



The Association of British Drivers

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Press Release – ABD London Region

For immediate release
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London Congestion Worsening – It's Official

Transport for London (TfL) recently published their fifth Annual Monitoring Report on the London Congestion Charge. And it reveals what most London motorists already knew – that congestion is almost back to where it was before the Congestion Charge tax was introduced.

To quote from the report: *"During 2005, TfL has observed a sharp increase in congestion inside the central London charging zone".* Average traffic speeds were 15 km/hour in 2006 and are still falling, when they were measured as 14 km/hour in 2002 before the tax was introduced.

The report also shows that there has been no environmental benefit in terms of measurable reductions in overall air pollution on the ground – again to quote from the report: *"Trends in actual measured air quality (as opposed to emissions) across London continued to reflect the diversity and dominance of external factors in determining pollutant concentrations and, as such, did not allow the identification of a clear 'congestion charging effect'."* In other words, there is no measurable improvement which is contrary to the "spin" being put out by Ken Livingstone and Michelle Dix on this subject.

The document also demonstrates the ridiculous economics of this experiment in crowd control – a system where the majority of regular fees paid by motorists get consumed in operating it.

Meanwhile some 100,000 motorists a month get sent penalty notices due to infringements of which 26% never get collected.

The Association of British Drivers (ABD) recommends everyone reads the full report to obtain the real facts, or you can obtain a summary by contacting the ABD.

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 web site at www.abd.org.uk

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