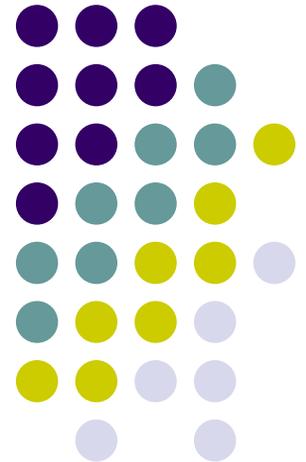


The things

They say

about us —and the things we

say back

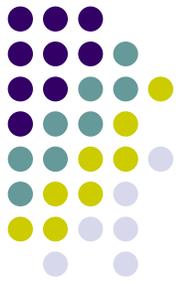


Edinburgh Council have said



We're a bunch of N.I.M.B.Y.S only bothered about our own lives and our own streets, nor really about anyone else...and the fact is we just don't want to put up with traffic that lots of other people have to put up with...

Edinburgh Council have said



We take information and use it partially, or even that we misuse it, to produce scare stories and panic people

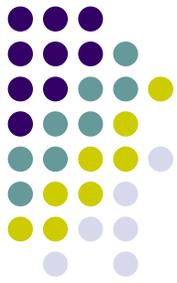
Edinburgh Council have said



Trams are good, the research shows it and it is simply mischief making to say otherwise.

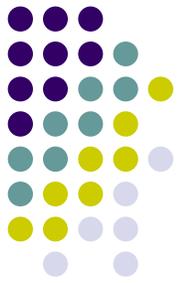
How can a tram create pollution?

Edinburgh Council have said



Anyway the problem is ‘the cars’ not ‘the tram’, we should be for the tram and against cars – cars need to be reduced.

Edinburgh Council have said

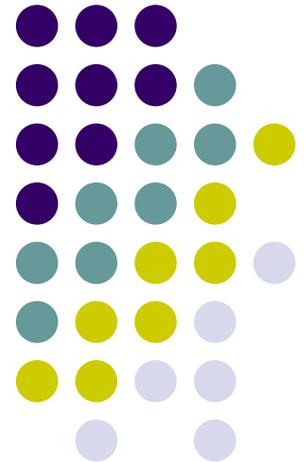


We have spent so much money we can't just stop— we have to have something to show for it all.

The things

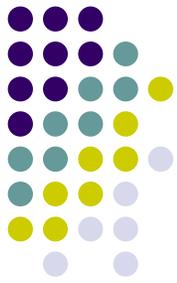
We say -

- by way of reply.



We have replied to

We're a bunch of N.I.M.B.Y.S only bothered about our own lives and our own streets, nor really about anyone else...and the fact is we just don't want to put up with traffic that lots of other people have to put up with...



Can't anyone who gets interested in anything, be called a NIMBY by people who want to avoid talking about the issues ?

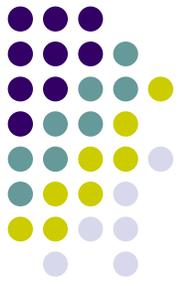
Our streets have always carried a fair amount of traffic and anyone who lives in Edinburgh knows that—in the last few years the traffic level has risen astronomically.

The Council's own report showed traffic would rise in roads, avenues, crescents and drives across Edinburgh—that's the only way around 300,000 people COULD be experiencing worse air pollution, that's what 139,500 Households worse off BECAUSE the tram was built (mentioned in their own report) means.

It is the opposite of Nimbyism.

We have replied to

We take information and use it partially, or even that we misuse it, to produce scare stories and panic people



We just make information known, we don't believe people are panicked, we believe people can make their own judgements—we have no power to coerce or force people.

We take their information that often they have not publicised it and publicise it.

The Council have fought tooth and nail to hide information, delay it's release and obfuscate.

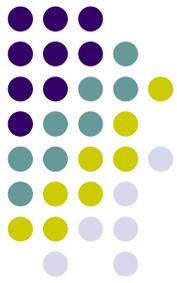
The recent judgement and findings of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee highlighted that 'data', ie basic facts and figures, that they collect on 'our' behalf are ;ours' and not 'theirs'.

Any Objection that has to made without equal access to facts can obviously be described (accurately) as 'ill-informed', Aarhus recognised that describing people as ill informed is not a criticism of the people, but the Council.

We have replied to

Trams are good, the research shows it and it is simply mischief making to say otherwise.

How can a tram create pollution?



Trams can be good, and well-designed projects that deliver clearly articulated aims can be very good ?

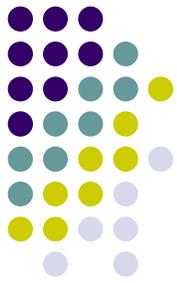
There is much research, and much of it produced by large, multinational companies involved in building trams, or the infrastructure necessary for them, most evidence quoted is supportive and involves well conceived, funded and managed projects.

The problem in Edinburgh arose from the Council creating their own company, TIE Ltd., and then allowing it to bury wider problems created by displaced traffic under the title of 'wider issues' while the council itself also lost all sight of these..

In terms of 'traffic created pollution' If it is possible to have a tram project that does not create displaced traffic, and one that does, then the one does not is a better tram—and the one that does is creating pollution.

We have replied to

Anyway the problem is 'the cars' not 'the tram', we should be for the tram and against cars – cars need to be reduced.



Cars do need to be reduced.

Traffic needs to be reduced...and this includes Taxis, buses Heavy Lorries, Light lorries, Vans, and Motorcycles, as well as cars.

This tram does nothing whatsoever, even on the Council's own figures to reduce traffic.

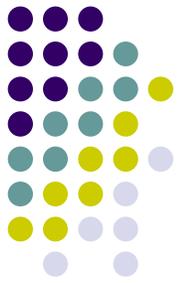
By taking the same amount of traffic off 'main roads' and stuffing it down residential ones it increases the total amount pollution created by the same amount of traffic.

A 'good tram' would not necessarily do this..Our tram is like London building one, but using the M25 to run it on—and then letting that traffic go where it pleased.

In short, it is a false argument to say 'Tram Good' and 'Car bad'--- this is a bad tram project and it creates pollution.

We have replied to

We have spent so much money we can't just stop— we have to have something to show for it all.



This is the most pernicious and feeble argument.

Not just because of the possible good money-after-bad argument.

Forget about the money: Are we rushing onward only in order to create more illness in the city?

If yes then what we have to 'show for it' is not a fit-for-purpose 21st century rapid mass transit system, but a 19th century style pollution creation system that does this in the streets where people live, instead of where they shop.

They said/we say... and ...?

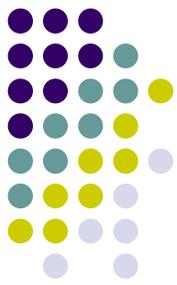


The almighty muddle started when the Council created an arms-length company, TIE Ltd.

Which they have since closed down.

The fatal error was having a method of control of the 'arms length' company that wasn't fit for purpose, and then not only relieving that company of responsibility for any traffic displacement effects –but also losing sight of the responsibility themselves.

The Post-Tram legacy?



- The mistakes that have been made are history.
- The money did run out and the City has become a global laughing stock for mismanagement
- The Council are now in danger of looking through binoculars at the ‘finishing line’—of getting this line finished, whatever it takes..
- This ignores the danger that they are simply rushing from one disastrous frying pan into another even more terrible fire. .
- Pollution creates illness that is accepted around the world...So creating more pollution can only create more illness---it isn't Rocket Science.
- ***In rushing forward as they are the council may **NOT** be heading decisively towards finally putting the tram project behind them, as so they so obviously believe themselves to be doing. But instead towards a horrible future in which the health effects become apparent and cannot be ignored.***
- ***This is not a possibility they have publically discussed, and it is not a possibility dreamt up by vexatious residents--- it is a real possibility produced by looking at what facts the council have realised at present.***