

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR THE EXTENSION OF EDINBURGH TRAMS



As people involved in the business, academic, health, culture and community life of Edinburgh, we urge the City of Edinburgh Council and Scottish Government to support the next extension of Edinburgh Trams, a north-south route from Granton to the Bioquarter.

WE BELIEVE THAT:

The extension is vital for economic development. Increasing connectivity will enhance economic activity within the city, generating more footfall and economic attractiveness for business and inward investment. The extension is of particular importance given the major developments which are ongoing in the north and south of the city.

The first phase of the extension to Granton will increase connectivity for some of the most deprived areas in the city, which are currently underserved by public transport options. The north-south line will improve transport links within and outwith Edinburgh, whilst ensuring that mass transit plays an important role in helping achieve social equity.

Mass transit is key in helping to cut carbon emissions and ensuring that Edinburgh becomes a more sustainable city. Extending the tram will increase capacity of the city's public transport, decrease journey times, and make public transport a more attractive choice.

Extension of the tram network is needed to meet the needs of Edinburgh's growing population. Alongside buses, trams will play a vital role in expanding the capacity of an efficient, sustainable and reliable public transport network for our city and surrounding region.

Across many groups and sectors in Edinburgh, there is clear and strong support for the tram. To truly maximise the benefits that a new tram route will bring, the tram must be fully integrated into the wider transport network, including both public and active travel. The tram must ensure that Edinburgh has a high-quality public realm with fantastic infrastructure, so that this next north-south route will continue to make Edinburgh a city that works for everyone.

Our competitor cities continue to make significant investments in high-quality tram and metro systems. Edinburgh has already seen the advantages a tram network brings, and it is imperative that Edinburgh continues to invest in the trams for the city's future.

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Asthma + Lung UK



Capital Rail Action Group



Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport



Edinburgh Airport



Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce



Edinburgh College



Edinburgh Trade Union Council



Essential Edinburgh



Friends of the Earth Scotland



National Museums Scotland



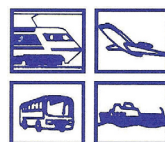
Prosper



ScotRail



Scottish Accessible Transport Alliance



Scottish Association for Public Transport



SEStran



Spokes Lothian Cycle Campaign



The University of Edinburgh



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