

Active Travel Update

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report is to update Chief Officers on Active Travel activities within the partnership and the desire to offer assistance to partner authorities in specific projects.

2. Regional Cycle Network Grant Scheme (RCNGS)

- 2.1 SEStran operates the Sustrans funded Regional Cycle Network Grant which seeks to encourage the development of the Cycle Network throughout the Region, in particular functional cross-boundary infrastructure.
- 2.2 As previously detailed SEStran has received an application from Edinburgh BioQuarter for the detailed design of an active travel corridor.
- 2.3 Following changes to the guidance with design projects now 100% funded, SEStran are investigating options for feasibility and design of a number of strategic routes across the region. The anticipated outcome of this would be design documents that can be taken forward to construction, as funds become available.
- 2.4 SEStran invites and encourages its partnering authorities to propose projects that may not be currently seen as a local priority but could have regional significance and could be taken to construction ready stage to attract funding in future.

3. GO e-Bike

- 3.1 The project is being rolled out in 4 locations this financial year: West Lothian, Forth Valley and Fife (Buckhaven and St Andrews). The aim of the project is primarily to introduce e-bike sharing schemes to communities, particularly those affected by transport poverty and disadvantage.
- 3.2 In June 2018, CLEAR Buckhaven launched their scheme with the attendance of local elected representatives. CLEAR staff have been given additional training for the use of their cargo e-bike, through the partnership with cycling Scotland.
- 3.3 In St. Andrews the installation of two GO e-Bike stations has been completed with an anticipated launch at the end of August. The Transition St. Andrews team have been delivering cycle training sessions to staff, in preparation for use of bike in the autumn term.

4. Low Carbon Travel & Transport Challenge Fund

- 4.1 In January 2018, SEStran applied to Transport Scotland's 'Low Carbon Travel & Transport Challenge Fund' (LCTT) to receive a grant of £400,000, with a commitment of £200,000 from SEStran to expand the GO e-Bike project.
- 4.2 Following the Ministerial announcement of the Fund on 8th August 2018, SEStran were awarded a grant of £300,000 with a commitment of £100,000 from SEStran. This will allow the expansion of GO e-Bike to a further 6 hubs across the region.
- 4.3 This funding will be utilised in work over a period concluding December 2019.

5. Staff Resource

- 5.1 As well as offering funding and applying for funding, SEStran is keen to assist partner authorities with specific projects, particularly in respect of active travel. An example comes from the work SEStran did in supporting East Lothian Council in drafting their active travel strategy.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 That the Chief Officers note the content of the report and propose potential projects to be taken forward in partnership with SEStran.

Peter Jackson
Active Travel Officer
3rd August 2018

Policy Implications	Increased spending on sustainable travel projects will increase clarity of policy
Financial Implications	Contained in existing budget and will deliver significant increase in active travel projects.
Equalities Implications	Targeting areas of disadvantage will improve social inclusion
Climate Change Implications	Increased spending on low carbon transport will encourage modal shift to more environmentally friendly modes