

Capital Coalition Motion

City of Edinburgh Council

19 November 2015

Item 8.5(b): Edinburgh Tram Extension – Next Steps

Council:

- 1.1.1 **notes** the findings of the Outline Business Case (OBC) on a non-committal basis; and for the reasons pursuant to paragraphs 1.1.12 and 1.1.13 below, continues consideration of the OBC for one-cycle until the next Council Meeting on Thursday 10th December.
- 1.1.2 **approves** in-principle the selection of Option 1 (Newhaven) as the Council's preferred option;
- 1.1.3 as referenced (in paragraph 1.1.1) above; simply **notes** the report recommendations numbered 1.1.3 through to 1.1.6 and continues their consideration for one-cycle until the next Council Meeting on Thursday 10th December.
- 1.1.7 subsequently **defers** a decision on the implementation of any high level governance structure, as set out in the OBC, until additional information is forthcoming at the December meeting of Council;
- 1.1.8 **note** that legal advice is being sought on the Council's options to acquire the remaining 67 plots of land for Phase 1b and the options will be reported to Council in December;
- 1.1.9 **notes** that the Council is assisting and fully cooperating with the Edinburgh Tram Inquiry, chaired by Lord Hardie;
- 1.1.10 **notes** that a timetable for the oral hearings in the Inquiry has not yet been set; and
- 1.1.11 **notes** that a number of lessons learned by the Council arising from the first phase of the Edinburgh Tram Project have been taken into account in developing the Outline Business Case
- 1.1.12 **further notes** paragraph 3.51 and understands that Lothian Buses are likely to finalise their 2017/19 business plan in Spring 2016. Thus **instructs** the Chief Executive to write to Lothian Buses to request details of any impacts such an extraordinary dividend would make on their future transport strategy, fleet modernisation plans, the likelihood of future fare increases, loss of other transport initiatives (hidden opportunity costs), and the confidence or otherwise of their ability to ensure the company can continue to meet its liabilities.
- 1.1.13 **finally notes** that there are outputs within the proposed 'Stage One' which may be prudent to undertake now, in order to avoid unnecessary disruption during a future tram extension. These would include the Leith enabling works, and therefore requests that options on taking forward these actions will now subsequently be reported to the next meeting of Council in December. Works already undertaken to 'tram proof' the Leith Walk improvement programme should also be detailed, including specifying previously agreed Council expenditure, to avoid duplication of cost.

Moved by Councillor Andrew Burns

Seconded by Councillor Sandy Howat