

tie Ltd

The City of Edinburgh Council

23 February 2006

Purpose of report

- 1 This report advises of the imminent resignation of the Chairman of the Board of tie and recommends an appointment to fill an existing vacancy on the board.

Main report

- 2 Ewan Brown, Chair of the tie Board, has written to me intimating his intention to stand down from the board, once the Parliamentary process for the Edinburgh Tram project has concluded. This is expected to be around the end of March 2006 and it has always been Mr Brown's intention to demit office at that time.
- 3 Mr Brown has chaired the Board of tie during what has been a very difficult time and the Council will wish to express its thanks to him for fulfilling his role in a professional and competent manner.
- 4 There is an existing vacancy on the Board of tie, as a result of the resignation of Jim Brown, one of the private sector directors, and my report to the Council on 17 November 2005 stated *inter alia* that I was considering arrangements for the filling of this vacancy.
- 5 While I would normally recommend that this vacancy be filled by open competition, I consider that there would be merit, on this occasion, in appointing Willie Gallagher, who was appointed as a non-executive director of Transport Edinburgh Limited (TEL), following advertisement, in summer 2005.
- 6 Mr Gallagher is currently the Director of Touchdown Services Ltd, which provides consultancy and engineering services to the utility and construction sectors. He has extensive engineering and transport experience, with previous positions including:-
 - (a) senior roles within the Scottish Power Group, in particular, as the Director responsible for the management of Deregulation, for which he was awarded the "outstanding utility individual of the year" and his final role as Director of Customer Services;
 - (b) Board Member of the Strategic Rail Authority for eight years, with specific responsibility for Scotland, and a member of the Franchising Committee,

which was responsible for management of the rail franchise competitions – including ScotRail; and

(c) Board Member of the Scottish Legal Aid Board.

- 7 In addition, he has been a Board Member of Lothian Buses since 2001.
- 8 Since his appointment to the Board of TEL, Mr Gallagher has demonstrated his formidable grasp of the challenges facing Edinburgh in the delivery of its transport agenda and his appointment to the **tie** Board would allow full exploitation of the synergies which exist across **tie**, Lothian Buses and TEL.
- 9 Ewan Brown's departure will, of course, create a further vacancy on the **tie** Board and I recommend that this should be filled following open advertisement.
- 10 With regard to the appointment of the Chair of the **tie** Board, I shall report to an early meeting of the Council with a recommendation.

Recommendations

- 11 The Council is asked to:
 - (i) record its thanks to Ewan Brown in his role as Chair of the Board of **tie**;
 - (ii) approve the appointment of Willie Gallagher as a non-executive director of **tie**;
 - (iii) agree that one of the Board vacancies be filled by open advertisement;
 - (iv) note that I shall report further to an early meeting of the Council in relation to the appointment of the new Chair of **tie**.


Tom Aitchison
Chief Executive

16/02/06.

Appendices

Contact/tel Tom Aitchison 

Wards affected

Background Papers Report to Council – 17 November 2005