

## SEStran STAKEHOLDERS LIAISON GROUP

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 2pm

PRESENT:	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation Title</u>
	Brian Butler BB (Chair)	SEStran
	Nikki Boath NB	SEStran
	Rachael Murphy RM	SEStran
	Sandra Lavergne SL	SEStran
	Adam Watson AW	Falkirk Council
	Jamie Robertson JR	City of Edinburgh Council
	John Mitchell JM	Fife Council
	Lesley Deans LD	Clackmannanshire Council
	Nicola Gill NG	West Lothian Council

**Action by**

### 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

BB opened the meeting. Apologies were submitted on behalf of Gordon Brown and Peter Forsyth.

### 2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

This was the first meeting of the group and therefore there were no minutes or matters arising.

### 3. STAKEHOLDER LIAISON GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

BB outlined the proposed Terms of Reference for this Group:

- For all Group members to consider and feedback on Board reports
- For each Council to share information on emerging strategies, plans and reports
- Meeting dates changed so that emerging Board reports can be considered prior to submission to the Board

- Will be augmented by quarterly 1-2-1 meetings between SEStran and Council officers, roughly halfway between Board meetings

BB explained that as this is not a statutory meeting, no quorum is required.

### **Decision**

The Terms of Reference for the Group were agreed.

## **4. DRAFT PARTNERSHIP BOARD AGENDA AND MAIN REPORTS**

BB outlined the Partnership Board Agenda which takes place on 26 September 2025.

### **PARTNERSHIP DIRECTOR UPDATE:**

#### **COSLA PAPER – POPULATION REBALANCE PAPER**

BB will draft a balanced response. JR explained that CEC will also be sending a separate response to COSLA.

**BB**

#### **(a) COUNCIL REQUISITIONS**

BB explained the reasons for the proposal to increase Council Requisitions in 2026/27.

Discussion followed in which BB explained that SEStran are unsure if the Transport Scotland Grant Award will increase or decrease for next year. Transport Scotland suggested that all RTPs write to their respective Councils regarding Council Requisition increases. BB mentioned that SEStran have applied to Innovation Funds but not yet heard if the applications have been successful.

LD enquired if salary costs would be capitalised through Innovation Funds and therefore the Councils contributions would decrease. BB responded that nothing is currently being capitalised.

JR invited LD to discuss cross boundary work.

**JR/LD**

BB stressed that no decisions were needed to be made immediately.

### **Decision**

Group members to discuss this internally and raise questions prior to the Board meeting. Group to feedback before the Partnership Board meeting or through their respective elected members at the meeting.

## **(b) REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY DELIVERY PLAN – MASS TRANSIT PROGRAMME**

BB provided a background summary. BB stressed that the scope has not yet been agreed.

A discussion followed about what will be included within the scope. BB highlighted that LA responses are being collated currently and will be discussed at the next Mass Transit meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> September. BB emphasised that the paper being presented to the Board may differ from the discussion held at this SLG meeting as a result of LA responses.

### **Decision**

Review the overarching Strategic Business Case. Define the scope, find out what is included in Mass Transit and define the programme. **ALL**

## **(c) REGIONAL BUS STRATEGY – PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

RM provided an overview and highlighted that there had been an excellent response to the public consultation.

## **(d) SOUTH EAST OF SCOTLAND TRANSPORT SUMMIT**

RM provided the details of the summit which takes place on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025 and confirmed that the Cabinet Secretary has accepted her invite to speak at the event.

### **Decision**

Group members were asked to encourage colleagues to RSVP as soon as possible.

## **(e) THISTLE ASSISTANCE UPDATE**

SL outlined the background, highlights, reflections and future plans for Thistle Assistance Card Scheme.

## **5. COUNCIL UPDATES**

### **BIF Awards**

All confirmed that they have received BIF awards confirmation.

### **West Lothian**

- West Lothian will be presenting a paper to West Lothian PDSP and Council Executive on the outcome of a Transport Review. NG

confirmed that West Lothian are currently working with Ewan Doyle in relation to Workforce Mobility.

**NG**

NG to share Transport review report with LD.

### **Falkirk Council**

- Undertaking a review of subsidised public transport services for safeguarding.
- Developing a new parking strategy.

BB encouraged AW to contact Ewan Doyle to use data for the purpose of subsidised public transport services.

### **City of Edinburgh Council**

- Launched Tram consultation and closes on 17/12/25
- Relaunched Cycle Hire Scheme
- LEZ has been in place for 1 year. A paper will be taken to the Transport & Environment Committee regarding LEZ performance.
- Transit/Visitor Levy will be in place by July 2026. Transport & Environment Committee in November will establish what revenue will be apportioned to transport sector
- Complete Tier 2 ATIF bids

### **Clackmannanshire Council**

- LTS - aiming to start early next year
- Active Travel Strategy public consultation is underway

### **Fife Council**

- Work around Leven area is ongoing
- Pavement Parking Ban in place from 1<sup>st</sup> September

### **AOB**

No AOB.

## **7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2025**