
From: Tom Aitchison
Sent: 21 May 2010 12:38
To: Mike Brown
Cc: Donald McGougan; Peter Gabbitas; Monica Boyle
Subject: RE: Audit Scotland work programme - Edinburgh trams

Mike

AUDIT SCOTLAND: WORK PROGRAMME

Thanks for this. I have met Audit Scotland a couple of times over the last 4-6 weeks when we have touched on tram issues. I think (hope) they understand that it would not be helpful to start a tram review when commercial negotiations are at a very critical period. The other issue which we need to deal with is what is shown in the unaudited accounts (due next month) re financial provision for trams. The Director of Finance is currently considering this.

Best wishes.

Tom

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From: Mike Brown
Sent: 21 May 2010 08:21
To: Tom Aitchison
Cc: Donald McGougan; Peter Gabbitas; Monica Boyle
Subject: Audit Scotland work programme - Edinburgh trams

Dear Tom,

You may already be aware that Audit Scotland have Edinburgh Trams on their draft performance audit programme programme. Here is the description:

16. Edinburgh trams

The Auditor General's first report on early progress with the re-introduction of trams to Edinburgh was published in June 2007. Since then, significant media and public interest in the project has continued with coverage including reports of project slippage, spiralling costs and contractual disputes involving utilities diversion works.

I attended a meeting last Friday for ADSW on Audit Scotland's forward work programme. Currently the Trams proposal sits under "rolling programme - to keep under review", rather than in the category of programmes starting soon. A number of us argued that Audit Scotland's priorities should be on studies that provide practical assistance to the public sector in achieving savings and managing demand.

Mike

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