

Projects & EU Exit Update

1. Introduction

- 1.1** The report provides Board Members with an update on key aspects of projects and initiatives progressed in the last quarter and covers the latest position on the process for the UK leaving the EU.

2. RTPI

- 2.1** In August 2018 First Scotland East informed SEStran Officers that the implementation of the First Ticketer based internal RTPI system has not proceeded to plan and that they would like to 'restart' the First link to the SEStran/INEO system running up to end January 2019.

- 2.2** In May 2018 as per First East direction SEStran had instructed mobile data providers MOBIUS disconnect the sim-based data feed from all on bus equipment in the First Fleet. From that point on only scheduled information was being provided by the SEStran RTPI system.

- 2.3** SEStran has confirmed that the data link and the RTPI feed can be restarted and has given costing to First Bus East. As of the writing of this report First Bus East are confirming the number of vehicles that they would like reactivated.

- 2.4** INEO have confirmed that once the sim cards are reactivated the system will restart as before.

- 2.5** SEStran are currently working through several issues with the RTPI feed in the Scottish Borders area. The SIRI feed from the Borders Buses fleet is not integrating as well as hoped, SEStran officers and WYG are working with Borders Buses to try and resolve this.

- 2.6** SEStran and City of Edinburgh Officers are continuing to work on the development of a new content management system (CMS). Early testing has confirmed that the current SEStran equipment is compatible with new software and as a result will be able to display RTPI using the new CMS.

3. Regional Cycle Network Grant Scheme (RCNGS)

- 3.1** 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.

3.2 The RCNGS can be used to support feasibility studies, design work, the development of infrastructure and monitoring, as well as supporting innovation and public engagement. Following changes to the guidance, design projects can now be 100% funded. Design projects are classified as anything from the preparation of a strategy to detailed design. Applications will be expected to meet the Community Links guidance, with construction projects requiring 50% match funding.

3.3 There is no maximum award limit for applications, with the focus of this call on projects that can start and finish in the SEStran financial year 2018/19 (April to March).

3.4 Edinburgh Bio Quarter have submitted an application of £163,000 which was approved by the June 2018 Partnership Board. This work will include a detailed design of the active travel corridor. This follows awards for feasibility in 2016/17 and preliminary design in 2017/18.

4. GO e-Bike

4.1 GO E-Bike is regional e-Bike sharing scheme launched in April 2018 by SEStran. CoMoUK (formerly Bikeplus) were awarded grant funding to deliver the first four e-Bike hubs which are currently operating in Fife, West Lothian and Falkirk¹.

4.2 SEStran will be expanding the project in 2018/19, after a successful application to the Low Carbon Travel and Transport Fund for additional funding. £300,000 will be invested into developing six more GO e-Bike hubs across the SEStran region.

5. European Projects Update

5.1 **‘SHARE-North’**² addresses the concept of ‘Shared Mobility’ and looks at the development, implementation and promotion of Car Clubs, Bike Sharing and Car Sharing. The planned living labs will integrate modern technology with activities to support changes in mobility behaviour. The objectives are: resource efficiency, improving accessibility (incl. non-traditional target groups), increased efficiency in the use of transport infrastructure, reduction of space consumption for transport, improving quality of life and low carbon transport.

5.2 The last SHARE-North meeting was held in Drongen on the 3rd-5th of July 2018. The meeting focused on the SHARE-North ‘Manual for Municipalities’. Members of the consortium shared best practice examples of shared mobility across each partner country. These examples will now feature in the final work package output. The next SHARE-North meeting is

¹ <http://sestran.gov.uk/projects/go-e-bike/>

² <http://sestran.gov.uk/projects/share-north/>

scheduled for the 9th – 12th of October, and will be held in conjunction with the next SEStran Integrated Mobility Forum on the 12th of October.

- 5.3 REGIO-MOB³** aims to promote “learning, sharing of knowledge and transferring best practices between the participating regional and local authorities to design and implement regional mobility plans (or Regional Transport Strategies) bearing in mind the stakeholders with regional relevance and contributing to the sustainable growth of Europe”.
- 5.4** SEStran held a formal Dissemination Event on Thursday 22nd March 2018 at Radisson Blu hotel on the Royal Mile, Edinburgh. The Event was attended by the REGIO MOB partners and their political and technical stakeholders, as well as SEStran’s local Stakeholders. The event, which was hosted by SEStran’s Chair, was well attended, and very well received by the European partners.
- 5.5 SURFLOGH⁴** aims to improve the role of logistics hubs in the network of urban logistics in the North Sea Region. <http://northsearegion.eu/surflogh>
- 5.6** SEStran are leading on a work package with Napier Transport Research Institute to create business models for urban freight hubs. In April SEStran attended an innovation workshop in Sweden hosted by the Borås Municipality. Cycling Scotland also attended and presented on the development of e-cargo bike training programs in Scotland.
- 5.7** SEStran will be developing and researching the impact of a last mile delivery solution with e-cargo bikes in the region. The pilot project will be located in Edinburgh and will be exploring a number of last mile/first mile business solutions with a specialist partner working with Scotrail between Glasgow and Edinburgh.
- 5.8** SEStran has identified a pilot delivery partner Outspoken Delivery that specialises in e-cargo bike delivery.
- 5.9 Pursuits** (at application stage) addresses the critical need to ensure that land use and transport planning evolve a step ahead of the smart-mobility transition. This will enable cities and regions to proactively develop Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMP) and steer new mobility and distribution forms rather than just responding to them. SEStran has recently been successful in progressing to the second stage of the application process.

6. Further Initiatives

6.1 Can Do Innovation Challenge Fund

³ <http://sestran.gov.uk/projects/regio-mob/>

⁴ <http://sestran.gov.uk/projects/surflogh/>

6.1.1 The SEStran project proposal for the Thistle Assistance Journey Planner – door to door journey information for people that have difficulty using public transport has been recommended for support through the CAN-DO Innovation Challenge Fund.

6.1.2 The challenge seeks to identify and understand in detail the barriers faced by commuters with protected characteristics when travelling and journey planning. It will explore the extent to which these barriers affect travel plans and modal choices for travelling and to develop an App-based door to door journey planning solution that helps alleviate these barriers.

6.2 Hate Crime

6.2.1 West Lothian, Clackmannanshire and Fife Councils have agreed to pilot the regional hate crime transport charter. A questionnaire was sent to transport operators to gauge their current levels of training with regard to hate crime on their network and their willingness to participate in the charter. In total, 9 bus operators responded to the survey. The working group held a consultative event in Kirkcaldy on the 21st of June 2018 with representative groups and transport operators to co-design the charter. A second consultative event is taking place on the 5th September in Alloa.

7 SEStran Forums

7.1 The next Integrated Mobility Forum is planned for Friday 12th October 2018, and the Logistics and Freight Forum is planned for Wednesday 28th November 2018 at Victoria Quay. Work generated by each forum is currently being progressed to ensure that the forums are productive and continue to be supported by the various stakeholders involved.

8. EU Exit

8.1 The UK is due to leave the EU in March 2019. In July 2018 the UK government published the white paper ‘The Future Relationship Between the United Kingdom and the European Union’⁵.

The white paper outlines the UKs Government approach in a number of key areas, including; trade in goods, customs tariff arrangements, provision on services including financial, co-operation on energy and transport and a new framework for border control.

It is worth noting on page 95 “The UK Government will work with the devolved administrations to ensure that processes are put into place which reflect the devolution settlements and provide for appropriate input from all parts of the UK.” The white paper does not outline what those processes will look like or how they will be implemented.

⁵https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/725288/The_future_relationship_between_the_United_Kingdom_and_the_European_Union.pdf

The EU has yet to provide a formal response negotiations will continue in August and September 2018. European Union leaders will discuss Brexit when they next meet in the Austrian city of Salzburg on September 20th.

9. Recommendations

9.1 Members are invited to note the content of the report.

Jim Grieve
Head of Programmes
August 2018

Policy Implications	None
Financial Implications	None
Equalities Implications	A number of the projects will address the agreed actions of our Equality Outcomes 2017-2021.
Climate Change Implications	A number of the projects seek to promote and pilot a number of innovative actions to increase use of sustainable mobility.