

# National Transport Strategy Review

## Paper for the Convention of the Highlands and Islands Autumn meeting, October 2017

### 1. Background

- In August 2016, Humza Yousaf MSP, the Minister for Transport and the Islands, announced that the National Transport Strategy (NTS) will be subject to a comprehensive review to develop a successor strategy, one that sets out a compelling vision for transport over the next 20 years.
- The approach adopted to the NTS Review is focused on the key elements of collaborative working with our partners, developing a robust evidence base and engaging with stakeholders and citizens across Scotland.
- This collaborative approach involves a wide variety of stakeholders, who will meet regularly over the next two years to develop the successor NTS through Working Groups and partnership forums.
- A wide programme of engagement across Scotland will be delivered to ensure that transport users also have an opportunity to feed into the NTS review process.
- The NTS Review will work towards a formal public consultation on a draft strategy in early 2019 with a view to publishing the successor strategy in July 2019.

### 2. Scope

#### 2.1. What is in the scope of the Review?

- The main aim of the NTS Review will be to build upon the original National Transport Strategy (NTS 2006) and the refreshed NTS 2016 to produce and publish 'NTS2', setting the strategic direction for transport in Scotland over the next twenty years.
- The scope of the review will include transport connectivity within Scotland, with the UK, and internationally. It is recognised that transport links within Scotland play a key part in attracting inward investment to Scotland.
- The review will set out the evidence base for future transport needs including identifying consistent or different needs between rural, coastal, islands, city, and urban areas.
- It will make recommendations on transport governance, delivering on the recommendations in the NTS Refresh that a full review should set out roles and responsibilities and propose modification if appropriate.
- The scope of the review will also address specific issues and opportunities in the context of NTS including;
  - climate change
  - integration
  - air quality
  - resilience
  - congestion
  - reducing inequality and increasing accessibility
  - sustainable and inclusive economic growth

- innovation
- public health and wellbeing
- behavioural change
- identifying 'game-changing' events or technologies.
- To support the overarching Scottish Government requirement for sustainable, inclusive economic growth, the review will also be aligned with concurrent cross-cutting Scottish Government policies.

## **2.2. What is out of Scope of the Review?**

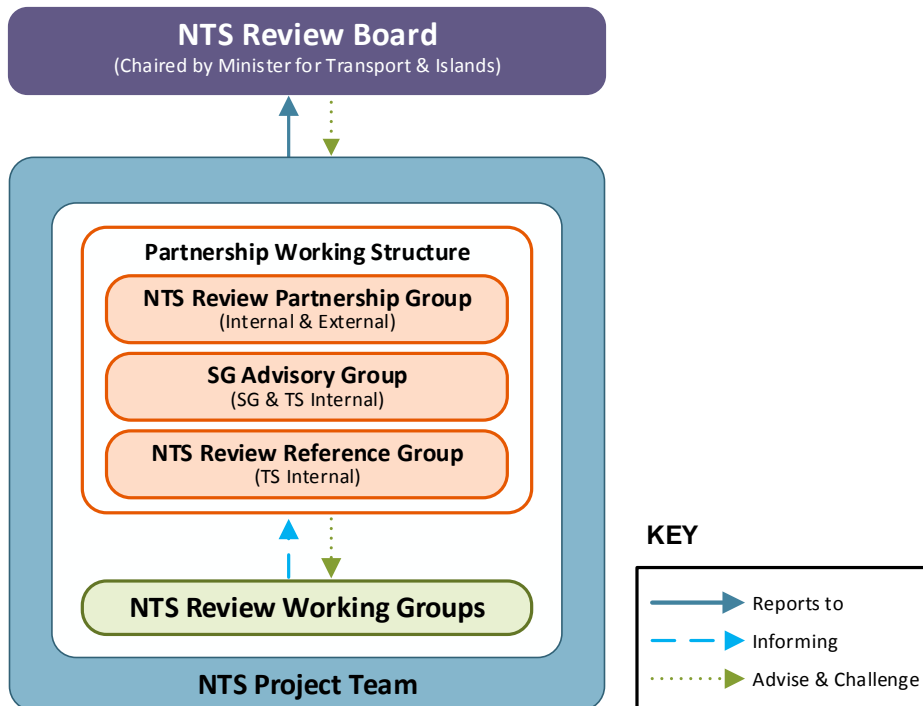
- The NTS Review will inform the review of the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR), providing a strategic framework against which the question of transport investment priorities can then be appraised.
- However, the NTS Review will not set a funding framework (that being determined by the Spending Review Process) nor will it identify specific infrastructure priorities. This latter will be done by the review of STPR.
- The review will aim to be self-contained and will not therefore be accompanied by any 'sister documents' e.g. a Freight Strategy, Rail Strategy etc. Existing long-term strategies (e.g. Ferries Plan) will not be revisited, but any modal strategy developed after NTS2 would be expected to reflect the updated national strategy.
- It is important that the review retains a strategic perspective, and does not function as a 'catch all/cure all' for every transport issue.

## **2.3 NTS review and the Wider Policy & Legislative Landscape**

- The Scottish Government is committed to aligning NTS2 with the emerging policy and legislative landscape in Scotland, including the outcomes from the independent planning review, Climate Change Plan, local government review, Enterprise and Skills review, City and Region Growth Deals and the Transport Bill.
- The Scottish Government will take into account their impact on the transport landscape by ensuring that key areas of work within the NTS review, including Transport Governance, complement these developments whilst also delivering the outcomes that we want for Transport.
- The planning review consultation confirmed that the NTS review's work on roles and responsibilities will encompass 'Empowering Planning to Deliver Great Places' recommendations on a review of transport governance, and responses on the consultation will help inform this work under NTS. The Regional Economic Partnerships report was published in June 2017 as part of the Enterprise and Skills review. The report also recounts the Government's commitment to review Transport Governance .
- The approach to National Planning Framework Four (NPF4) will be shaped by the wider programme of planning reform discussed in the planning consultation and the position statement published in June 2017. The outcome of this will determine the timescales and format for NPF4 in order that alignment with NTS and STPR can be taken forward.

### 3. Structure of the NTS Review

- The structure of the NTS Review is summarised in the diagram below:



'Internal' refers to SG=Scottish Government; and TS = Transport Scotland; 'External' refers to non-government partners and stakeholders

#### 3.1 Review Board

- The Review Board is the main overarching governance body for the conduct of the NTS Review and is chaired by the Minister for Transport and the Islands.
- The Board consists of key senior stakeholders who will provide strategic advice, guidance and challenge over the course of the NTS Review. Membership comprises representatives from Transport Scotland, Scottish Chambers of Commerce, Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE), Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS), a nominated Regional Transport Partnership (RTP) Chair, Sustrans Scotland and the University of Glasgow.

#### 3.2 NTS Review Partnership Group

- The Partnership Group is a strategic stakeholder group co-chaired by Transport Scotland and COSLA. It is comprised of key partners in a position to offer specialist stakeholder advice.
- The group is non-modal and will meet at regular intervals to provide insight, comment and challenge on the information and conclusions produced by the NTS Working Groups.
- The following organisations listed below are represented on the NTS Review Partnership Group:

<b>NTS Review Partnership Group members</b>
COSLA [co-chair]
Transport Scotland [co-chair]
Age Scotland
Confederation of British Industry (CBI) Scotland
Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation (CIHT)
Citizens Advice Scotland
Community Transport Association
Freight Trade Association
Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership (HITrans)
Mobility & Access Committee for Scotland
NHS
Rural Parliament via Scottish Rural Action
Scottish Chambers of Commerce
Scottish Cities Alliance
Scottish Council for Development and Industry
Scottish Trades Union Congress
SCOTS
SOLACE
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)
Transform Scotland
Transport Focus
Transport Scotland - Technical Analysis
Transport Scotland - Research/Analytics
Visit Scotland
Young Scot

### **3.3 NTS Review Scottish Government Advisory Group**

- The Advisory Group is an internal Scottish Government forum which convenes internal policy leads from across the Scottish Government to help manage policy interdependencies between the NTS Review and wider Scottish Government policy (e.g. Digital, Planning, Climate Change).

### **3.4 NTS Review Reference Group**

- The Reference Group is an internal Transport Scotland group which provides an opportunity for transport policy officials to feed into the NTS Review at regular intervals.

### **3.5 NTS Review Working Groups and NTS Project Team**

- NTS Review Working Groups are detailed at section 6 below. The NTS Project Team is the Transport Scotland staff working on the review to provide the link between, and support to, the various parts of the structure.

## **4. Early Engagement**

- Since December 2016, early engagement on the NTS Review has been progressed. During this period the focus was on gathering information and responses from stakeholders and transport users on the overarching issues and aspirations for transport.

- Specifically, an early engagement online survey that sought responses on the opportunities and challenges facing transport over the next 20 years was launched in December 2016 and closed on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. A total of 614 responses were received, of which 76 were from groups or organisations and 538 from individual members of the public.
- The analysis of responses to the survey was published on the Transport Scotland website on 1st June 2017: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/national-transport-strategy-early-engagement-consultation-survey/>
- Responses to the survey highlighted key themes that were particularly important to respondents, including:
  - promoting active travel
  - environmental issues
  - high quality integrated public transport
  - rural and island connectivity
  - accessibility and affordability
  - the quality of our road network
- The survey responses also indicated broad support for the three national transport outcomes featured in the original 2006 NTS i.e. improved journey times and connections, reduced emissions and improved quality, accessibility and affordability.
- Following the conclusion of the early engagement online survey the focus moved to extending the collaborative ethos of the review further. A plan for a full-scale, Scotland-wide stakeholder engagement from September 2017 onwards has been developed, which will culminate in a public consultation in the early part of 2019.
- Full-scale stakeholder engagement will progress through online channels, social media, existing Working Groups and forums, dedicated events, special interest groups and community engagement.

## 5. Call for Evidence

- The NTS Research and Evidence Group launched a Call for Evidence on 5 April 2017, closing on 14 July 2017. The Call asked for submissions of evidence (from all sectors and interested parties: academic, public, private and third sectors) to address questions grouped around seven key themes:
  - Economic growth and inclusive growth
  - Transport mode choice and demand
  - Environmental impact of transport
  - Active travel (e.g. walking and cycling)
  - Safe and resilient transport
  - Transport governance
  - Potential changes in society and technology
- 66 responses were received ranging widely in terms of style and size; from brief written comments or reference to a single piece of research, to large responses addressing every theme that links to fifty or more pieces of supporting evidence. The analysis of the evidence received through the Call is nearing completion, and it will inform the

deliberations of the Review Working Groups and be made publically available in Autumn 2017.

## 6. Working Groups

- Three **Functional** groups will deliver the fundamental building blocks for the review process i.e. research and evidence, the strategic framework review, and the review of transport roles and responsibilities.
- Four **Thematic** groups will address wider facets of the review such as inclusive economic growth, inequality, climate change and safety.
- The membership and remit for all seven Working Groups is listed below. All groups are either chaired or co-chaired by non-Scottish Government organisations:

### Functional Working Groups -

Working Group	Organisation
<b>Research and Evidence</b>	University of Leeds <b>[chair]</b>
	University of the West of England
	Transport Research Institute, Napier University
	Centre for Transport Research, University of Aberdeen
	Transport Scotland
Remit	<i>Work with the academic community (and engage other researchers through knowledge exchange activity) to ensure that the best quality evidence is available to inform the NTS review, and oversee a 'call for evidence'</i>
<b>Strategic Framework</b>	SCOTS <b>[co-chair]</b>
	Transport Scotland <b>[co-chair]</b>
	COSLA
	RTP – Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)
	Napier University
Remit	<i>Work together and engage with stakeholders to develop an updated strategic framework that will provide the strategic foundation for all other aspects of the NTS review. Review the current NTS Strategic Framework (vision, objectives, outcomes)</i>
<b>Transport Roles and Responsibilities</b>	Transport Scotland <b>[co-chair]</b>
	SOLACE <b>[co-chair]</b>
	COSLA
	SCOTS
	RTP – Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)
	Heads of Planning Scotland
	Scottish Government Planning and Architecture
	Clydeplan
	Scottish Government Public Sector Reform
	Scottish Government Enterprise and Cities
Enterprise and Skills	
Remit	<i>Build on the work of the NTS Refresh in further clarifying, and possibly modifying, existing transport roles and responsibilities nationally, regionally and locally e.g. between central and local government and service providers</i>

## Thematic Working Groups

Working Group	Organisation
<b>Greener and Healthier</b>	Transport Scotland <b>[co-chair]</b>
	Scottish Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association <b>[co-chair]</b>
	Caledonian MacBrayne
	ChargeScotland
	COSLA
	Dundee City Council
	Friends of the Earth
	NHS Health Scotland
	Paths for All
	RTP – Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)
	ScotRail
	Scottish Government Energy and Climate Change
	Scottish Government Health
	SEPA
	SCOTS
	Stop the Climate Chaos Scotland
	Sustrans
	Transform Scotland
WH Malcolm	
World Wide Fund for Nature	
Remit	<i>To set out policy proposals on how transport will address more acute climate change and health (active travel, air quality) issues through reducing overall transport emissions and developing sustainable transport and active travel</i>
<b>Enabling Economic Growth</b>	Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI) <b>[co-chair]</b>
	Freight Trade Association <b>[co-chair]</b>
	Airport Operators Association
	British Ports Association
	Chamber of Shipping
	Confederation of British Industry (CBI) Scotland
	Confederation of Passenger Transport UK (CPT)
	Rail Delivery Group
	RTP – South East Scotland Transport (SESTran)
	Scottish Food & Drink Federation (SFDF)
	Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development Group
	Scottish MaaS Alliance
	Scottish Rural Action
	SCOTS
	SOLACE
	Timber Association
	Transport Focus
	Transport Scotland – Intelligent Transport Systems
Transport Scotland – Smart Ticketing	
VisitScotland	
Remit	<i>To set out policy proposals on how transport can improve as an enabler of economic growth (incl. transport as a major employer, development of low carbon economy and sharing economy, improvement of physical connectivity)</i>
<b>Tackling</b>	Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland (MACS)

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
<b>Inequality</b>	<b>[co-chair]</b>
	HITrans <b>[co-chair]</b>
	Age Scotland
	Bus Users Scotland
	Caledonian MacBrayne
	Citizens Advice Scotland
	Community Transport Association
	Scottish Trades Union Congress (STUC)
	SOLACE/Scottish Cities Alliance
	SCOTS
	Glasgow Centre for Population Health
	Transport Scotland – Accessibility and Road Travel
	Young Scot
Remit	<i>To set out policy proposals on how transport can assist in addressing geographical inequality and differences between groups of people to make Scotland a fairer Scotland</i>
<b>Delivering Safe and Resilient Transport</b>	Transport Scotland <b>[co-chair]</b>
	Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation (CIHT) <b>[co-chair]</b>
	Airport Operators Association
	British Transport Police
	Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd
	Confederation of Passenger Transport UK
	Freight Transport Association
	Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)
	Network Rail
	Office of the Road Works Commissioner
	Police Scotland
	Rail Freight Group
	Road Haulage Association
	RTP – North East Scotland Transport (Nestrans)
	Scottish Ambulance Services
	Scottish Fire Services
	Scottish Government Cyber Security
Scottish Government Resilience Team	
SCOTS	
Remit	<i>To set out policy proposals on how transport should address safety and security threats and ensure resilience in transport systems</i>

## 7. Overall process to conclusion of the Review

The draft vision for the NTS2 will be produced around December 2017. The working groups will continue to develop policy options, supported by any required additional research, until these options are collated in April/May 2018. They will then be tested with the Partnership Group, and subsequently with stakeholders, and refined thereafter. A draft strategy will be produced for a full public consultation to take place in February 2019, and the revised National Transport Strategy will be delivered in July 2019.



