

PERFORMANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE

**Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers
on Friday 21 November 2025
1.00pm**

PRESENT:	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation Title</u>
	Councillor Tom Conn	West Lothian Council
	Councillor Derek Glen	Fife Council
	Councillor John McMillan	East Lothian Council
	Simon Hindshaw	Non-Councillor Member
	John Scott	Non-Councillor Member
	Doreen Steele	Non-Councillor Member

IN ATTENDANCE:	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation Title</u>
	Brian Butler	SEStran
	Cheryl Fergie	SEStran
	Andrew Fergusson	SEStran
	Keith Fiskien	SEStran
	Christopher Gardner	Audit Scotland
	Rebecca Smith	The City of Edinburgh Council
	Michael Melton	SEStran
	Iain Shaw	The City of Edinburgh Council

Action by

A1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

In the absence of the Chair, Councillor John McMullan was appointed to the Chair.

A2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

It was confirmed that item 5(c) Financial Planning Procedures was withdrawn.

A3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Imrie, Midlothian Council and Councillor Linehan, Scottish Borders Council

A4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

A5. MINUTES

- 1) To approve the minute of the Performance and Audit Committee of Friday 12 September 2025 as a correct record; and
- 2) To note the minute of the Project and Strategy Delivery Oversight Subgroup of Thursday 24 October 2025.

A6. FINANCE REPORTS

(a) Indicative Financial Plan 2026/27 to 2028/29

An update on the financial planning being progressed for the 2026/27 revenue budget and an indicative plan for 2027/28 to 2028/29 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To note the financial planning assumptions for the period 2026/27 to 2028/29;
- 2) To note that financial planning for 2026/27 to 2028/29 will continue to be developed for approval of a revenue budget by the Partnership at its meeting in March 2026; and
- 3) To note that the indicative financial plan for 2026/27 to 2028/29 is subject to a number of risks.

(Reference – report by the Treasurer, submitted)

(b) Finance Officer's report

The second update on the financial performance of the Partnership's Core and Projects budgets for 2025/26, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Partnership was presented along with an analysis of financial performance to the end of October 2025. It was acknowledged that the Partnership's Core and Projects budgets for 2025/26 were approved by the Partnership on 14th March 2025.

Decision

- 1) To note the expenditure and income forecast for the Core revenue budget for 2025/26;
- 2) To note the forecast underspend of £100,000 on the Projects budget. The actual underspend will be confirmed at the

financial year-end and carried forward to 2026/27; and

- 3) To note the members were invited to the South East Scotland Transport Summit scheduled for the 4th of December.

(Reference – report by the Treasurer, submitted)

A7. RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The quarterly update on SEStran's corporate risk register was presented with a focus on key risks including transport governance, funding and cyber security being provided.

Decision

- 1) To note the contents of the report;
- 2) To note that the corporate risk register will be presented to the 5 December 2025 Partnership Board for noting;
- 3) To note that a paper on the risks and opportunities presented by a review into transport governance (R001) will be presented to the Partnership Board on 5 December 2025; and
- 4) To approve the changes to the Risk Register described in paragraph 4.6 and section 5.0.

(Reference – report by the Business Manager, submitted)

A8. PROJECTS AND STRATEGY PERFORMANCE REPORT

An update on the performance of the Partnership's strategy was presented. Reference was made to the Cabinet Secretary's visit to North Edinburgh Arts, 5,000 responses being received for the Regional Bus Strategy consultation, the awarding of a Transport to Health Case for Change piece to Urban Foresight and the commendation of Thistle Assistance at the National Transport Awards.

Decision

To note the contents of this report

(Reference – report by the Programme Manager, submitted)