

THE TOLL TRUTH

- They say that charges will "only" be £5 a day for drivers who cross both "cordons". BUT this is only "phase one" and the long term aim is charges of up to £1.34 a mile on most roads, including motorways.
- They say that they will not be spying on drivers. BUT they will be installing one of the biggest surveillance systems in the world so that they can trace drivers and send in the bailiffs if they have not paid.
- They say that charges will not harm less well off drivers. BUT their aim IS to force some drivers off the road, sooner or later this could mean you.
- They say that there will be billions of pounds available for trams etc and give the idea that this will be a present from the tooth fairy. BUT the reality is that most of these billions will come out of the pockets of drivers forced to pay this new "toll tax".
- They make it seem that charges will cost nothing to collect. BUT the London charge costs over £4 a day per vehicle to collect and enforce. When the full scheme is introduced the costs will be the same as adding 20 pence tax to a litre of fuel - that is just to recover the cost of collection!
- They say roads users are getting "a free ride". BUT roads users already pay £50 billion taxes a year, and get almost nothing back.
- They say they want to reduce congestion. BUT they created most of it by crippling rather than improving the roads system, and they intend to make it worse by further reducing space for cars, vans and lorries.
- They say that charges are the only answer to congestion. BUT there are 1001 other things that they can do. We want better roads and transport system. We want carrots not sticks.
- They say that we need better public transport. WE AGREE, BUT we do not want a new tax that will hurt people and businesses, will divide communities and only benefit the tax collectors.

MANCHESTER AGAINST ROAD TOLLS