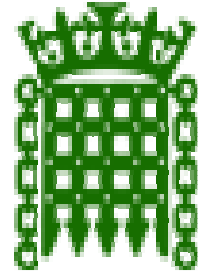


Light Rail (UK)

# All Party Parliamentary Light Rail Group

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

**"The past we inherit, the future we build"**  
*Trams – Catalysts for Jobs, Renewal & Regeneration*



## Petition plan to get tram bid on track

Thursday 30 April 2015



. A new group is battling to get tram services between Blackpool and south Fylde back on track

This meeting by invitation only, where MPs, Stakeholders etc., within the Light Rail industry and invited members of the Public will have a chance to discuss debate and raise questions concerning Light Rail & Trams.

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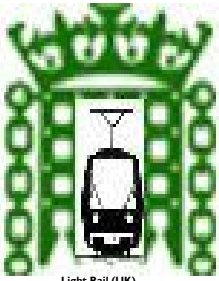
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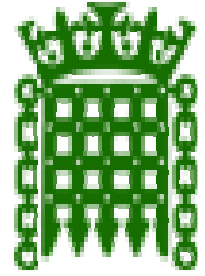


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Trams to Lytham want to restore services from Squires Gate to Lytham Station and has launched an online petition to Lancashire County Council (LCC) to extend the service.

The group has been formed by David Smith and follows November's announcement of a £160,000 joint project between LCC and Sintropher, a European Union project to improve local and regional transport in Europe, to investigate extending the line.

Mr Smith, from Lytham, said: "We believe bringing light rail back to Lytham will be beneficial for residents, businesses and organisations of all varieties.

"The South Fylde railway line has become mediocre at best in recent years, and there has been much recent campaigning to improve its services.

"Our ideas involve a full or partial conversion of the line for use by Blackpool's tram fleet between Squires Gate and Lytham Station, involving a link between Starr Gate and the rail line."

The group's formation follows the completion of the £100m scheme to upgrade Blackpool's tramway in 2013.

Further funding of £18.2m was secured last April to extend the system from North Pier to Blackpool North railway station.

If the new study is found to be viable, trams could return to south Fylde for the first time in around 80 years after the closure of the Lytham St Annes Corporation Tramways company in 1937.

Speaking last year Andrew Loynd, principal parking and energy officer at Fylde Council, said: "A multi-million pound investment project such as this will take some time to come to be developed but we are hopeful that in the not-too-distant future St Annes and Lytham will be once again linked to the tram network."

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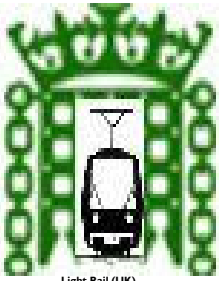
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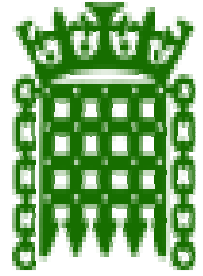


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Chris Anslow, LCC's public transport development manager, added the study would look at economic growth particularly by improving people's access to job opportunities. The results of the study will be released in early autumn.

Courtesy:

Gareth Vickers

[gareth.vickers@blackpoolgazette.co.uk](mailto:gareth.vickers@blackpoolgazette.co.uk)

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