

Active Travel Funding Update

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This paper is supplementary to discussions from previous the Chief Officers Liaison Group on active travel developments, ongoing challenges, and to raise the discussion on utilising funding opportunities.

2. SUSTRANS SCOTLAND FUNDING

- 2.1 Sustrans have launched new funding under the Places for Everyone branding. The funding has a number of changes with greater emphasis placed on engagement and community co-design. The first round of funding closed on May 1st 2019, with a second round expected.
- 2.2 SEStran has been awarded a parallel fund from Sustrans to utilise on the development of the regional cycle network with a particular focus on cross-boundary routes. This funding has been available to other RTPs to use in this way since 2014.

3. ONGOING CHALLENGES

- 3.1 SEStran understands the increasing difficulties for local authorities implementing these projects from revenue and capital budgets. Feedback has been received that the requirements placed on authorities has grown with higher expectations or additional application criteria to be met.
- 3.2 SEStran will commission an audit report of cross boundary networks, looking to follow on from work in 2015. Preparatory work will include discussions with all local authorities on adopted plans and strategies, and other stakeholders involved in the Nation Cycle Network, and the Nation Walking and Cycling Network.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The report asks the Chief Officers to note and discuss the content of the report.
- 4.2 SEStran officers will arrange for a meeting to discuss challenges directly with Sustrans. Chief Officers are asked to share further feedback that they wish to have raised on a regional level.

Policy Implications	Funding has implications on RTS.
Financial Implications	New competitive market could reduce awards to Local Authorities.
Equalities Implications	Projects seek to promote inclusive access to all.
Climate Change Implications	Projects seek to promote innovative actions to increase use of sustainable mobility.