
From: Marshall Poulton
Sent: 07 November 2008 09:18
To: Bob McCafferty
Subject: FW: West End - Tram & Traffic Management Issues

Importance: High

Bob

*****URGENT*****

As discussed, could you please liaise with Duncan to get a co-coordinated reply to Cllr Buchanan asap

Thanks

Marshall

From: Willie Gallagher [mailto:Willie.Gallagher@tie.ltd.uk]
Sent: 07 November 2008 08:16
To: Tom Buchanan; Phil Wheeler
Cc: Marshall Poulton; Dave Anderson
Subject: FW: West End - Tram & Traffic Management Issues

This is underway today, note my last comment though, these issues are much bigger and more strategic than the Tram Road Works.

Thanks,

Willie

From: Willie Gallagher
Sent: 06 November 2008 22:29
To: Mike Connelly; Duncan Fraser - CEC; 'Tom Buchanan'; Phil Wheeler
Cc: Marshall Poulton
Subject: FW: West End - Tram & Traffic Management Issues

Mike / Duncan,

Could you please take the lead on meeting with the West End Traders, understanding the issues and preparing / agreeing a suitable set of responses and/or recommendations. Much of this is wider than Tram though.

Willie

From: Tom Buchanan [mailto:Tom.Buchanan@edinburgh.gov.uk]
Sent: 06 November 2008 16:22
To: Jenny Dawe; Phil Wheeler; Willie Gallagher; Marshall Poulton
Cc: Joshua Miller; Daniel Johnson; Michael Apter; David Beckett; Charles Dundas; Joanna Mowat
Subject: RE: West End - Tram & Traffic Management Issues

Willie and Marshall,

Can you please get your respective teams working on this and reply as a matter of urgency.

Regards

Tom

From: Michael Apter [mailto:michael@papertiger.ltd.uk]
Sent: 06 November 2008 15:35
To: Tom Buchanan; David Beckett; Charles Dundas; Joanna Mowat; Jenny Dawe; Phil Wheeler
Cc: Joshua Miller; Daniel Johnson
Subject: West End - Tram & Traffic Management Issues
Importance: High

Dear Councillors

I am writing to you all on behalf of the members of the West End Association to express the grave concerns we have relating to the ongoing and future viability of this area of the city centre.

Since the beginning of February 2008 virtually every member of our association has experienced a downturn in trade in the order of a 5-20% drop in the majority of cases, through to as much as 45% for some other businesses. The principle reason in the early part of the year has been the tram utilities work; work that was scheduled to take place and which we had anticipated.

A more insidious factor at work this year has been the attendant traffic management planning which has wreaked havoc on our ability to draw traffic to our area, and to utilise the parking spaces in the West End. Collectively we have not seen any significant pick up in trade since the end of July when the Mudfa work was completed.

The following issues are causing problems for us;

- Restriction of traffic heading east - west into Shandwick Place from Lothian Road & Princes Street
- Restriction of traffic travelling west – east from Haymarket/Manor Place into Coates Crescent and Shandwick Place
- Confusing traffic signals at these junctions and at Stafford Street
- Retention of an unnecessary pedestrian crossing on Melville Street with attendant loss of parking spaces

This issue requires an urgent and immediate response. Whilst there are undoubtedly problems in the wider economy, these specific West End issues are impacting on our ability to do business.

In the short term we wish to see the immediate reintroduction of private cars to Shandwick Place/Coates Crescent, and the removal of the Melville Street crossing, together with the relevant changes to access and parking bays.

In the longer term the council must address the issues of road traffic management into the city centre and specifically the West End. This part of the city cannot sustain the damaging and ill-conceived alterations to access any longer.

I look forward to a prompt response to these concerns.

Michael

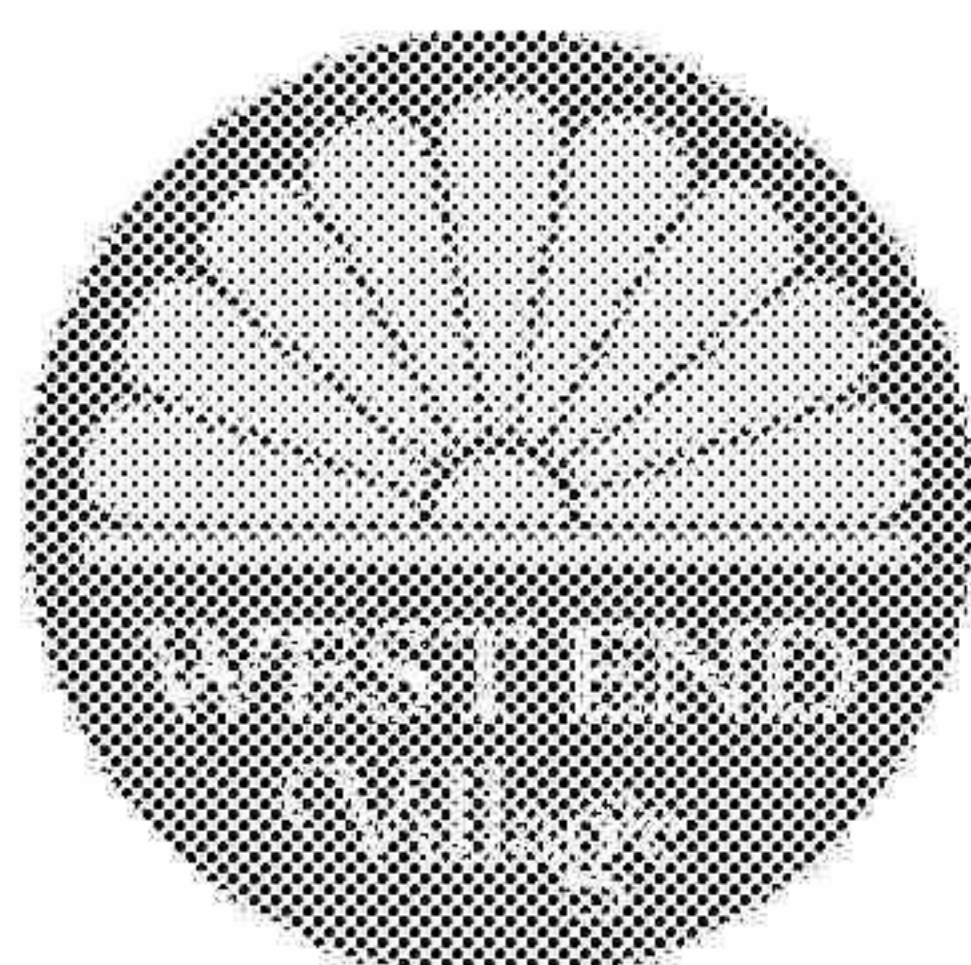
Michael Apter

Chair

Edinburgh West End Association

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