NTBCC Transport and Environment Committee Update – December 2025

1. **Charlotte Square**
   Based on a review of the project documentation and discussions with the project team, we have prepared detailed comments on the Improving Charlotte Square Project including the Phase 3 preliminary designs. These will be submitted to the Council, our local Councillors and other stakeholders once agreed at our December meeting.

2. **Transport and Environment Committee Meeting - 13 November 2025**
   We submitted two deputations to the committee on the following topics:
   a. Supported Bus Services – in our deputation we highlighted the lack of engagement with community councils in previous decisions about supported bus services. As a result of questions by Councillor Osler, it was confirmed that community councils would be engaged prior to any changes to supported bus services.
   b. Review of the TRO Sub-Committee – in our deputation we highlighted concerns about the lack of any opportunity to provide the committee with comments on the reports that they are considering. In response to a question from Councillor Osler, it was stated that the points contained within our deputation would be considered in any review of arrangements.

3. **St Mark's Path Closure**
   We have been contacted by Councillor Caldwell and residents about the decision to close the St Mark's Path and the impact on the users of this path. We understand that the Council are reviewing this decision and in particular the diversion that has been provided. We are concerned that once again the Council has taken decisions which adversely impact on our community without notice or engagement. This matter will be discussed at our December meeting; following which we will make further representations to the Council.

4. **George Street and Cross Streets**
   We understand that the traffic regulation orders (TRO) for the changes to George Street will now be published in January 2026. We will have up to a month to provide comments. Given that we will not have a meeting in January any response will need to be agreed by email among community councillors. We also understand that there will be experimental traffic regulation orders (ETRO) raised that will not require any consultation before implementation but that we will have the opportunity to comment once they are in place. As noted last month, one impact of the changes will be to remove buses from George Street which will adversely impact those with impaired mobility.

5. **North/South Trams Route Consultation**
   In our response to the public consultation on a new North-South trams route we highlighted concerns about the planned route at the east end of Princes Street at its junction with North Bridge and also for the Orchard Brae option at Queensferry Street.

6. **Communal Bin Review Phase 6 Update**
   Several community councillors and representatives of local residents' groups attended a meeting organised by Councillor Miller with the CBR team regarding the implementation of the new waste collection arrangements in our area. It is planned to have a report to the Transport and Environment Committee in January and prior to that have a series of briefings with community councils and residents' groups on the outcome of the recent re-consultation exercise.

7. **Graffiti**
   We posted some information on our website about the reporting of graffiti following concerns raised by several residents about this issue.

8. **East London Street**
   We understand that representatives of East London Street residents had a productive meeting with Councillor Graham regarding potential changes to traffic on this street. We look forward to receiving further information on these proposals.

Prepared by Mike Birch
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5 December 2025