

**PE1607/B**

COSLA Email of 12 October 2016

COSLA supports moves to encourage road users to switch to public transport. This shift is necessary if we are to meet our long term greenhouse gas reduction obligations. However, a blanket introduction of congestion charging is likely to be highly controversial and likely to lead to strong reaction from the public. It is, therefore, not something that should be considered lightly and in isolation from other public policy on climate change and transport. There will be difficult choices ahead for both local and Scottish Government as we look to deliver Scotland's climate change targets. However, there will be an opportunity to debate how emissions from transport are reduced when the Report on Policies and Proposals 3 (RPP3) is published and as part of the review of the National Transport Strategy. It is within this context that options such as congestion charging will need to be evaluated carefully.