
From: Gordon Mackenzie
Sent: 13 October 2010 20:34
To: Jenny Dawe; Tom Aitchison
Subject: FW: Tram amendment

Importance: High

Andrew and I have spoken.

I told him that we were likely to propose providing the Business Case info less any that was commercially prejudicial (to LB). He understood the point very clearly but is obviously in considerable difficulty with some of his group over making any changes and has suggested in return that we accept their amendment on that issue with them accepting a verbal caveat that the information would be presented in a way which does not prejudice the interests of LB. As long as that caveat is recorded in the minute I'd be okay with it, what do you think?

In relation to TEL I reaffirmed our view that they were wrong. I also recognised their amendment had been deliberately worded in such a way that it doesn't affect the ability of TEL to get on with the job - which he confirmed was the intention. He asked us to accept it anyway as it wouldn't affect TEL but would mean there was a good majority for the report as amended. I agreed to try to get you (Jenny) to consider it favourably (mainly because I'm pissed off with TEL for not getting Lothian Buses to publicly support us - I know that's not logical but it's been a long day).

The best I can say for their request is that agreement would at least shorten the debate! It wouldn't make a material difference to operational progress and it would be a positive if we were to have at least 3 parties united (Us plus Labour and Greens). That said, I find it difficult to accept something that's factually wrong - perhaps we should suggest deleting the preamble but agree to accept that we won't endorse the position at this stage?

Other parties

The Tories aren't going to do anything after their amendment is defeated. There's no likelihood of movement on that but I wouldn't rule out them adding something else in before they lodge their amendment. They are not going to vote with anyone else even if their amendment is accepted - we didn't discuss what would happen if the SNP voted with them!

I spoke to Steve Burgess to tell him where we were in relation to Labour and the LB issue. However Maggie Chapman is leading on this for them and was lecturing this pm. She has my mobile number and if I don't hear from her this evening I'll doorstep her tomorrow morning.

Nothing from the SNP

Gordon

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrew Burns
Sent: Wed 13/10/2010 19:27
To: Jenny Dawe; Gordon Mackenzie
Cc: Ian Perry
Subject: Tram amendment

Jenny/Gordon (c.c. Ian)

If at all possible, it would be extremely helpful to know what position you're likely to take on the tram report prior to 9am tomorrow morning?

Andrew

Andrew Burns
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