

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

2 June 2015

TramForward congratulates new Transport Minister

TramForward congratulates the Member of Parliament for Harrogate and Knaresborough, Andrew Jones MP, who has accepted an appointment as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Transport in David Cameron's new Government.

Andrew Braddock, Chairman of the Light Rail Transit Association, welcomed his appointment and his statement that good public transport was one of the most significant factors supporting economic growth. Mr Braddock also endorsed the Minister's comment about the key importance of people and goods being able to move from place to place easily.

"Andrew Jones", Mr Braddock added, "is a Minister who has prior experience at the Transport Department having previously worked as a Parliamentary Private Secretary there, and he has also held a number of transport-related appointments such as Vice Chair of the Rail in the North All Party Parliamentary Group and Chair of the Northern Electrification Taskforce. We hope he will recognise the growing importance of trams and light rail in the efficient mix of new urban transport initiatives that the government and local authorities must grasp to make our economy grow".

James Harkins, Secretary to the All Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group, said "I am pleased the Transport Minister has acknowledged that transport plays a significant part in the quality of our daily lives and we look forward to working with him in devolving local transport powers alongside city growth deals and the emergence of the Northern Powerhouse."

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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