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SEStran**

South East of Scotland
Transport Partnership



REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY

**Child Rights and Wellbeing
Impact Assessment**

October 2021

In partnership with:  **Stantec**



CRWIA – Stage 3 (Non-Legislative Policy/Measure)

CRWIA title: SEStran Regional Transport Strategy Publication date: November 2021	
Which UNCRC Articles are relevant to the policy/measure?	<p>The following UNCRC articles are relevant to the emerging new SEStran Regional Transport Strategy (RTS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 3: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children • Article 12: Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child’s day-to-day home life. • Article 23: A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families. • Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this. • Article 28: Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children’s dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this. • Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.
What impact will the strategy will have on children’s rights?	<p>The policies and actions set out in the Draft RTS will affect all children and young people up to the age of 18 who use the regional transport system insofar as they will have a have a general impact on the transport system as a whole. However, the strategy objectives target elements of the transport system – namely affordability and public transport coverage – which disproportionately impact children and young people.</p>
What likely impact – direct or indirect – will the policy/measure have on children and young people?	<p>In overall terms, the focus on addressing challenges faced by children and young people within the Draft RTS establishes a positive framework which will allow transport interventions to be designed around meeting the needs of this group. As a key enabler of socio-economic activity, transport influences access to and young people’s ability to benefit from education, amenities, public services, employment, and economic opportunities.</p> <p>Whilst specific impacts are dependent on the future implementation of the RTS once finalised, at this stage it is considered that the document (including policies focused on improving accessibility to education, economic opportunities and public services) are most likely to impact on the interests of children and young people. The Draft RTS therefore has the potential to contribute positively to the implementation of UNCRC articles 3, 12, 23, 24, 28 and 31. However, the high-level nature of the Draft RTS, combined with the absence of implementation or delivery mechanisms at this stage, precludes the identification at this stage of specific or differential impacts on children and young people.</p>
Will there be different impacts on different groups of	<p>Due to the strategic nature of the emerging RTS including the high-level nature of all policies, no differential impacts between groups of children and young people can be identified at this stage.</p>

children and young people?	
If a negative impact is assessed for any area of rights or any group of children and young people, what options have you considered to modify the proposal, or mitigate the impact?	The emerging RTS is not itself expected to have any negative impact on any area of rights or any group of children and young people.
How will the policy/measure contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland?	As with all other applicable statutory duties and requirements, the high-level nature of proposed RTS objectives, policies and actions, combined with the absence of specific implementation or delivery mechanisms at this stage (e.g. individual transport schemes), largely precludes the identification of specific or differential impacts on enhancing the wellbeing of children and young people or on implementing the UNCRC.
How will the policy/measure give better or further effect to the implementation of the UNCRC in Scotland?	<p>Nevertheless, the RTS establishes a strategic framework through which future interventions will be designed which contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people and give better effect to child rights in accordance with the UNCRC. By including provisions which support improved access to education, economic opportunities, and public services, it is clear that the RTS would therefore, in overall terms, support the implementation of the following UNCRC articles in Scotland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 3: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children • Article 12: Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life. • Article 23: A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families. • Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this. • Article 28: Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this. • Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.
Have you consulted with relevant stakeholders?	An extensive programme of stakeholder engagement has informed the preparation of the Draft RTS, as detailed within the supporting RTS Case for Change Report.
Have you involved children and young people in the development of the policy/measure?	Children and young people have not yet been specifically involved in the development of the Draft RTS. SEStran has previously attempted to engage with a group representing young people in Scotland.

	This is recognised as a missing element of the strategy development which SEStran will address during the consultation process of the Draft RTS by seeking out the views of children and young people.
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