

## **Regional Transport Strategy Update**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The report provides the Board with an update on the Regional Transport Strategy,

### **2. REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY**

- 2.1 For information, in line with the 2016-17 Business Plan, the previous SEStran Board agreed to undertake a wholesale review of the existing Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) at their July 2016 partnership meeting. At the September 2016 meeting the Board received an update on the preliminary assessment work undertaken on renewing the RTS. However, in line of the then emerging and still ongoing Planning Review and National Transport Strategy 2 at the December 2016 Board meeting it was agreed to undertake a period of reflection and continuing research on key issues on creating the new RTS, whilst there is a period of legislative and policy fluidity.

- 2.2 The original Scottish Government RTS guidance in 2005 highlighted a proposed review or renewal of the RTS every 4 years. Given the last RTS refresh of the 2008 RTS<sup>i</sup> was concluded in late 2015<sup>ii</sup>, the Board can be assured that the current RTS is “up-to-date” in this context and provides a clear and current vision for regional transport in the South-East of Scotland until at least 2019. However, in the framework of the continuing Review of the Scottish Planning system and the development a second National Transport Strategy (NTS2), it would seem inappropriate to restart the process, given the potential for legislative change via a Planning Bill and Transport Bill over the next 12-18 months. However, once there is greater clarity on future proposals, the Board may wish to discuss a further review of the current RTS in order to influence NTS 2 and the subsequent Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR)

- 2.3 It is proposed that in December 2017 a mid-term review paper will be brought to the Board. Part of the 2017-18 Business Plan is to investigate the monitoring framework for the current RTS and to provide an update on progress with the achievement of key objectives.

### **3. CONCLUSION / RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Board is asked to note the report and agree to a further mid-point review paper being tabled in December 2017.

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16<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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**Head of Programmes**

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Policy Implications	None
Financial Implications	N/A
Equalities Implications	N/A
Climate Change Implications	N/A

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.sestran.gov.uk/publications/sestran-regional-transport-strategy/>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.sestran.gov.uk/publications/regional-transport-strategy-2015-2025-refresh/>