
From: Graeme Bissett [graeme.bissett@[REDACTED]]
Sent: 22 August 2006 07:39
To: Stewart McGarrity; Suzanne Waugh
Cc: Andie Harper; Geoff Gilbert
Subject: RE: URGENT - as discussed - Councillor tram email briefing - to be approved

I'm not clear why this sort of detailed timeline is of great benefit to Councillors, the press and the public. The realities will dictate that we need flexibility other than around drop dead dates. Has the principle of this sort of communication been discussed and agreed with Andie and the tram team among others within tie and TEL ?

Other points :

1. The comment about no financial penalty if the project was abandoned has absolutely not yet been agreed with TS, in fact there's a debate as to whether they will seek recompense from the Council if the Council do unilaterally terminate the project. This is a sensitive area, commercially and politically and putting this point into the public domain this way isn't helpful, TS will regard it as an attempt to pre-empt the debate and at an unhelpful time in that debate. A better comment would be that "Funding for these works will be agreed with the Executive prior to commencement."
2. Infraco tender release is scheduled for Oct 4. Tenders are due back in Jan, not Feb and to say they will be fully evaluated is wrong as Stewart's note points out.
3. I've no idea where the business case actions attributed to March 07 came from, this will not happen.

Regards
Graeme

Graeme Bissett

m : [REDACTED]

From: Stewart McGarrity [mailto:Stewart.McGarrity@tie.ltd.uk]
Sent: 22 August 2006 07:09
To: Suzanne Waugh
Cc: Andie Harper; Geoff Gilbert; Graeme Bissett
Subject: FW: URGENT - as discussed - Councillor tram email briefing - to be approved
Importance: High

Suzanne,

A couple of **important** points on this before it is circulated.

- The business case document to be submitted in November and considered at the 21 Dec Council Meeting is called the **Draft Final Business Case**
- The submission date for the Draft Final Business Case is 9 November (not 3 November)
- Unless I'm behind the times, the programme currently reflects that the Draft Final Business Case will be updated to reflect an appraisal of Infraco tender prices during January 2007 with an update back to the full Council meeting of 1 February 2007. We have been informed that this is the last date on which any decisions can be made by the Council prior to the elections. Having said that, at the TEL Board yesterday I heard Andrew Burns say there is another full Council meeting after 1 February. I also heard him suggest an approach whereby the political decisions would be conditionally made at the 21 December Council meeting with delegated authority given to the CEC Chief Executive to give unconditional approval in the new year once he was satisfied that the Infraco tender prices returned had confirmed affordability. This latter approach seems to me to have quite considerable benefits.

Andie / Geoff – The OGC Gateway Review and the DFBC will need to be informed by a clear statement of what we are going to be able to do with the Infraco tender prices between return in early January and the 1 February Council meeting in terms of updating our cost estimates/affordability analysis (if it remains the plan to report back to that meeting). This not a new worry, but we really are opening ourselves up to getting cut-off at the knees if the tender period is elongated for any reason (e.g. one or more of the bidders calls up in late November/early December and says they just cannot meet the early January tender return date). Julian Ware from KPMG (SE advisors) was adamant last Friday that he did not believe the first round of tender prices would be reliable for the purposes of confirming our cost estimates and that we should not have the DFBC approval linked to the that first round of prices (he actually needed to say that to TS a year ago). Obviously your judgement in this matter is far more important to me than his, but he is influential with Damian and we need our own documented position.

Stewart

From: Suzanne Waugh
Sent: 21 August 2006 14:31
To: Andie Harper; Stewart McGarrity
Subject: URGENT - as discussed - Councillor tram email briefing - to be approved
Importance: High

From: Leanne Maberley [mailto:leanne.maberley@edinburgh.gov.uk]
Sent: 18 August 2006 14:19
To: keith.rimmer@edinburgh.gov.uk; duncan fraser; John Jenkins; Suzanne Waugh; Andrew Burns; Ewan Kennedy
Subject: Councillor tram email briefing - to be approved
Importance: High

Dear all

Attached is this **month's tram email briefing for Cllrs**. Could you please check over and get back to me with any comments by **Monday 4pm** please.

I would like to issue next Tuesday if possible.

JJ - could you check that Andrew is OK with this?

Thanks

Leanne

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