From: Anthony Rush [rush\_aj@]
Sent: 27 January 2010 12:44

**To:** Richard Jeffrey; 'Fitchie, Andrew'

**Subject:** RE: Infraco behaviour and Clauses 7.316, 7.5.2 and Clause 77.1.

Please forward it.

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From: Richard Jeffrey [mailto:Richard.Jeffrey@tie.ltd.uk]

**Sent:** 27 January 2010 11:45 **To:** Anthony Rush; 'Fitchie, Andrew'

Subject: RE: Infraco behaviour and Clauses 7.316, 7.5.2 and Clause 77.1.

I have a copy of the e-mail to Tom Buchanan!

R

From: Anthony Rush [mailto:rush\_aj@

Sent: 27 January 2010 10:08

To: 'Fitchie, Andrew'

Cc: 'Nolan, Brandon'; torquilmurray@ Richard Jeffrey; david mackay@t Stewart McGarrity

**Subject:** RE: Infraco behaviour and Clauses 7.316, 7.5.2 and Clause 77.1.

Thanks Andrew,

I asked the question yesterday "when does Infraco's behaviour become willful"?

In writing u the background to the case I am minded that their behaviour could now be said to be willful – it being clear that it is causing damage to tie and others. Infraco are I suggest required to review their actions in the interests obtaining best value, in the interests of "economy, efficiency and effectiveness". and the Project Vision.

Tony

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**From:** Fitchie, Andrew [mailto:Andrew.Fitchie@dlapiper.com]

**Sent:** 27 January 2010 09:46

To: Anthony Rush

Cc: Nolan, Brandon; torquilmurray@ Richard Jeffrey; david\_mackay@ Stewart McGarrity

Subject: RE: Infraco behaviour and Clauses 7.316, 7.5.2 and Clause 77.1.

## Legally privileged and FOISA Exempt

Tony - in haste this morning:

Some background and Richard will be better placed on first hand information. What follows about the facts is obviously second-hand and a summary.

As we have discussed, **tie's** confidence n the integrity of BB UK management struggled to recover from the pre Close tension and bad behaviour of BSC. I think this impression is shared by CEC, in front of whom senior BB personnel essentially lied when asked if the supply chain was under contract. In February last year, matters reached a head in terms of relationship breakdown when BSC refused to enter Princes Street. The media picked this up and, as a result, David Mackay's picture appeared in a paper as a tank commander, from memory under a diplomatic title along the lines of 'Crush the Huns' and some fairly one sided commentary. This sparked media briefings by BB. This bushfire died out after an uneasy understanding was reached that direct public airing of differences was inferior to negotiation and, if needed, DRP and would hurt the standing of the Project.

Despite this, there was some clear sniping at intervals. Steven was criticised either in name or title in the papers following his fairly 'as I see it' interview/quotations about BSC performance on site. There were several exchanges of correspondence following this, including one from the Infraco which talked of damage to individuals' and corporate reputation. We advised **tie** on this subject (i.e. to what extent a corporation can, as a matter of law, sue and recover damages for hurt to its reputation: the leading case here concerning public allegation made by individuals about a supermarket's policies). Amidst this, BB (as opposed to BSC) briefed its media adviser to suggest to an elected Council Member that he should ask pointed and negative questions about Richard in an open Council meeting. We advised on defamation - I am not certain whether **tie** were ever shown the email exchange between the consultant and the Councillor, Tom Buchanan, but no action was taken as far as I am aware. Since that time, we have not had close involvement in **tie's** monitoring of BSC media strategy but we have been assisting on FOISA matters where this a clear link to the media's own lines of inquiry on the Project.

## Analysis:

I have no doubt that an allegation by **tie** of breach of 7.3.16 would be met by a counter-assertion that **tie** kicked off a war of words on BSC's performance and it would be unreasonable for **tie** to be able to rely upon the predictable outcome of its goading BSC. However, I consider that **tie's** position is that BSC lack of responsiveness and breach of partnering obligations made it essential to capture BSC senior (German) management's attention to the crisis and that the contract deliberately does not contain a reciprocal provision about protection of the contractor's image. The fact that **tie** felt compelled to permit/spark media comment supports the level of dissatisfaction about Infraco's abuse of the Change mechanism and their aim to bring the contract to a standstill. **Wilful**: I consider that the contact with the Councillor went well beyond the 'self defence' or 'fair comment' argument. This was a BB instructed move - using an agent - which made a deliberate choice of contact with an influential political third party, with no direct remit on the Project. The fact that Councillor Buchanan reported this to **tie** and refused to do what was proposed does not remove the breach; it dilutes its effect and therefore goes to what damage might have flowed. If there have been further instances like this, then that pattern can and should be relied upon to prove wilful breach. Please also refer to Clause 77.1 - where **tie**/CEC benefit from an indemnity for wilful acts of Infract and Infraco Parties.

Depending on what has been occurring in terms of **tie's** own media strategy, I consider that a short exercise in assembling evidence of blatant unprovoked attacks which can be traced to BSC is worthwhile. This would support breach of 7.3.16 (and its link to 7.5.2 *minimising the disruption to the city of Edinburgh*), the significance of which, in my view, lies within (a) the public duty and Best Value role which **tie** has to discharge (b) the potential to establish argument for the recoverability of damages for abortive expenditure if the project were to fail. The additional reason for these provisions was to create a specific duty on the contractor in the vein of the additional controls exerted by funders on PFI schemes. The difficulty in this evidence, of course, will be attribution and accuracy of what is reported as having been said about **tie/CEC** or the ETN.

The significance of BSC's media strategy is relevant to what their desired outcome really is. If the most elegant solution for BSC is that the project funding is cancelled by Transport Scotland or that the political will for the ETN evaporates, then a plan may involve careful generation of comments leading to a poor opinion of **tie**, the unaffordability of the project or the chaotic conditions of contract. This would be Wilful and actionable, in my opinion.

## **Recommended Action**

Short discussion with tie's media team to gauge likelihood of and quality of evidence

Hope this is useful.

kind regards

Andrew Fitchie Partner, Finance & Projects

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From: Anthony Rush [mailto:rush\_aj@

**Sent:** 26 January 2010 20:43

To: Fitchie, Andrew

Cc: 'Nolan, Brandon'; torquilmurray@accommichard Jeffrey'

Subject: Infraco behaviour.

Andrew,

Clause 7.3.16 requires Infraco to carry out and complete the Works in such manner as not **wilfully** to detract from the image and reputation of **tie**, Transport Edinburgh Limited, CEC, the Scottish Ministers, Transport Scotland or the Edinburgh Tram Network.

In view of the ongoing publicity when does Infraco's actions become willful?

Tony

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