

NOTES ON MEETING WITH GROUP LEADERS
14TH JULY 2009

Present: Tom Aitchison
David Mackay
Dave Anderson
Steve Cardownie
Allan Jackson
Ian Murray (Labour)
Andy Nichols

1.	Apologies from Gordon Mackenzie but I spoke to him on the telephone beforehand. He was totally supportive of our strategy as confirmed at the TPB.
2.	Used Board pack to cover the key issues which fitted in nicely with Richard's earlier conversations with TA.
3.	Emphasised the need for the use of the contractual mechanism which was the only route ahead.
4.	This was the belt, braces and belt approach to reaffirm our strategy – e.g. DLA plus Stuart Jordan's litigation plus A N Other (Brodie) AND Messrs Nicholson and Mackintosh.
5.	Confirmed that the preferred DRPs would be presented to the next Board on 29 th July together with the sensitivity analysis and updated on what success might look like (note Siemens' introduction of BAM Rail Director to Richard Jeffrey).
6.	Re-emphasised the need for total confidentiality AND political unity as opposed to unnecessary "politicking". We would be happy to give Senior Political briefings.
7.	We had a range of numbers but no certainty because of the lack of an agreed programme and indeed Dispute Resolution.
8.	The mantra of £50-80m and perhaps £100m was still being repeated but as ever, without detail.
9.	Very important to hold nerve in this situation.
10.	Transport Scotland/Ministers – need to be not out of kilter (SB's meeting on 16 th July).
11.	DA's letter and DJM's response – note that DA did not write the letter!

12.	<p>DMcG's reaction pre-Board meeting was down to "surprise" that no numbers had been revealed at the Financial, Commercial and Legal Committee the evening before. Understandable but generally accepted by TA and DA that everyone knew the figure of 545 was under upwards pressure.</p> <p>Again repeated that the funding envelope was under attack and that the risks were becoming higher than ever.</p>
13.	Continue to work closely with CEC team.
14.	Gill Lindsay would be available to give greater support. Graeme Bissett is on the case.
15.	Jim Inch – going into hospital – interesting to note that he did not mention the governance discussions at the TPB and indeed Kenneth Hogg's onslaught!
16.	TEL Business Plan covered in outline.
17.	<p>Other topics covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over-engineering questions • Alan Coyle's draft paper for August with DA • Princes Street – on track