

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

31st May 2014

TramForward congratulates Transport for Edinburgh and the City Council on the opening of the Scottish capital's tram system on the 31st May 2014

TramForward congratulates Transport for Edinburgh and the City of Edinburgh Council on the opening of the new tramway on the 31st May 2014.

The Council and Transport for Edinburgh have created a role model public transport system which with its anticipated success will prove a template for other transport authorities in Scotland and the rest of the United Kingdom to follow.

Andrew Braddock, Chairman of the Light Rail Transit Association, said "The long and difficult construction period will quickly be forgotten as Edinburgh's residents and visitors discover the benefits of a modern tram, and I am in no doubt that the public will want to see more lines developed to further enhance the city's excellent public transport. People love trams and trams are good for cities, bringing regeneration potential and significant reductions in on-street pollution".

"The careful training of staff in tramway operation should be regarded as an exemplar guide for other systems to follow" he added "along with the integration of the city's bus and tram operations under Transport for Edinburgh".

Edinburgh Airport is shortly to benefit from the new tram and rail interchanges at Gogar and Edinburgh Park, which, coupled with the introduction of Park & Ride facilities along the tramway will lead to further development of integrated public transport and lessen traffic pollution in the city centre.

It is pleasing that tramway experts and consultants have come from North America and mainland Europe to see the tramway system inaugurated and we hope that the popularity of the system will lead to further extensions in the not too distant future.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. **TramForward** is the campaigning arm of the Light Rail Transit Association (LRTA).
2. The LRTA is the world's leading organisation campaigning for better public transport in urban areas through light rail, tramway and metro systems and has been in existence for more than 75 years. It also supports the revitalisation of suburban and rural transport through the application of light rail and TramTrain technology.
3. The LRTA acts through its network of local branches, which campaign for better transport in their areas.
4. Membership of the LRTA costs less than 14p a day. To join, visit www.lrta.org or write to the Membership Secretary, LRTA, 38 Wolseley Road, Sale, Greater Manchester, M33 7AU. Members 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 museums.
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