



# **Light Rail Transit Association**

**Advocating modern tramways and urban light rail transit**

Established 1937, incorporated 2004

**PRESS RELEASE**

**5th December 2006**

## **LRTA WELCOMES EDDINGTON TRANSPORT STUDY**

### **REPORT HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR ACTION IN URBAN AND SUBURBAN TRANSIT**

The Light Rail Transit Association - the world's leading organisation campaigning for better public transport through light rail - has welcomed the publication of the Eddington Transport Study

The report by Sir Rod Eddington identifies three priorities for the development of the UK's transport systems: urban areas and their catchments; main inter-urban corridors; and international gateways. He emphasises the importance of environmental issues in transport, with carbon dioxide emissions in particular needing to be reduced.

Light rail systems are directly involved in the improvement of transport in urban and suburban areas, but also have a major role to play in inter-urban journeys by taking people quickly and in comfort from residential and town centre areas to interchanges for inter-city trains. In both ways, their ability to reduce car use by offering an attractive alternative gives considerable environmental benefits.

Modern trams have breathed new life into areas of Manchester, Sheffield, Croydon, the West Midlands and Nottingham, while other transport systems such as the Docklands Light Railway in London and the Tyne & Wear Metro have also provided a huge boost to their localities since opening.

"The Eddington Study points out that some of the most severe transport problems in Britain are in urban areas," said Geoff Lusher, the LRTA's Vice-Chairman. "This is exactly where light rail and trams, electrified or non-electrified, give passengers a real public transport choice that's fast, comfortable, environmentally-friendly and creates an attractive urban environment."

For more information about the Light Rail Transit Association, its activities and the benefits of high-quality public transport, visit [www.lrta.org](http://www.lrta.org).

#### **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

1. 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 nearly 70 years. It also supports the revitalisation of suburban and rural transport through the application of light rail.
2. The LRTA acts through its network of local branches, which campaign for better transport in their localities.
3. Membership of the LRTA costs just over 9p a day. To join, visit [www.lrta.org](http://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.
4. Press enquiries - please contact:

Geoff Lusher, Deputy Chairman, Light Rail Transit Association  
86 Heritage Court, Warstone Lane, Birmingham, B18 6HU  
Telephone 07768 457911  
E-mail [glusher@lrta.org](mailto:glusher@lrta.org)  
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