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**From:** Minister for Transport and Veterans  
**Sent:** 29 May 2013 18:51  
**To:** Porteous G (Graham)  
**Cc:** McLaughlin AC (Ainslie); Middleton DF (David); PS/Transport Scotland; Chalmers D (Danny); O'Loughlin S (Sarah); Broadwood C (Colin)  
**Subject:** Re: Edinburgh Trams : Rail Issue  
**Categories:** Orange Category

Thanks Graham - Mr Brown has noted.

Martyn

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**From:** Porteous G (Graham)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2013 06:18 PM GMT Standard Time  
**To:** Minister for Transport and Veterans  
**Cc:** McLaughlin AC (Ainslie); Middleton DF (David); PS/Transport Scotland; Chalmers D (Danny); O'Loughlin S (Sarah); Broadwood C (Colin)  
**Subject:** Edinburgh Trams : Rail Issue

Martin,

Can you please advise the Minister that an issue that has arisen on the Tram Project.

Some sections of the tram rails in the city may need to be taken out in order to have their supporting components replaced.

There is already media interest.

The tram rails which are embedded in concrete (and not on ballast) have a rubber surround to manage vibration and noise. This occurs primarily on the on-street lengths of the route. A length of rubber surround has been identified to be in an unacceptable condition due to a suspected manufacturing or installation issue. The areas of concern are around Haymarket and the east end of Shandwick Place at present. The repair works involve the removal of the rail, the rubber in question and its concrete support and the subsequent recasting and installation.

Further information is being sought on:

The extent of the issue

The time to rectify the issue

The impact on the tram programme.

The responsibility for the repairs rests with the contractor.

CEC have already prepared lines which are :

“Infracore have advised us that they have found elements of work that have not met their quality assurance satisfaction. Details of a programme of work to remedy this are being put together and will be with the council by the end of the week. These works will be at cost of the contractor and will not affect the completion date.

“It’s not unusual that remedial works like this are carried on infrastructure projects and we remain on course to hit the revised budget and timeframe.”

Many thanks

**Graham Porteous**

**Head of Special Projects**

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Transport Scotland, the national transport agency  
*Còmhdaidh Alba, buidheann nàiseanta na còmhdaidh*