

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

7 August 2015

***TramForward* urges rethink on Stanton Ironworks site**

TramForward notes that the development proposals for the former Stanton Ironworks site have been withdrawn following officers of Erewash Borough Council recommending rejection. Transport issues were a large part of the problems. This site is classic brown-field land that is favoured for development.

TramForward says that too much emphasis is put on road transport, largely private cars. A much more imaginative transport strategy is required. The site is fairly close to the future HS2 hub at Toton, which will have tram connection to Nottingham, and probably also to Derby. A tram/light rail connection should be built from the Stanton site to Toton. However, this should not be the limit; it would be very desirable that a line is also provided to neighbouring Ilkeston. Not much further north is Kimberley, to which an extension of Nottingham Express Transit (NET) is proposed. A tramway connection should be made from Ilkeston, via Cotmanhay to Kimberley. This would form a circular route to Nottingham, and cover a large population and many transport objectives, and offer a much more effective public transport system that would take much traffic from congested roads. There is also the possibility of introducing TramTrains via Trowell from Ilkeston to Nottingham. This would be a more direct route to Nottingham, but would miss many traffic objectives, such as the QMC, Nottingham University and HS2.

Transport problems are cited as a reason for the objection to, and rejection of, many development proposals in the Derby area. Rather than keep rejecting developments; local councils should be much more pro-active in improving their area's infrastructure. There is far too much emphasis on the private car for transport; the provision of a minimal bus service is usually mentioned in applications, without any detail. Bus services are not a solution to transport needs when the road network is already at or over-capacity. If this problem is not taken seriously, the economic future of the region will be in serious jeopardy. *TramForward* urges all councils in the region to take public transport as seriously as Nottingham does, and instigate a region-wide light rail/tram system.

TramForward encourages councils to work together and form one Combined Authority for the whole area of Derby/Derbyshire; Nottingham/Nottinghamshire and Leicester/Leicestershire; this would make provision of a region-wide light rail system more possible, which would benefit the economy and quality of life for the whole region.

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.
5. Press enquiries - please contact:
Jim Harkins, Chairman External Relations Group, LRTA,
Auchenshuggle Junction, 8 Beechmoore, Moore, Warrington WA4 6EU
Telephone: 01925 740675; 07721 378223
Email: lightrailuk@aol.com

TramForward – The campaign arm of the Light rail Transit Association.
Guarantee

A private company limited by

Registered office: 138 Radnor Avenue, Welling, Kent, DA16 2BY Great Britain. Registered in England and Wales Company number 5072319