

Response to Consultation on the draft Regional Transport Strategy for Nestrans

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** This report advises the Board on the consultation response to the draft Regional Transport Strategy for North East Scotland – Nestrans 2040.

2. Background to the Consultation

- 2.1** Nestrans is the Transport Partnership for Aberdeen City and Shire. Nestrans has spent the last year working with their members, partners, stakeholders and the public to produce a draft strategy. The draft strategy was been informed by this engagement, option appraisal work, and looking at best practice from elsewhere.

- 2.2** A 10-week consultation concluded on 16th October 2020. The draft Strategy was supported by a Strategic Environmental Assessment, an Equalities Impact Assessment which included an assessment of health inequalities and a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment. A Strategic Transport Appraisal was also included to support the draft strategy

- 2.3** The consultation exercise took place online and used an excellent virtual exhibition web page which presented and gave access electronically to the many supporting documents in a simple and easy to follow way. Finally, a questionnaire containing 16 questions about a number of key elements of the draft strategy was accessible through the website for comments to be made.

3. Discussion

- 3.1** The Nestrans draft strategy outlines the following vision:

To provide a safer, cleaner, more inclusive and accessible transport system in the North East, which contributes to healthier, more prosperous and fairer communities.

In support of this vision, the draft strategy has been developed under four equal and overlapping pillars

Equality – Promoting equality across the North East

Climate – Reducing our impact on climate change and protecting the environment

Prosperity – Helping the North East economy prosper

Well-being – Improving health and well-being across the North East

Sitting within the framework of these pillars are six key priorities which set the tone and direction of the strategy overall. These have been developed to relate to each of the four pillars and to provide a clear statement of intent on what the strategy is aiming to achieve. These priorities are:

- Improved journey efficiencies to enhance connectivity
- Zero fatalities on the road network
- No exceedances of World Health Organisation (WHO) safe levels of emissions from transport
- Significantly reduced carbon emissions from transport to support net zero by 2045
- Accessibility for all
- A step change in public transport and active travel enabling a 50:50 mode split between car driver and sustainable modes.

3.2 The draft strategy also identifies 18 different policy headings and a number of outcomes and actions associated with each of these policy areas to enable delivery of the strategy into the future.

3.3 SEStran note that the vision, pillars and key priorities are consistent with the aims of the second National Transport Strategy and support the policies and direction outlined by the draft strategy. The formal comments to the questionnaire are content in Appendix 1 of this report.

4. Recommendation

4.1 It is recommended that the Board note the response to the consultation on the Nestrans draft Regional Transport Strategy as set out in Appendix 1.

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Policy Implications	None
Financial Implications	None
Equalities Implications	None
Climate Change Implications	None