

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

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A step forward for low-cost tram project

Plans for a pilot tramway project in Preston have finally been approved. Lewis Lesley and TramPower have been working since 2010 to gain local authority approval for a Preston tramway. This approval is for a test track, which will utilise a former coal yard and a section of the disused Longridge to Preston railway line, and is to be used for training purposes, as a demonstration for other local authorities as well as to raise public awareness of trams as a sustainable mode of transport.

The proposals by TramPower to construct a low-cost tramway follow trials of the company's track construction in Sheffield and its light rail vehicle in Blackpool in recent years. *TramForward* wishes Lewis Lesley well in this new venture.

It is still TramPower's long-term vision to see the Preston project extended, with the ultimate objective of linking the railway station with the north of the city, as well as serving the University of Central Lancashire and the Lancashire Enterprise Zone at Samesbury. The company intend to provide a blueprint for low costs tramways in other towns and small cities.

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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