



## Scottish Government - Protecting Scotland's Future: the Government's Programme for Scotland 2019-2020

**Date of meeting** 20 September 2019

**Date of report** 3 September 2019

### Report by Assistant Chief Executive

#### 1. Object of report

To inform the Partnership of the Scottish Government's Programme for Government (PfG), "Protecting Scotland's Future: the Government's Programme for Scotland 2019-2020"<sup>1</sup>, which was published by the Scottish Government on 3 September 2019.

#### 2. Background

The PfG, published every year in early September, sets out the actions the Scottish Government will take in the coming year and over the lifetime of the current Parliament, and also includes the legislative programme for the next parliamentary year.

#### 3. Outline of proposals

3.1 Key items of interest for SPT from this year's PfG include:

- Plans to publish the new National Transport Strategy by end of 2019, and continue work on the new Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2), within which a new Glasgow Metro will be considered building on recommendations from the Glasgow Connectivity Commission;
- Investment of over £500 million for improved bus priority infrastructure to tackle the impacts of congestion on bus services and raise bus usage, discussions with Transport Scotland will confirm the exact profile;
- Continue progressing the Transport (Scotland) Bill through Scottish Parliament;
- Plans to explore the potential for new forms of innovative financing to accelerate the deployment of zero emission buses across Scotland;
- Consultation planned on ambition to make the shift to zero or ultra-low emission city centres by 2030 by engaging with key sectors, in particular the bus sector;
- Provision of additional £17 million to support the demand for Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs), through the Low Carbon Transport Loan scheme, including support for the second hand market for these vehicles which is yet to be determined. Projects focused on making a step change to bus usage, and including partner collaboration are being targeted;

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.scot/publications/protecting-scotlands-future-governments-programme-scotland-2019-20/>

- In 2019-20, work to extend the National Concessionary Travel Scheme to include free bus travel for people accompanying eligible disabled children under the age of 5, and work with stakeholders to review the option of extending public transport concessions to people under 26, reporting on progress in the coming year;
- Additional £4 million investment in ferries;
- Formation of a Strategic Partnership with electricity network companies to improve electric vehicle charging infrastructure and electricity networks across Scotland;
- Invest £4.85 billion 2019-2024 to improve the performance and resilience of rail infrastructure, and a commitment to decarbonise Scotland's passenger rail services by 2035;
- Publish a 'roadmap' for adoption of Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAVs) later this year and support an autonomous bus trial on trunk roads between Fife and Edinburgh in summer 2020;
- Continue to provide support for Mobility as a Service initiatives; and,
- Commitment to decarbonise scheduled flights within Scotland by 2040, and create the world's first zero emission aviation region in partnership with Highlands and Islands Airports Limited (HIAL).

#### 4. Conclusion

The Scottish Government's programme outlines their key priorities for the year ahead and indicates future areas for development in the longer term. Officers will continue to monitor the development of the above items and any other areas of interest for SPT and partners and advise the Partnership of any issues as they arise.

#### 5. Partnership action

The Partnership is recommended to note the contents of this report.

#### 6. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>None at present</i>
Legal consequences	<i>None at present</i>
Financial consequences	<i>None at present</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None at present</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>None at present</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None at present</i>

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