
From: Graeme Barclay
Sent: 19 October 2007 17:21
To: Willie Gallagher
Cc: Steven Bell; Steve Gorry
Subject: RE: TIE - JANE STREET CLOSURE 12 WEEKS

Importance: High

Willie, have discussed this with Steve Gorry and provided him feed back on why we need to get on with this chamber construction now – this is the main telecom exchange for this side of Edinburgh. We have identified a window of opportunity to do this in advance of the programme. As this is a critical and highly sensitive service, we need to progress this as soon as to ensure any potential problems that may arise , can be accommodated within the programme, without impacting on the overall programme.
Call me if you need further details.

Graeme

Graeme Barclay
Construction Director - MUDFA

tie Limited
MUDFA
Western Harbour
Leith Docks
Edinburgh EH6 6QF

Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: +44 (0)131 622 8301
Mob: [REDACTED]
Email: graeme.barclay@tie.ltd.uk

www.tramsforedinburgh.com
www.tie.ltd.uk

From: Julie Thompson **On Behalf Of** Willie Gallagher
Sent: 19 October 2007 16:03
To: Jenny Dawe; Andy.Nichol@edinburgh.gov.uk
Cc: Duncan Fraser - CEC; Wendy Bailey - CEC
Subject: RE: TIE - JANE STREET CLOSURE 12 WEEKS

Andy,

Thank-you for your email containing Graham Russell's note to Jenny.

We are obviously very concerned to hear of the issues raised in Graham's note and we will reply fully on all the points raised on Monday.

Kind Regards,
Willie

From: Andy Nichol [mailto:Andy.Nichol@edinburgh.gov.uk] **On Behalf Of** Jenny Dawe
Sent: 19 October 2007 10:26
To: Willie Gallagher
Cc: Jenny Dawe; Duncan Fraser - CEC; Wendy Bailey - CEC
Subject: FW: TIE - JANE STREET CLOSURE 12 WEEKS
Importance: High

Willie

Copy to : As above

JANE ST./ LEITH WALK JUNCTION - 12 WEEK CLOSURE - FEDERATION OF SMALL BUSINESSES

Please see the email below that Councillor Dawe has received from the Federation of Small Businesses. This touches on the apparent distinction for compensation between MUDFA and other bore holes that Councillor Dawe raised at Tuesday's briefing session. Primarily, however, this correspondence focuses on the length of time for the closure of the Jane Street/Leith Walk junction, the timing of the closure (in the run up to Christmas), short notice of its scheduling and lack of compensation for those businesses adversely affected. Councillor Dawe is quite sympathetic to case presented. To assist her in replying to Mr Russell, Councillor Dawe should welcome your observations and suggestions.

Wendy - Leanne advises that you have developed a protocol to inform the handling of similar correspondence. Grateful if you could let me have further details.

Best wishes

Andy

Andy Nichol
Business Manager to the Leader

From: Graham Russell [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: 13 October 2007 11:47
To: Jenny Dawe
Cc: Angus Whitton; Michael Dixon; Angus Smith; David Land; Derek Huckle; Judy Rogers; Nigel Duncan; Ruth McKay; Tim Steward
Subject: TIE - JANE STREET CLOSURE 12 WEEKS
Importance: High

Good Morning Cllr Dawe,

JANE ST./ LEITH WALK JUNCTION - 12 WEEK CLOSURE

Forgive me for writing direct, but Gary did say that he was away on holiday for two weeks from Monday 15 and the subject matter of this e-mail is in my opinion of the greatest importance.

The attached announcement from TIE is dated October 10 with this major long term closure coming into effect only 5 days later, presuming of course that due to the postal strike the affected businesses have even received it - we didn't get the letter by post until Friday 12th. On top of the inability for businesses in Jane St., whose customers would normally access from Leith Walk, to be able in that short period of time to make any alternative arrangements and/or announcements - the real kick in the teeth for them is to read that they will not be able to claim Compensation through TIE's Business Support Scheme. Of course I, yourself and many others who are closely aware of the Compensation Scheme's restrictive rules know that only "frontagers" can claim through the Support Schemes. Businesses in Jane Street are unlikely to be aware of this as they would not have been part of any relevant advance publicity or circulated material etc.

It is further extremely unfortunate that the only diversion route that customers can use to get to Jane St. at its Leith Walk junction is so complicated that it virtually requires the purchase of a Sat Nav system - understandably a complete put off to casual enquires and passing trade etc.

As we discussed at Friday's meeting concerning the closure of St. Mary's St., depending on the type of business its turnover from now until December 24 can be financially critical for an SME's survival. I have no idea what my Branch is going to say to any of our members that have premises in Jane St., or to the inevitable other businesses that inevitably seek our guidance. I can only really say to them *"launch an appeal with the Local Assessor and claim that the value of the premises from which you trade have*

temporarily reduced in value". In reality that has as much likelihood of success - irrespective of the cost and detailed knowledge that is required - as Alastair Darling reversing last Tuesday's crippling CGT taper relief and inflation indexing changes. In any case the resulting gain would be miniscule in relation to the loss of turnover and future customer retention etc.

In addition to the distinction that TIE is now making regarding holes in the pavement and road such that only "MUDFA" holes qualify Compensation - not "Inspection" holes - the Jane St. businesses are yet another very unfortunate casualty as the Tram Construction small print starts to unravel. Clearly there will be many other major junction closures that will have same effect to "non frontagers". Why could a 12 week closure from October 15 in Leith Walk not be put off until after Christmas - or should the seasonal shopping message "Edinburgh Remains Open For Business" be reworded "Princes St. & St. Andrews Square Remain Open For Business"?

I am very worried and would appreciate your views.

Kind Regards,

Graham

Graham Russell
Chairman - FSB Edinburgh

[Redacted]
Tel/Fax - [Redacted]
Tel - [Redacted]
Skype - [Redacted]
Mobile - [Redacted]

National Federation of Self Employed and Small Businesses Ltd.
(Federation of Small Businesses)
Sir Frank Whittle Way, Blackpool Business Park
Blackpool FY4 2FE
Registered in England No. 1263540
VAT No. 529502349

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