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# **National Transport Strategy 2 (NTS2) Draft for Consultation**

## Equality Impact Assessment Results

## Equality Impact Assessment - Results

<b>Title of Policy</b>	National Transport Strategy 2 (NTS2) - Draft for Consultation
<b>Summary of aims and desired outcomes of Policy</b>	This strategy sets out a vision for Scotland's transport system for the next twenty years. It aims to deliver a sustainable, inclusive and accessible transport system. The desired outcomes of the strategy are to promote equality, take climate action, contribute to economic growth, and improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Scotland.
<b>Directorate: Division: team</b>	Transport Scotland: Transport Strategy and Analysis Directorate

### Executive summary

In 2006, NTS set out a 20-year vision to 2026, encapsulating priorities for transport in Scotland and providing a strategic framework against which questions of transport investment, priorities and policies could be judged. A refreshed NTS was published in January 2016, keeping the overall NTS framework whilst updating the strategic context and clarifying roles and responsibilities across transport modes, locations and organisational hierarchy. It recommended a 'fuller, collaborative review of the NTS to the next Scottish Government' which was subsequently announced by the Minister for Transport and the Islands, in August 2016. The Draft NTS2 represents the latest output from the NTS Review, with the finalised NTS2 expected to be published by the end of 2019.

Once finalised, the NTS2, STPR2 and the NPF4 will provide an integrated spatial and strategic framework to underpin planning and development decisions and to guide transport infrastructure investment across Scotland up to 2040. Recognising that transport is a critical enabler of sustainable and inclusive economic growth, the NTS2 will provide a visionary platform and the strategic context necessary to address key economic, social and environmental challenges through action within the transport system. The NTS2 vision for Scotland's transport system relates directly to creating an inclusive and accessible transport system contributing to a more equitable society. Promotes Equality is one of the four priorities underpinning the vision.

The Draft NTS2 is being published to allow consultation of the proposed substantive components of the document, comprising:

- Identification of Current and Emerging Challenges and Opportunities
- A Vision for Transport in Scotland, with cross-cutting Themes and constituent Outcomes
- an implementation framework comprising a suite of 14 policies and 38 linked policy measures

The Draft National Transport Strategy 2 (NTS2) sets out a vision for Scotland's transport system for the next twenty years. It aims to deliver a sustainable, inclusive and accessible transport system. The desired outcomes of the strategy are to promote equality, take climate action, contribute to economic growth, and improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Scotland.

Owing to the high-level nature of the emerging NTS2 and to reflect the intended role of the document in setting a visionary strategic framework to underpin future decision making, at this stage the EqIA necessarily focuses on demonstrating how relevant issues and sensitivities have been considered in policy development and on highlighting linkages between proposed NTS components and equalities issues, rather than on assessing specific impacts from the implementation of individual policies.

The NTS2 will be supported by a NTS2 Delivery Plan to identify proposed or potential implementation mechanisms or transport interventions for each NTS policy and policy measure. To ensure the public sector equality duty is appropriately applied in the development of specific transport interventions (funding streams, policy programmes, physical infrastructure development, etc.) within a future NTS Delivery Plan, proposed transport interventions for inclusion within the NTS2 Delivery Plan should be developed and assessed with regard to an Equalities Assessment Framework developed through the implementation of applicable statutory equalities duties, including the public sector equality duty.

## **Background**

In accordance with statutory requirements and to support sound policy development, an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) process is being undertaken as part of the NTS Review to identify likely different or disproportionate impacts from the emerging NTS2 on people with protected characteristics, as defined by the Equality Act 2010

## **The Scope of the EQIA**

As the emerging NTS2 does not focus on specific modes nor define specific transport interventions or investment priorities, the scope of and proposed implementation of individual proposed NTS components remains relatively undefined. This means that the emerging NTS2, in particular all proposed policies and policy measures, could result in a wide range of equalities impacts (beneficial,

adverse or neutral) depending on how they targeted and implemented. The emerging NTS2 aims to set a forward looking and visionary strategy, and establish a positive framework which will allow interventions to be designed around people with individual protected characteristics.

## Key findings

The Draft NTS2 vision for Scotland's transport system relates directly to creating an inclusive and accessible transport system contributing to a more equitable society, whilst 'Promotes Equality' is one of the four priorities underpinning the vision. A commitment to advancing equality of opportunities across protected characteristics is embedded in the strategic framework of the Draft NTS2, referenced directly in the Outcomes underpinning this vision.

The NTS2 Outcomes have been designed to address challenges specifically including the need to eliminate discrimination on the basis of gender and disability and to foster strong community relations. The Draft NTS2 also establishes a positive framework which will allow interventions to be designed around targeting existing inequalities experienced by persons related to each of the nine protected characteristics on the transport network and in society more widely.

The development of the policies and policy enablers in the table below demonstrate that the public sector equality duty has been appropriately discharged in the preparation of the emerging NTS2.

<b>Policy</b>
Provide a high-quality transport system that integrates Scotland and recognises our different geographic needs
Provide a transport system that is equally accessible for all
Improve access to healthcare, employment, education and training opportunities to generate inclusive sustainable economic growth
<b>Policy Enabler</b>
Minimise the connectivity and cost disadvantages faced by island communities and those in remote and rural areas
Safeguard the provision of lifeline transport services and connections
Support seamless journeys providing the necessary infrastructure, information and interchange facilities to connect all modes of transport
Ensure transport in Scotland is accessible for all
Identify and remove barriers to public transport connectivity and accessibility within Scotland
Reduce the negative impacts which transport has on the safety, health and wellbeing of people
Continue to support the implementation of the recommendations from, and the development of, Scotland's Accessible Travel Framework
Ensure sustainable labour market accessibility to employment locations
Ensure sustainable access to education and training facilities
Improve sustainable access to healthcare facilities for staff, patients and visitors

## **Recommendations and conclusion**

As each policy (and supporting NTS text) is further developed and delivered it should consider the policy's coverage and links to key equalities issues, as this would influence potential equalities impacts.

The NTS2 should be supported by a Delivery Plan to identify proposed or potential implementation mechanisms or transport interventions for each NTS policy and policy measure. To ensure the public sector equality duty is appropriately applied in the development of specific transport interventions (funding streams, policy programmes, physical infrastructure development, etc.) within a future NTS Delivery Plan, proposed transport interventions for inclusion within the NTS2 Delivery Plan should be developed and assessed with regard to an Equalities Assessment Framework developed through the implementation of applicable statutory equalities duties. This includes the following Guide Questions developed specifically to implement the public sector equality duty:

Will the delivery mechanisms following from NTS2...

- result in any likely different or disproportionate effects on persons with protected characteristics as specified in the Equality Act 2010?
- promote public realm and design choices that provide a safe, secure, and accessible environment for all?
- promote social cohesion and integration between people with different protected characteristics and different demographic groups?
- support all individuals and households in accessing basic goods and services?
- improve access to employment and economic opportunities for all?
- provide affordable access to social and cultural activities for all?
- improve access to public services and key amenities for all?
- support changing demographics by providing appropriate transport facilities to meet the diverse needs of different communities?
- support the removal of barriers to travel and the improvement of access to travel for disabled people?
- improve disabled people's ability to make seamless door to door journeys?
- reduce the likelihood of transport-related road accidents and casualties?
- reduce exposure to air pollution, particularly for the most vulnerable?

- reduce the impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable groups?
- improve access to healthcare, in particular for those with protected characteristics and demographic groups facing structural inequalities?
- reduce car dependencies and encourage a shift to more sustainable forms of travel, including for people and freight?



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