

# **TramForward**

## *Campaigning for Light Rail*

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

22nd April 2008

### **GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNISE VALUE OF LIGHT RAIL**

#### **Transport campaigners disappointed by response to petition for Leeds supertrams**

Speaking on behalf of TramForward's Leeds group, area officer Mel Reuben said: 'The government has been seriously misled, considering the number of new tram schemes currently being built around the world - which are markedly successful in attracting passengers and dramatically improving the quality of the environment. Given a choice, few people choose buses as their major means of transport but modern trams attract people from all walks of life and enhance the quality of the environment.'

Leeds is a major British city and is developing at a record pace, yet it remains the city without any services better than diesel buses. The city suffers from a lack of transport investment but there are currently no realistic plans to deal with this issue.

'A properly-planned modern tramway serving populous areas of this great city would undoubtedly be of immense benefit.' said Mr Reuben. 'We in Leeds sincerely hope that Ministers will reconsider their decision.'

#### **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

1. TramForward is the campaigning arm of the Light Rail Transit Association.
2. The Light Rail Transit Association is the world's leading organisation campaigning for better public transport through light rail, tramway and metro systems in our towns and cities for 70 years. It also supports the revitalisation of suburban and rural transport through the application of light rail.
3. The LRTA acts through its network of local branches, which campaign for better transport in their localities.
4. Membership of the LRTA costs under 12p a day. To join, visit [www.lrta.org](http://www.lrta.org) or write to the Membership Secretary, LRTA, 38 Wolseley Road, Sale, Greater Manchester, M33 7AU. Members of the LRTA receive the monthly magazine *Tramways & Urban Transit* - written and read by experts in the field - and gain other benefits including discounts on videos and books, tours of transport systems and cut-price admission to selected transport sites.
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