
From: Graeme Bissett [graeme.bissett@virgin.net]
Sent: 06 August 2009 07:44
To: Stewart McGarrity; Richard Jeffrey
Cc: 'David Mackay'
Subject: FW: Draft 20th August Report
Attachments: Edinburgh Tram Project Status Report v1 14 vGB.doc

I have a meeting with Donald, Dave et al on Monday to finalise these papers. Can you let me have your comments on :

- 1) the wording in 3.11, see Alan's comments below. I think removal of "highly" is a big improvement in dampening down BSC's interpretation and the result is probably as good a balance as we can get. The problem with Alan's comment is that £545m is of course already public, but no bigger number.
- 2) The proposal at 3.9 on MUDFA.

Latest draft attached for ref.

Regards
Graeme

Graeme Bissett
m : +44 [REDACTED]

From: Alan Coyle [mailto:Alan.Coyle@edinburgh.gov.uk]
Sent: 05 August 2009 09:17
To: Graeme Bissett
Cc: Marshall Poulton; Dave Anderson; Donald McGougan; Stewart McGarrity
Subject: RE: Draft 20th August Report

Graeme

Thanks for your comments.

I have noted some comments in response below.

Regards

Alan Coyle | Financial Services | City Development Team | Level 2/5 Waverley Court | 4 East Market St EH8 8BG |
alan.coyle@edinburgh.gov.uk |
Phone 0131 [REDACTED] Mobile [REDACTED]

From: Graeme Bissett [mailto:graeme.bissett@virgin.net]
Sent: 04 August 2009 13:44
To: Alan Coyle; Donald McGougan
Cc: 'Richard Jeffrey'; 'David Mackay'; 'Stewart McGarrity'; Dave Anderson; Marshall Poulton; 'Alastair Richards - TEL';

Bill Campbell (TEL)

Subject: RE: Draft 20th August Report

Alan, thanks for this. We still have a difference of view on two important sections plus three less threatening points. The attached version offers alternative words, but the issues have been well-aired and it is now really up to you and CEC colleagues whether these final points are reflected.

Main :

- 3.11 the reference to £545m here strongly implies a likelihood of a significant excess over the funding benchmark, which will be regarded as a big prize worth aggressive pursuit by BSC. The outturn is very difficult to predict at this stage and it is possible that the outturn may significantly exceed £545m, but it is not in the Council's interests to highlight this to BSC. The words suggested are intended to avoid heightening BSC's interest while still marking the direction of the risk clearly for Elected Members. **My drafting from the previous version will hold with the exception of excluding "highly". There has been no evidence thus far that holding to the £512m which was the previously reported number has helped engagement with BSC.**

- 3.13 the preference would be to outline the additional funding options available to the Council without implying that the solution to a significant funding shortfall is required, for the same reasons as noted under 3.11. **Happy to include.**

Other :

- 3.9 it is recommended that the MUDFA number is not reported for similar reasons to those which concern BSC. There is a dispute with Carillion and quoting a specific number could be misconstrued by the contractor. **This all centres around approval of additional costs. We have not noted any cost increases on the £512m other than the previous CUS claim signed off in April by Council. If there are still opportunities on the £7m then lets only include the number that will crystallize at this point. Donald is keen to include more detail on this issue in the report given the Council's previous issue that they are working in an information vacuum.**

- 3.32 the reference to the application of the concessionary fares regime as a "scenario" implies that it is plausible, whereas the planning assumption has all along been that the current regime (or something similar) will apply, as endorsed by Transport Scotland. **I'll make some revisions to the drafting/**

- 3.41 the extent to which tie's activities are dominated by the tram project is similar in FY10 compared to FY09. No problem.

Alastair / Bill - are there any final comments on the TEL Business Plan section ?

Regards
Graeme

Graeme Bissett

m : +44 [REDACTED]

From: Alan Coyle [mailto:Alan.Coyle@edinburgh.gov.uk]
Sent: 03 August 2009 10:55
To: Graeme Bissett; Donald McGougan
Cc: Richard Jeffrey; David Mackay; Stewart McGarrity; Dave Anderson; Marshall Poulton; Alastair Richards - TEL
Subject: RE: Draft 20th August Report

Graeme

Thanks for the comments the majority of which have now been weaved into the report. The reference to the costs likely exceeding £545m still remains. I'll be working on the final sections in the next couple of days.

Regards

Alan Coyle | Financial Services | City Development Team | Level 2/5 Waverley Court | 4 East Market St EH8 8BG |
alan.coyle@edinburgh.gov.uk |
Phone 0131 [REDACTED] Mobile [REDACTED]

From: Graeme Bissett [mailto:graeme.bissett@virgin.net]
Sent: 31 July 2009 14:51
To: Alan Coyle; Donald McGougan
Cc: 'Richard Jeffrey'; 'David Mackay'; 'Stewart McGarrity'; Dave Anderson; Marshall Poulton; 'Alastair Richards - TEL'
Subject: RE: Draft 20th August Report

Thanks Alan, I think we are getting there. The attached reflects Richard's suggestions and I have also repeated those of mine from the previous draft where I still think the change is important. The main thrust is to minimize the content which will cause BSC to salivate.

I will pass on any further specific points if received – tie / TEL colleagues please pass comments to me and I will consolidate.

To minimize further iterations, the best plan might be for you and colleagues at CEC to take a final view on the attached, then it is firm unless tie / TEL has a fundamental concern which could then be debated and resolved without further committee drafting.

When will the governance paper be available ?

Is it proposed to report on TROs and bus operations on Princes St in another way ?

If you want to discuss any points just give me a call.

Regards
Graeme

Graeme Bissett
m : +44 [REDACTED]

From: Alan Coyle [mailto:Alan.Coyle@edinburgh.gov.uk]
Sent: 31 July 2009 12:01
To: Graeme Bissett; Donald McGougan
Cc: Richard Jeffrey; David Mackay; Stewart McGarrity; Dave Anderson; Marshall Poulton; Alastair Richards - TEL
Subject: RE: Draft 20th August Report

Gentlemen please find the latest draft of Council report. The governance section will form part of a separate report. I'll get to work to the conclusions and recommendations next week once the main part is broadly acceptable to all.

Please get back to me with comments.

Regards

Alan Coyle | Financial Services | City Development Team | Level 2/5 Waverley Court | 4 East Market St EH8 8BG |
alan.coyle@edinburgh.gov.uk |
Phone 0131 [REDACTED] Mobile [REDACTED]

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