
From: Tom Aitchison
Sent: 15 March 2010 13:59
To: Jenny Dawe; David Mackay; 'Richard Jeffrey'; Dave Anderson; Donald McGougan; Isabell Reid
Cc: Sheena Raeburn
Subject: FW: Trams - PPS Appointment

From: Donald Anderson [<mailto:donald.anderson@ppsgroup.co.uk>]
Sent: 15 March 2010 11:58
To: Tom Aitchison
Cc: dmackay@transportedinburgh.com; Richard.Walker@civil.bilfinger.co.uk; Flynn.Michael@siemens.com
Subject: Trams - PPS Appointment

Tom

Thanks very much for your email. I am happy to clarify the role that PPS has been appointed to carry out in regards to Edinburgh Trams. PPS has been appointed to provide strategic advice on dealing with the many issues faced by our clients in regard to their engagement on the Edinburgh Trams project. We have been appointed in that regard by both Bilfinger Berger and Siemens.

Our appointment is intended to help secure a speedier conclusion to the current contractual difficulties, and seek ways to improve the relationship between the client and contractor. I do appreciate that the client for the project is TIE, but I am also aware of the responsibilities that the council has with regard to delivering the project and I have also been asked to look at ways of ensuring a greater level of engagement with the council on some of the key issues.

My clients have expressed a very strong desire to improve relations and to help ensure the satisfactory completion of the Edinburgh Tram project. In that regard, my clients fully support the ambitions of both TIE and the council to deliver a world class transport project for the city of Edinburgh at the minimum cost achievable, which enables the contractors to make a reasonable return for the work. Both sides have rights and responsibilities that cannot be set aside, and we need to quickly progress to a position that both sides can accept as reasonable.

I am simply an advisor, and I am very clear in my own mind that I do not have a magic wand to wave that will resolve what have become some fairly entrenched positions. I do not have any authority to take decisions, which is purely a matter for our clients. I do think the 'honest broker/facilitator' is the most accurate description of what my role could involve. I am not involved in managing the communications issues.

I have been trying to open up lines of communication with the council in the past few days, and I am keen, wherever possible, to try to get discussions going that will help bring to an end what has been a very acrimonious process.

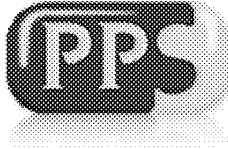
I have briefed my clients on the comments made by the council leader on Friday, and on our part we would welcome an open debate about some of these issues. All that my clients want to do is to be able to carry out the work that they were contracted for. All that is being sought by my clients is that there is proper and fair public administration of the contract, which I am sure, is also the view of the council.

Both I and my colleagues are more than happy to respond to any request for information, guidance or meetings. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best Wishes

Donald Anderson

Donald Anderson
Director



PPS Group
93 George Street
Edinburgh EH2 3ES

Working in the tougher areas of communication



Tel: [REDACTED]
Switchboard: 0131 226 1951
Fax: 0131 226 1957



www.ppsgroup.co.uk

Please don't print our emails unnecessarily

The opinions expressed within this email represent those of the individual and not necessarily those of PPS Group Ltd or its subsidiary company PPS (Local and Regional) Ltd.

The contents of this email may be privileged and are confidential. It may not be disclosed to or used by anyone other than the addressee(s), nor copied in any way. If received in error, please advise the sender, then delete from your system.