



The Association of British Drivers

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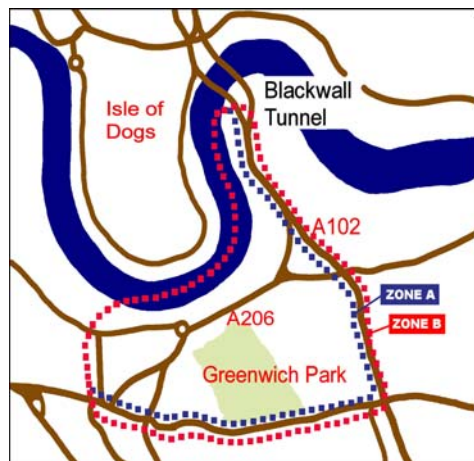
Press Release – ABD London Region

For immediate release

15 July 2007

ABD Launches Campaign Against Road Tolls in Greenwich

The Association of British Drivers (ABD) has launched a campaign against the proposed congestion charge that would cover a wide area of Greenwich, and against any tolls on the Blackwall Tunnel.



Transport for London (TfL) and Greenwich Council are conducting studies of “road traffic demand management” in the Greenwich area. This includes consideration of a congestion charge (i.e. a road toll) on the area bounded by the A102 and A2 – which includes Greenwich park and Greenwich town centre. See diagram to the left.

As you can see, the scheme might also cover the Blackwall Tunnel and one option, even if a wide area charge like the central London congestion tax is not implemented, is to impose a toll on the Blackwall Tunnel.

The joint study of the options is being supported by surveys of residents – more recently by Accent Group but there have been other polls the results of which TfL seem reluctant to disclose. The latest survey asks respondents to consider two possible zones – marked A and B on the map, the time of operation and the charges. Charges of £2, £4 or £6 are mentioned but it could be higher for larger vehicles.

The ABD is opposed to all forms of road pricing and the general public seems to agree with us – the national petition which recently collected over 1.8 million signatures against it was created by ABD member Peter Roberts. But the Government is continuing to bribe local authorities with promises of cash from the Transport Innovation Fund and Greenwich is yet another example of where this might take place. The ABD has already commenced a similar campaign against the proposal for Manchester, but we are now writing to every single resident in the London Borough of Greenwich (over 100,000 homes), to make sure that they know about this scheme and how to object to it.

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The ABD will be holding future public meetings in Greenwich and surrounding boroughs on this issue, and we have already set up an on-line petition at: www.gopetition.com/petitions/no-road-tolls-in-greenwich.html .

More information is also present on the following page of the ABD web site: www.abd.org.uk/greenwichtolls.htm

For further information, please contact:

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About The Association of British Drivers (ABD)

The ABD is the leading independent organisation which represents the interests of private motorists in the United Kingdom. We campaign to protect the rights of individual road users and believe that road transport is a beneficial and essential element in the UK transport infrastructure. We oppose excessive taxation of motorists and are against tolls and road usage charging. We also campaign for more enlightened road safety policies. The Association is a "not for profit" voluntary organisation which is financially supported primarily by its individual members. More information on the ABD is available from our ABD London web site at www.freedomfordrivers.org

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