

Group Leaders Tram Briefing Note - Tuesday 14 April 2009

Council Reports

Council reports are being drafted for the following:

Council Meeting on 30 April 2009

- Edinburgh Tram – Update Report comprising Phase 1b plus an update for the project
- Edinburgh Tram – Impacts of the Princes Street Diversion, which reviews the monitoring undertaken and the impacts on the planned city events

Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee on 5 May 2009

- Edinburgh Tram – West End Traffic Management. This report considers re-routing some traffic back onto Charlotte Square to address concerns from local residents because of the proposed Shandwick Place general traffic restriction

Council Meeting on 28 May 2009

- **tie ltd** Business Plan 2009/10. **tie ltd's** annual plan is required to be approved for 2009/10.

Commercial

Agreement was reached (Princes Street Supplemental Agreement) to allow work to commence on Princes Street on 24 March, notwithstanding resolution of the formal disputes. One of the disputes, which deals with cost calculations for the Contract Preliminaries has now been referred to the next stage of the process – mediation or adjudication.

Additionally, **tie ltd** and BSC (the consortium contractors) have now set up a "Project Management Panel" (PMP) to review and agree issues with the objective of re-invigorating the contractual and working relationships. BSC have also appointed a new Project Director, Martin Foerder, who until recently was working for Bilfinger Berger on the Malmo Metro project – this has been welcomed by **tie ltd**.

Programme

A review of the programme is being undertaken by **tie ltd** to take on board the recent contractual disputes. It is too early to confirm any changes to the programme, but **tie ltd** are looking at opportunities to improve productivity rates, which would include the following:

- Improved productivity rates – Princes Street will be an important test in this regard
- Embargo relaxations
- Alternative construction methodologies to recover time
- Adjustments to the testing and commissioning phase (the original programme window has been retained); or
- Partial opening options.

Design

Good progress is being made in the statutory approvals for the tram project. The Council has a dedicated team dealing with these, with many staff being based at **tie ltd's** office at Citypoint.

- Prior Approvals are 91% complete. There remain many outstanding conditioned items of detail design that **tie ltd** and their contractors are working through.
- Technical Approvals are 84%. These comprise new structures and roads and drainage consents. Similar to the Prior Approvals, there remain many outstanding conditioned matters of detail that are being worked through.

Progress on the Construction Works

Utility Works

- 65% complete on-street
- 92% complete off-street
- 70% combined

Tram Infrastructure Works

Work started on Princes Street on 24 March 2009.

There is a focus via the PMP to deal with the top priority issues affecting progress including the depot and key structures. This has successfully led to agreement on works commencing at the depot in April and will continue to ensure no further barriers emerge and some of the lost time is recovered.

Progress has been slower than planned at some locations – this includes Edinburgh Park (bridge beams being installed from 8 April) and Carrick Knowe bridge. Additionally, tram construction work has been deferred on Leith Walk until utility diversions have been completed. This is expected to recommence in late summer. Alternative access arrangements are being considered to recover some of the time lost. The sub-contractor has been redeployed to construct the Verity House access road. Construction at the A8 in the vicinity of Gogarburn has progressed well and bridge beams are being delivered on 5 May.

Good progress is being made with delivery of Tramco with the modules for the first trams currently 2 months ahead of schedule.

Work has progressed with traffic management planning and for the tram construction works at Haymarket which are due to commence in June.

Communication

Princes Street Communications Campaign

A communications campaign has been implemented to publicise the relocated bus stops and to emphasise that the city is still open and accessible to all. This included a major media campaign utilising print, radio and broadcast media as well as the web. In addition, the following promotional activities were undertaken:

- 120,000 leaflets were distributed to libraries, shopping centres, shops, schools, community centres and handed out on-street
- Printed advertisements were placed in the Evening News, Metro and Lothian regional newspapers
- A two week advertising campaign ran on Radio Forth and Galaxy
- Poster sites in Waverley Station and bus stop guides applied to the site perimeter fencing
- 'Ad bikes' touring the city centre for three days
- 30 Adshel bus shelters are providing the message that Edinburgh is still open and accessible to all.

An Open for Business marketing campaign has also been implemented that will contribute to attracting people to Edinburgh. Activities include:

- A new shopping website (www.edinburghshopper.com) was launched on 18 March 2009
- The List Independent Shopping Guide. This will be released in April and retailers have had the opportunity to participate
- Lifestyle/Shopping magazine (called EH Living). The magazine inserts will be included in the Evening News, and door-to-door delivery is being pursued
- Radio advertisements and competitions on Radio Forth.

Tram mock-up

The tram mock-up arrived on Princes Street and opened its doors to the public on Monday 23 February from 11am until 6pm. Since it opened, there have been 60,000 visits from the public. Due to the level of interest being shown in the tram mock-up display and in the interests of positive engagement with the public, it has been decided that the mock-up should be displayed at other key locations.

Finance

Funding Agreement with Transport Scotland (TS)

Transport Scotland have now contributed £245m to the project to facilitate spending to the end of period 2 of financial year 2009-10 (period ending 25th May 2009).

The Council's contribution to the project remains at £45m. The achieved contribution to date totals £9.82m and £12.36m is already in the Planning system.