



## Press Release

Immediate Release  
Wednesday 16<sup>TH</sup> February 2005

### **Extension of the London congestion charge zone must consider business needs, says IoD**

The Institute of Directors (IoD) gave muted congratulations to Transport for London (TfL) on the second anniversary of the introduction of the London congestion charging scheme but warned that any extension of the scheme must fully consider the needs of business.

According to a survey of its members, carried out midway through 2004, the current scheme had made little or no difference to their business. Although there was little dispute that the charge had led to reduced traffic congestion in the charging zone, for some sectors of business – primarily retailing and catering - there had been adverse effects on their trade.

Geraint Day, Head of Transport Policy at the IoD said:

“One thing is clear, TfL must ensure that any decision on a possible extension of the charging zone takes account of sound economic estimates of the likely effect on businesses in the existing and proposed areas.”

He added:

“Another factor that some may not remember is that one reason the scheme was supported in the first place was that monies collected would be additional and be used to fund new transport projects. In the current public sector funding regime it is important that all the authorities involved bear that in mind”.

Ends

13.1.04 No.300

**Contact Points:**

David Marshall, Director of Public Affairs, tel: 020 7451 3263  
Mobile and out of hours: 07764 883420  
Richard Taylor, Press Officer, tel. 020 7451 3264  
Mobile and out of hours. 07721 734886  
Email. [Press@iod.com](mailto:Press@iod.com)  
Web. [www.iod.com](http://www.iod.com)

**Notes to editors**

- See *Transport matters: making the transport system work for British business*, IoD Policy Paper, James Walsh, 2004: [www.iod.com/policy/papers](http://www.iod.com/policy/papers) (under Transport, Environment & Energy).
- **IoD Annual Convention – Wednesday 27 April 2005, Royal Albert Hall**  
Guest speakers include; Gerald Ratner, Terry Leahy (CEO Tesco), Arun Sarin (CEO Vodafone), Richard Rogers and Clive Woodward.  
Register for press passes on tel. **020 7451 3264**; [press@iod.com](mailto:press@iod.com)
- The IoD (Institute of Directors) was founded in 1903 and obtained a Royal Charter in 1906. The IoD is a non-party political organisation with upwards of 54,000 members in the United Kingdom. Membership includes directors from right across the business spectrum – from media to manufacturing, e-business to the public and voluntary sectors. Members include CEOs of large corporations as well as entrepreneurial directors of start-up companies.
- The IoD offers a wide range of business services which include business centre facilities (including six UK regional centres and one European centre in Paris), conferences, networking events, issues-led guides and literature as well as information services and free access to a comprehensive business library and enquiry service. The IoD places great emphasis on director development and has established a certified qualification for directors - Chartered Director - as well as running specific board-level and director-level training and individual career mentoring programmes.
- In addition, the IoD provides an effective voice to represent the interests of its members to government and key opinion-formers at the highest levels. These include ministers, constituency MPs, Select Committee members and senior civil servants. IoD policies and views are actively promoted to the national, regional and trade media.
- For further information, visit our website: [www.iod.com](http://www.iod.com)