

# Amendment by Conservative Group

## Item No. 8.3

### Edinburgh Tram Extension – Draft Outline Business Case Preliminary Findings

Council

Deletes the Report recommendations and replaces with:

Notes the Conservative Group proposed 'No Action' at the December 2014 Council Meeting in respect of the Motion entitled "Future Investment in Public Transport - Potential Tram Extension"

Agrees to take no further action based upon the content of this latest Report, as:

- 1) The Edinburgh Tram Inquiry, Chaired by Lord Hardie, remains ongoing and in its early stages. Considers that in order to learn fully the lessons of what previously went awry with Tram in Edinburgh, the outcome of this inquiry requires to be known.
- 2) Considers the Council's financial position to be prohibitive to the funding for a Tram extension, with total borrowing as at 31 March 2015 already in the region of £1,439.894 million and a forecast deficit of at least £107 million by 2019/20. Therefore does not consider it prudent use of Edinburgh taxpayers money to consider spending between £78.7million - £144.7 million on a Tram extension.
- 3) A significant number of potential conflicts with utilities and other below ground assets, in the region of 1200, have been identified and pose considerable risk, particularly given these remain despite the extensive works carried out as part of the original Tram project.
- 4) Notes that Council is already running behind the schedule set by the Administration, with its aforementioned motion to the December Council meeting noting that work to be undertaken to provide a "refreshed economic appraisal...together with the financing options should give Council the tools to make an informed decision in late Spring next year."

**Moved by** Councillor Cook

**Seconded by** Councillor Mowat