Background

1. Transport Analytical Services sit within Finance and Analytical Services Directorate of Transport Scotland. Transport Statistics are a part of this team, currently consisting of one C1 Statistician, one B2 Assistant Statistician and two Statistical administrators.

2. The main areas of work of the branch are:
   - Road accidents and road casualties
   - Personal transport
   - Modes of transport.

3. The work of Transport Statistics fits into the Transport Scotland Business Plan under the delivery priority, Strive for excellence in everything we do. Within this, the work of Transport Statistics sits beneath two corporate plan priorities:
   - 40 - Develop and deliver a programme of Transport statistics collection, analysis and publication.
   - 42 - Deliver an evidence base to inform the development of effective Scottish transport policy.

Transport Statistics work plan

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<tr>
<th>40</th>
<th>Develop and deliver a programme of Transport statistics collection, analysis and publication.</th>
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<tr>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>Ensure the timely publication of quality statistics on a range of transport topics, to National Statistics standards.</td>
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4. The overall aim is to improve the timeliness and streamline publications whilst continuing to meet user needs. This will allow more time to be spent on providing analysis of the data and adding value.

5. The statistical publication timetable for 2012/13 is as follows:
   - June 2012 - Key Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2011
   - August / September 2012 – Transport and Travel in Scotland 2011
   - October 2012 – Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2011
   - November 2012 – SHS Travel Diary 2011
   - December 2012 – Scottish Transport Statistics 2012 and Fact Card
   - February 2013 - Bus and Coach Statistics 2011-12
6. In 2011/12 we:
   - Combined the Main Transport Trends and Household Transport to create Transport and Travel in Scotland
   - Brought forward Key Reported Road Casualties to Mid-June and Reported Road Casualties Scotland publication from November to October.
   - Moved Bus and Coach statistics from a biennial bulletin to an annual web tables publication.
   - Included comparison with the Scottish Household Survey as part of the National Travel Survey publication.

7. The main changes for 2012/13 are:
   - Road Casualty publications will include comparisons against the baselines for the 2020 road safety targets.

8. A user consultation on statistical outputs will be conducted in the first quarter of the year. Results from this consultation will be used to further develop the work plan.

9. Other planned work for the year includes:
   - Working to improve Transport data sources, for example through working with MORI on the processing of data from the new Scottish Household Survey.
   - Quality assurance of data from the current SHS contract to ensure it is fit for purpose.
   - Further development of the Transport Statistics web pages including to the High Level Summary and inclusion of equalities data.
   - Ongoing work to collect and quality assure road accident and casualty data for Scotland.
   - Working with DfT, ACPOS and the Police Forces to develop the Stats 19 data collection to include changes from the 2008 review.
   - Provide statistical support to Sustrans in the production of the Hands Up Survey and the process of becoming a producer of official statistics.

<table>
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<th>Deliver an evidence base to inform the development of effective Scottish transport policy.</th>
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<tr>
<td>42.1</td>
<td>Ensure an effective evidence base is developed through monitoring, evaluation and analysis to meet ad hoc and planned policy, ministerial and external needs.</td>
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10. It is intended for this area to become more of a focus of the work of Transport Statistics as the streamlining of the publication process frees up resources. The user consultation on statistical outputs will help to inform this work.
11. As in previous years, we will produce short analytical articles on specific issues, either for release on the website or through relevant publications, for example:
- Analysis of Scottish Household Survey data to assess the possibility of creating annual estimates eg of number of trips.
- Analysis of rail statistical data.
- Support social research colleagues by providing statistical input to projects.

12. The team will continue to provide statistical support to policy and other analytical colleagues within Transport Scotland and Scottish Government as issues arise and work to promote the use of statistics. Support will continue to be provided to external stakeholders via email and by telephone.

**Statistics Plan Sections**

**Improvements in efficiency**

13. Planned improvements in publications and dissemination are:
- Continue the move to a web tables format where appropriate to enable more regular updating of tables and reduce burden on team.
- Further improvements to the Transport Statistics website to provide a better user experience and accessibility. These should free up more time for further analysis of data sets.

**Respondent burden**

14. Key data sources are the Scottish Household Survey and Road Accident Statistics data collection, as well as various data sets held by DfT.
- The SHS questions and travel diary content were reviewed in 2011 and a number of questions were dropped and others will be asked less frequently.
- Work with DfT and the police forces continues to improve the collection of Road Accident statistics.
- Work to improve the Stats 19 data collection system used by Transport Scotland will produce an XML schema for police forces to use to submit data.

**User Engagement**

15. As well as regular emails using the ScotStat mailing list, planned events for the year include:
- User consultation on statistical outputs in April / May 2012.
- Liaison Group on Road Accident Statistics (LGRAS) meeting organised for Friday 18th May.
- Transport and Travel Statistics Advisory Committee (TTSAC) meeting organised for Thursday 28th June.
16. A page setting out uses that stakeholders make of our publications and data has been included on the Transport Statistics web pages at: http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/analysis/statistics/scotstat/stakeholders

The National Performance Framework and Government Purpose

17. The work of Transport Statistics contributes directly and indirectly to a number of National Outcomes set by the previous administration and Transport Statistics are responsible for three national indicators
- The Key Reported Road Casualties Scotland publication releases an update to National Indicator 32 “Reduce deaths on Scotland’s roads”
- The Transport and Travel in Scotland publication in August releases an update to National Indicator 48 “Increase the proportion of journeys to work made by public or active transport”.
- The SHS Travel Diary publication in November releases an update to the National Indicator 4 “Reduce the proportion of driver journeys delayed due to traffic congestion”.

Outcomes based approach

18. Requirements for analysis and statistics at sub-Scotland level will be considered in all work and outputs, for example:
- The re-tendered SHS will ensure availability of SHS transport data at local authority level at least biennially.
- Administrative data sources will continue to be published at Local Authority level where appropriate.

Compliance with Official Statistics Code

19. Transport statistics were assessed by the UK Statistics Authority in 2010. All requirements of the assessment have now been met and the publications have retained National Statistics status.

Quality

20. We will work to improve the quality of administrative and survey data sources relevant to transport including:
- Working with the SHS contractors to ensure changes to the data processing improve the quality of transport and travel diary data collected through the survey.
- Continue to work with DfT and Scottish police forces to develop and improve the collection of road accident data.

Timeliness

21. We are continuing to review the timeliness of publications whilst maintaining the balance with data quality and meeting user needs.
22. In 2011/12 we looked at the timing of the Key Reported Road Casualties publication. Whilst completeness of the data set would not be an issue, it would create a third set of figures for Scotland (as DfT would be unable to change their publication date) so the decision was taken to retain the June publication but aim for mid June instead of late June.

23. Results of the user consultation will be used to look at further improvements.

Relevance

24. It is intended to spend more time producing analysis of the data that we hold through the production of short papers looking at particular issues, for example we will look at estimating annual figures from SHS Travel Diary data.

Accessibility

25. After reviewing the Transport Statistics web pages as part of the move to Transport Scotland in 2011, further work will be done in 2012/13 to improve the accessibility of the data. This was also highlighted by the UK Statistics Authority as a suggestion in their report.

Expertise

26. The branch will continue to undertake training and development as appropriate.

Coherence and Comparability

27. We will continue to work with DfT as appropriate and consider the user requirement for UK comparability. Some examples of this include:
   - Biannual meetings with other devolved administrations and DfT.
   - Regular communication with DfT statisticians in each area e.g. over bus and coach publication and tables
   - Ongoing work regarding the Stats 19 data collection for Road Casualty statistics.

Scope

28. There are no plans to bring anything into scope or remove any existing publications from the National Statistics scope.

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