regarding procurement of nonstandard cycles. They have been able to procure nonstandard cycles for Transport for London. • It would be good to explore The Scottish Government Accessible Vehicle and Equipment Scheme is looking to extend into mobility aides, the group that research this may be able to assist with funding options through public hire schemes linked to disability assistant payments. • There was a report published in 2021 by Cycling UK and Transport Scotland (Barriers to Cycling to Disabled People) it states 56% of disabled people would use adapted bikes if available, unavailability though hire schemes stops them getting involved in cycling. <p>Anna proposed that SEStran bring back information to share with this forum so this can be reviewed with user input into design of the service. Brian Butler said he will commit to having another look at this and bringing a report to the next meeting, including speaking to the</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>LB</p> <p>BB</p>
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	<p>organisations Linda Bamford has mentioned.</p> <p>Cllr Bandel said it was an interesting read and gave a few suggestions for the Increasing Diversity section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking into ways of making working habits more inclusive for disabled people, set standards for disabilities. • Measuring gender balance, including nonbinary to make the process more inclusive. • Gender pay gap analysis. • Look at occupational differences between genders. <p>Brian Butler will pick this up to include suggestions if possible.</p> <p>Angela Chambers said the information SEStran collects will be more detailed than what is published, information will go to the succession planning committee in May to improve diversity.</p> <p>Doreen Steele suggested bringing a report by Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland (MACS) (Transport to Health and Social Care December 2019) to the next Equalities and Access to Healthcare Forum for discussion.</p>	<p>BB</p> <p>DS</p>
8.	LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND, THE STATE OF HEALTH AND HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN SCOTLAND	
	<p>The Health Foundation had been invited to this forum to discuss Leave no one behind, The state of health and health inequalities in Scotland report. There was no response. Doreen Steele would like to comment back to them that there wasn't enough detail in the report about transport related issues.</p> <p>Linda Bamford suggested linking up with Just Transition Commission as they have raised transport in some of their publications. She thought it would be a good idea to try and get both organisations along to one of the next forums. Doreen agreed, this will be picked up as an action.</p>	DS BB CF
9.	AOCB	
	There was no other business to report.	
10.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	28 th September 2023	

Action Status Report

EQUALITIES & ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FORUM

Meeting Date: 28 February 2023

Minute/Date	Agenda Item	Action	Person	Date Initiated	Due Date	Current Status	Date Completed
31/03/22	LOOKING AHEAD – EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH NHS ON FUTURE PLANS AFFECTING TRANSPORT	Flag up that NHS Lothian need to link up with RTPs and members of this group regarding movement of services.	IS	31/03/22		Outstanding, Iain Sneddon did not attend on 12th October 2022. Iain Sneddon did not attend on 28th February 2023.	
12/10/22	GO EBIKE	To feedback information to Cllr Lawson regarding revenue, cost of the scheme, number of users and level of subsidy.	BHJ	12/10/22		Cheryl Fergie circulated a response to this action to all Equalities and Access to Healthcare members.	02/03/23
12/10/22	ACCESSIBLE TRAVEL FRAMEWORK ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN	This item to be kept on future agendas for progress and updates.	CF	12/10/22		No TS representative attended the forum, Unable to discuss this item.	
28/02/23	DRAFT UPDATE 2023: EQUALITIES OUTCOMES 2021-2025 & MAINSTREAMING REPORT	Angela Chambers will make amendments to the report to reflect Linda Bamford's comments on "assess the impact of equality and the hate crime charter".	AC	28/02/23			
28/02/23	DRAFT UPDATE 2023: EQUALITIES OUTCOMES 2021-2025 & MAINSTREAMING REPORT	Linda Bamford will circulate information to assist with Go e-Bike funding and procurement to SEStran.	LB	28/02/23		Information sent to SEStran to follow up	28/02/23

