
From: Damian Sharp
Sent: 25 February 2009 18:35
To: Jim McEwan
Cc: Graeme Barclay
Subject: MUDFA design programme analysis
Attachments: Utilities Changes Programme SDS 13 Feb v 5 Jan.xls

Jim

This morning you and Graeme asked about delays in the SDS design programme – particularly in relation to Plates 6-10 and 1-5.

I have gone back to the 5 January version of the SDS programme and compared it with the 13 February version. In some cases I have had to extrapolate dates for the 5 January programme as SDS did not fill in all the dates. See attached spreadsheet for details of the main items.

Looking at the various items:

- Mound IFAs & IFCs issued on time or early
- West Maitland St TQ delayed 3 weeks by SGN not accepting SDS original proposal
- Plates 1-5 & 6-10 delayed 5 weeks each by delay in receipt of revised C4 estimates from BT Openreach
- Plates 11 & 12 delivered 6 weeks early as re-prioritised to make use of SDS resource while waiting for C4s
- IFC for telecoms in Line 2, Plates 5-6 held up 6 weeks by SDS failure to respond to commercial letter from tie

Overall the completion of design for Newhaven to Haymarket has slipped 3 weeks from 3 April to 24 April.

This is a function of SDS only having one team that can work on designs that have already been part completed and of 3 weeks of additional work for West Maitland Street and the Mound when SGN did not accept the SDS proposal (which had previously been agreed with tie).

So the extension in the programme duration for the Newhaven to Haymarket design is arguably a direct cause of caveats that SDS had given coming to pass.

The re-ordering of the work which has put Plates 1-5 & 6-10 back has been due to BT not meeting the originally assumed timescales. tie and SDS both expected the other to take the lead in getting the revised C4s delivered – eventually tie took the lead. It is not possible to establish whether this contributed to the BT delay and it is certainly not possible to make it stick against SDS.

The SDS utilities team has delivered to the timescales they set wherever things were within their control and that is all they promised to do. I would have wanted much more than that but it has been clear ever since I got involved in MUDFA that Halcrow has had to be dragged along reluctantly to complete their scope of work.

There are lots of smaller changes that need to be completed and in many cases the ball lies in SDS's court in that I wrote to Alan Dolan on 23 December requesting further information/justification of many of them and he has not responded despite regular promises that he would write within 24 hours. We need to focus on getting these closed out with SDS rather than pursuing SDS over Plates 1-10.

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