

# Government to withhold tram money

✘ The Scottish Government has informed the City of Edinburgh Council that it will withhold £72 million for the trams project, in light of the Council's decision to take the tram only to Haymarket.

Ministers are now of the view that this represents a fundamental change to the basis on which the Scottish Government originally agreed to contribute up to £500 million.

Finance Secretary John Swinney said:

“The Government had the obligation to give the tram project a further £72 million. Ministers have made clear to the City of Edinburgh Council today that in light of the council's decision last Thursday, which takes the project far, far away from the original concept that ministers committed funding towards, that we're not prepared to make that money available.

“It's time for the council to think long and hard about where it's going with this project. What's clear is the Government will not be funding a project that just goes to Haymarket. It is now down to the council to come forward with new proposals, which will be considered on their merits.”

Read the [letter issued to the City of Edinburgh Council](#) by Transport Scotland.