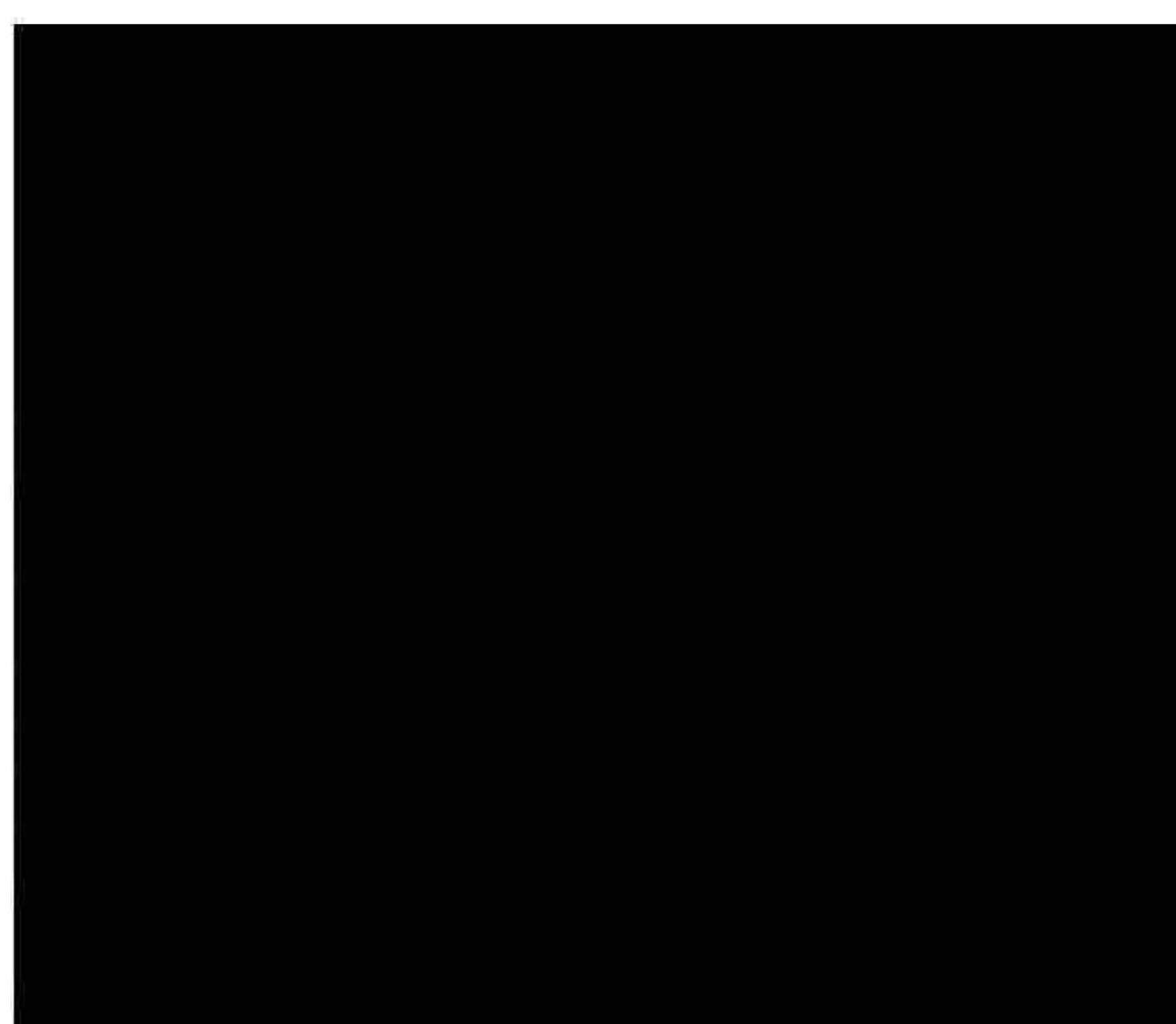


**Communication to Barbara Frame, [REDACTED] from
[REDACTED] Customer Services Manager, Tram Co-ordination Team 13/11/12 via
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] The Scottish Parliament.**

Dear Barbara

I have received a response from [REDACTED] at TIE, which I am forwarding for your attention. Please let me know if it addresses your issue successfully.

Yours sincerely



Member of the Scottish Parliament
for the Edinburgh Central constituency
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

From: [REDACTED] @edinburgh.gov.uk] On Behalf Of Trams
Sent: 13 September 2012 14:27
To: Roy LJ (Lesley)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Abercromby Place, Diversion

Hi Lesley,

Please find response below .

Regards,



[REDACTED] | Customer Services Manager | Tram Co-ordination Team | City of Edinburgh Council
9 Lochside Avenue | Edinburgh Park | Edinburgh | EH12 9DJ
Tel: 0131 [REDACTED]
david.haxton@edinburgh.gov.uk

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail on behalf of your constituent Ms Frame regarding the current York Place tram works and associated temporary traffic diversion.

The installation of the tram on York Place involves major civil engineering works which includes alterations to the road alignment, the installation of the track and overhead lines and associated road works. In view of this it is necessary for the contractor to occupy the full width of the road for a significant period of time. Currently the temporary traffic management on York Place has closed the road to all traffic except buses which are being accommodated by means of a single bus only lane in each direction.

It has therefore been necessary to introduce temporary traffic diversions to ensure that the travelling public can continue to gain access to the city centre with the minimum disruption and delay and a temporary diversion via Dundas Street, Abercromby Place and Albany Street has been signed for this purpose.

These traffic arrangements have been carefully designed to ensure that the road network will operate as smoothly as possible and the diversion arrangements were modelled in advance of the traffic diversions being introduced. Alterations have also been made to the road layout along the route of the diversions to improve traffic safety including the reconfiguration of the parking bays and the installation of temporary pedestrian crossing facilities on Heriot Row at the junction of Howe Street , Abercromby Place at the junction of Dundas Street and Albany Street at the junction of Broughton Street

On the 14 September a bus lane will be opened at the east end of Princes Street to allow shuttle running of buses east west. This will enable the contractor to introduce further alterations to the traffic management arrangements on York Place and on the 21 September York Place will be closed to all traffic. However throughout the works the operation of the bus station will be maintained. Access will be via Little King Street, St James Place and Elder Street and egress will be by means of a dedicated bus lane on York Place between Elder Street and Picardy Place .

I can also advise you that the current layout has been reviewed and the Council are taking steps to install temporary traffic signals at the Albany Street/Broughton Street junction in the near future which will enable north bound traffic to continue on Broughton Street and avoid the need to divert along Albany Street and Abercromby Place . 20mph roundels have also been painted on the road on Albany Street , Abercromby Place and Northumberland Street .

From the end of November the full width of Princes Street will be available which will allow general traffic to travel on Princes Street between North Bridge/Leith Street and South St David Street . All diversion signage directing drivers into the New Town will be removed at this stage.

The limitations of the road network in this part of the city are such that there are no realistic alternative solutions for the diverted traffic other than that adopted. The traffic flows are being monitored to determine if this is in line with the results of the traffic modelling which was carried out in advance of the implementation of the diversions and the traffic speeds are being recorded but there are no plans to monitor the air quality or noise levels during the period of the temporary diversion. It is inevitable that there will be an increase in noise and air pollution due to the increase in traffic, but there are no measures which can be taken to reduce these factors while still maintaining the current traffic arrangements.

I appreciate that this temporary arrangement may result in some degree of disruption for the local residents and I apologise for any inconvenience caused. However there is no other option available if the work is to be carried out successfully. These roads are part of the public road network throughout the city and are therefore deemed to be suitable for all road going vehicles.

I hope this is of assistance.

Regards,



Customer Services Manager | Tram Co-ordination Team | City of Edinburgh Council

9 Lochside Avenue | Edinburgh Park | Edinburgh | EH12 9DJ

Tel: 0 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@edinburgh.gov.uk