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Could you please provide me with all communications relating to the Edinburgh Tram Inquiry sent within the last six months (28/12/2021 to 27/06/2022).

This should include all emails sent and received by officials and councillors.

Information which we can release is attached.

We hold other emails which contain privileged legal advice or relate to our costs associated with the Inquiry; these emails will not be released at this current time.

The information referred to sets out the terms of discussions internally [among Council legal advisors and senior manager[s]] in relation to the application and appropriateness of legal advice, the cost and value of legal advice, and therefore attitude to risk in a legal setting.

While it is acknowledged that there is public interest in the legal advice provided to the Council, we consider that such interest is outweighed by the necessity for its officers to be able to exchange views freely and deliberate internally without opening the details of such to a public forum. The Council's concern is that if such deliberations were to be made public, the officers involved would be significantly less likely to engage in such necessary debate.