

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

8 July 2010

Former MP continues campaigning for light rail

TramForward is pleased to announce that Paul Rowen, former Liberal Democrat MP for Rochdale, has accepted the position of Regional Officer in the Light Rail Transit Association with a remit for Manchester Metrolink, a role in which his expertise and contacts will be invaluable. Paul has also been awarded Honorary Life Membership of the LRTA.

Born and bred in Rochdale, Paul pursued a teaching career before his election as MP for Rochdale in 2005. Prior to his election he had been a Rochdale Councillor since 1983 and was Council Leader from 1992 to 1996 and from 2004 to 2005.

Light rail has long been one of Paul's interests. He was Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group from 2007 to 2010 and was influential in bringing Manchester Metrolink to Rochdale.

Paul Rowen said 'I am delighted and honoured at being appointed a Regional Officer of the LRTA with specific remit of Manchester Metrolink. Metrolink has been instrumental in spearheading Manchester's revival as a world city and it will play an important role in regenerating the towns like Rochdale which I represented. I will be working alongside the Greater Manchester ITA and Rochdale Council to deliver these benefits for the Rochdale area.'

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 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.
5. Press enquiries - please contact:

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