

**SCOTLAND'S DRAFT CLIMATE PLAN CONSULTATION**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Scottish Government is consulting on its Draft Climate Change Plan, which includes details of a revised approach to car use reduction. It is important that Board Members' views are considered as part of SEStran's response to the consultation.
- 1.2 The closing date is 29 January 2026, and Board Members are requested to submit their views to the SEStran team by 22 January 2026.

**2. MAIN REPORT**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024, the SEStran Partnership Board discussed Transport Scotland's Routemap to a 20% Reduction in Car Use by 2030.
- 2.2 The discussion engendered strong feelings on the topic of demand management (e.g. road user charging), and the Board instructed the Partnership Director to write to both Transport Scotland and COSLA's Environment and Economy Board ahead of their meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to register its concerns about the Routemap.
- 2.3 In January 2025, Audit Scotland produced a report titled 'Sustainable Transport: Reducing Car Use', which was critical of the approach being taken by Transport Scotland, and concluded that there was no chance that the 20% target could still be achieved by 2030.
- 2.4 At its meeting on 20 June 2025, the SEStran Partnership Board discussed 'Achieving Car Use Reduction in Scotland: A Renewed Policy Statement', by Transport Scotland and COSLA. This statement accepted the findings in the Audit Scotland report, and reaffirmed the TS/COSLA commitment to achieving the policy outcomes.
- 2.5 TS and COSLA also committed to producing a new, longer-term target for reducing car use and confirmed that this would be informed by updated advice from the Climate Change Committee, which has now been received.
- 2.6 As a result, the Scottish Government has now produced a draft version of Scotland's Climate Change Plan for consultation: [Draft Climate Change Plan - Scottish Government consultations - Citizen Space](#). The Plan includes a detailed section on Transport, which can be found at pages 20-57 of Annex 2 in the supporting document section: [Supporting documents - Scotland's Climate Change Plan – 2026-2040 - gov.scot](#).

2.7 The deadline for submission is 29 January 2026, and Board Members are requested to review relevant sections of the document and return any comments to [reception@sestran.gov.uk](mailto:reception@sestran.gov.uk) before 22 January 2026.

2.8 A copy of the final submission will be reported to the next meeting of the Partnership Board.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 It is recommended that the Partnership Board:

3.1.1 Reads the draft version of Scotland's Climate Change Plan

3.1.2 Submit their individual comments to the SEStran team by 22 January 2026

3.1.3 Notes that the SEStran response to the consultation will be reported to the next meeting of the Partnership Board

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Policy Implications	Potentially significant policy implications, although more likely to align closely with RTS and existing policies
Financial Implications	None at this stage
Equalities Implications	None at this stage
Climate Change Implications	None at this stage, but likely to be significant