

**INTEGRATED MOBILITY FORUM**  
**10:00AM THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024**

**Present:**

Cllr Sally Pattle (Cllr Pattle)  
Cllr Russell Imrie (Cllr Imrie)  
Cllr Ruaridh Bennett (Cllr Bennett)  
Cllr Jenny Linehan (Cllr Linehan)  
Madeleine Bell (MB)  
Steven Psihramis (SP)  
Doreen Steele (DS)  
Geoff Duke (GD)  
Linda Bamford (LB)  
Paul White (PW)  
Adam Kesby (AK)  
Claire Clarke (CC)  
Ruth White (RW)  
Shirley Paterson (SP)  
Ewan Doyle (ED)  
Tony McRae (TMcR)  
Adam Watson (AWa)  
Diana Murray (DM)  
Aileen Webster (AWe)  
Desmond Bradley (DB)  
David Collins (DC)  
Hugh McGregor (HMcG)  
Natash Byrne (NB)  
Emma Crowther (EC)  
Sarah Elliott (SE)  
Sarah Gibson (SG)  
Ross Prentice (RP)  
George Lowder (GL)  
Mark Speed  
Keith Fisker (KF)  
Beth Harley-Jepson (BHJ)  
Nikki Boath (NLB)

West Lothian Council  
Midlothian Council  
East Lothian Council  
Scottish Borders Council  
Midlothian Council  
Midlothian Council  
NCM, SEStran  
NCM, SEStran  
NCM, SEStran  
NCM, SEStran  
Sustrans  
East Lothian Council  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Clackmannanshire Council  
Scottish Borders Council  
Fife Council  
Falkirk Council  
East Lothian Council  
Forth Valley College  
Scotrail  
Cycling Scotland  
Cycling Scotland  
Cycling Scotland  
Edinburgh University  
Stagecoach Buses  
Lothian Buses  
Prentice Coaches  
Transport for Edinburgh  
Tactran  
SEStran  
SEStran  
SEStran

**Apologies:**

Cllr Danny Aston  
Cllr Marie-Clair Munro  
Cllr Sanne Dijkstra-Downie  
Cllr Robin Lawson  
Brian Butler  
Sarah Boyd  
Gareth Williams  
David Kelly  
Ken Gourlay

City of Edinburgh Council  
City of Edinburgh Council  
City of Edinburgh Council  
Fife Council  
SEStran  
Lothian Buses  
SCDI  
Community Transport Association  
Fife Council

Ref.		Actions
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	
	Cllr Pattle welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of IMF – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and matters arising</b>	
	<p><b><u>Matters arising from the last minutes:</u></b></p> <p><u>Community Transport</u>                      Neither Cllr Conn nor BB were able to attend the meeting. Therefore there is no update.</p> <p><u>GO E-Bike</u>                      BHJ confirmed that 44 bikes have been purchased.</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a correct record.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Active Travel – Presentation by Beth Harley-Jepson</b>	
	<p>BHJ presented the slides. BHJ highlighted that SEStran's Partnership Board will meet on 30<sup>th</sup> April to approve the budget and thereafter Grant Offer letters will be sent out to Local Authorities and local organisations.</p> <p><u>Do The Ride Thing Campaign</u>                      BHJ explained that this promotional campaign was run using Active Nation Funding. The campaign was to promote health benefits of short journeys on e-bikes.</p> <p><u>Brompton Bike Lockers</u>                      BHJ explained the use of Brompton Bike lockers and where they are currently situated within SEStran region.</p> <p>AW asked the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the possibility of a hub within area of Falkirk/Alloa.</li> <li>• Link up with university campuses and Falkirk town centre.</li> </ul> <p>SP will invite AW to a meeting currently being arranged with partners to discuss how local funding will be used within the central area.</p> <p>LB asked if the bike availability will be integrated into the GO-SEStran app. BHJ confirmed that this is the case.</p>	<p><b>SEStran</b></p> <p><b>SP</b></p>

	<p>LB also asked if there was an opportunity to look into reducing the conflict between road users within behaviour change campaign. BHJ &amp; CD are currently looking at options.</p> <p>KF highlighted the availability of a transition fund from Paths for All. This is available up to 31/3/25. KF explained that this fund is to support community organisations to continue their development. The link for further information is:</p> <p><a href="https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/active-travel/community-project-transition-fund">https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/active-travel/community-project-transition-fund</a></p>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Regional Bus Strategy – Presentation by Keith Fiskien</b>	
	<p>KF presented this item. KF explained the Case for Change process and the criteria that needs to be included. KF also outlined current bus patronage, challenges and comparisons against other modes of transport choices. KF discussed the bus routes within each local authority area and where gaps appear within each area.</p> <p>LB queried the measures of success. KF explained that Case for Change will look at issues, challenges and opportunities. This will include understanding operators, communities and local authorities needs.</p> <p>ED mentioned that Scottish Borders Council undertake a rural proofing checklist as part of EQIA. ED will share a template of the checklist used by Scottish Borders Council with KF.</p> <p>KF explained that SEStran have undertaken workshops with local authorities. SEStran are currently engaging with bus operators to obtain their views and find ways to support the operators.</p> <p>KF said that the Case for Change will be presented at SEStran’s June Partnership Board meeting. Thereafter, SEStran will develop policy objectives and address options which have been raised from the Case for Change.</p> <p>AW enquired if Ember Buses have been included within bus routes in Falkirk region and KF confirmed that Ember have been included.</p> <p>PW asked about a timeline for wider engagement. KF set out the Case for Change timeline. SEStran are hoping to gain wider engagement after the June Partnership Board.</p>	<b>ED</b>

<b>5.</b>	<b>Rail Update – Verbal Update by Keith Fisken</b>	
	<p>KF provided a verbal update.</p> <p>KF suggested prioritising rail at a future IMF meeting. KF invited Forum members to contact him if there are any rail topics that SEStran can work on and discuss at future meetings.</p> <p>KF outlined key regional highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scotrail have completed their public consultation on timetables options for Fife which include Levenmouth rail link. KF provided the link to press article regarding new timetables: <a href="https://www.scotrail.co.uk/about-scotrail/news-press-releases-latest-news-media-release/public-consultation-shapes-exciting-1">https://www.scotrail.co.uk/about-scotrail/news-press-releases-latest-news-media-release/public-consultation-shapes-exciting-1</a>.</li> <li>• Winchburgh Station update – discussions still underway between developers and Network Rail. Developers are still tasked with building a business case for development of station</li> <li>• Newburgh Community Group – SEStran and Fife Council have been supporting this group in the appraisal process for a new station at Newburgh. SEStran are currently addressing Transport Scotland comments on the appraisal.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Decarbonisation – EV – Verbal Update by Keith Fisken</b>	
	<p>KF provided a verbal update.</p> <p>Electric Vehicle Charging – SEStran are working with local authority partners to develop potential approaches within SEStran region. KF suggested exploring how often electric vehicle charging is used, concerns and benefits via this Forum.</p> <p>ED highlighted the drive for collaboration of EV roll out. ED explained that a standard report and recommendations has been agreed which will be sent to SEStran local authorities and Dumfries and Galloway.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
	<p><b><u>Edinburgh Bus Station</u></b> PW mentioned the bus station might lose its lease in 2027. Cllr Pattle suggested taking this item to SEStran Partnership Board in June. Cllr Imrie and KF will discuss this further.</p>	<b>Cllr Imrie/KF</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>	
a)	<p>Topics/priorities for next meeting –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rail</li> <li>• NPF4 – LDP audit investigation</li> </ul>	
b)	Date of Next Meeting – 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	