

38991 Princes Street Tram Track - Shandwick Place Junction

Regarding the tram track at the West End of Princes Street, at the junction with Queensferry Street and Shandwick Place, we would be grateful if you would provide us with the following information:

Records of all previous complaints made to the Council regarding the tram tracks at Princes Street and Shandwick Place, Edinburgh from 2010 to date.

Records of all previous accidents involving the tram tracks at Princes Street and Shandwick Place, Edinburgh from 2010 to date.

The information we hold in relation to complaints and accidents is published on our Disclosure Log at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/homepage/10467/freedom-of-information-foi-disclosure-log>

Please enter '38439' in the Search field.

The response to this similar request was published in September 2022.

Any plans by the Council to alter the road layout at Princes Street and Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

An application has been submitted to Sustrans 'Places for Everyone' funding scheme (Stages 0-2) to develop the Lothian Road Boulevard project, as envisaged by the 'City Centre Transformation' (CCT) Strategy and that this would take in the west end junction. However, this is pending assessment by Sustrans and no decision has been made on a funding award at this time. The strategic intent of the Lothian Road Boulevard project is set out in the CCT Strategy section 4.2 pp 62-64 at:

[chapter-4-catalyst-areas-pages-50-to-101- \(edinburgh.gov.uk\)](#)

Any measures taken by the Council to reduce the risk of cyclists falling due to the tram tracks at Princes Street and Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

Any road safety assessment or other assessment carried out in relation to Princes Street and Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

Any motions put before the Council regarding improving road conditions for cyclists at Princes Street and Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.

In 2016, work commenced to develop a comprehensive programme of measures to improve safety for cyclists at locations along the tram line where there is the greatest potential for conflict. These locations were identified and the improvements were designed in consultation with stakeholders, including the active travel charity Sustrans and the Lothian cycle campaign group SPOKES. The resultant Tram Cycle Safety Improvements Programme is being implemented in several phases.

The improvements include measures such as marked cycle lanes with red high skid resistant material to guide cyclists to the most appropriate routes across the tram tracks, temporary and permanent warning signs, changes to traffic signal phasings at junctions to introduce early releases for cyclists and physical changes to road layouts.

Media campaigns, aimed at promoting safe behaviour around tram tracks and targeted at both cyclists and drivers, have accompanied the implementation of these improvements. These campaigns have included permanent signage along the tram route in the city centre

and temporary lamppost wraps and bus back advertisements. Guidance on safety around the tram line is also available on the Council's website at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/public-transport/tram-safety/1#:~:text=Keep%20your%20wheels%20out%20of,consider%20getting%20off%20your%20bike.&text=Look%20out%20for%20vehicles%2C%20the,meaning%20vehicles%20can%20enter%20them>.

Immediately following the fatal collision on 31 May 2017 at the junction of Shandwick Place and Queensferry Street the Council undertook to carry out a road safety assessment of the area, considering all users and aspects of the junction and its approaches. A site meeting was undertaken at the junction on 12 June 2017, attended by representatives of the Council, Police Scotland and Edinburgh Trams, to consider the circumstances of the collision. At that meeting agreement was reached on a series of measures that could be implemented quickly to improve safety for cyclists at this location.

On 29 June 2017, the Council approved a Motion calling for a number of actions to be undertaken to improve conditions for vulnerable road users in the city centre and at various locations along the tram route.

Phase 1 of the Tram Cycle Safety Improvements Programme was subsequently implemented in October/November 2017. This included a series of marked cycle lanes to guide cyclists to cross the tram tracks at an appropriate angle at Shandwick Place, along with a new dedicated area within the right turn lane in the centre of the road for cyclists waiting to turn right into Queensferry Street. These lanes/areas were resurfaced with a red high friction surfacing material. These measures are shown on the attached plan TDD-636914-8-04.

As part of this work, warning signs aimed at both cyclists and drivers were also erected along the entire city centre on-street section of the tramline and a media campaign was undertaken.

Further detail on the Tram Cycle Safety Improvements Programme can be found in the following reports or Business Bulletin items to the Council's Transport and Environment Committee (links are also provided to these documents):

- 5 October 2017 – Item 7.7 - Review of Infrastructure at the West End of Princes Street and Tram Infrastructure in the City Centre and at Edinburgh Park -

https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/Data/Transport and Environment Committee/20171005/Agenda/item_77_-_review_of_infrastructure_at_the_west_end_of_princes_street_and_tram_infrastructure_in_the_city_centre_and_.pdf

- 1 March 2018 - Item 6.1 - Business Bulletin

https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/Data/Transport and Environment Committee/20180309/Agenda/item_61_-_business_bulletin.pdf

- 9 August 2018 – Item 6.1 - Business Bulletin

https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/Data/Transport and Environment Committee/20180809/Agenda/item_61_-_business_bulletin_-_version_2.pdf