

The outcome of the London scheme will give other cities the opportunity to learn from its experience in considering whether and how to bring forward their own proposals in the future.

Updates on PRoGRESS and CUPID, and other information on congestion charging can be found on [www.transport-pricing.net](http://www.transport-pricing.net).

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## Notes to Editors

1. For further information, please contact:

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2. PRoGRESS (Pricing Road Use for Greater Responsibility, Efficiency and Sustainability in Cities) has been developed under the fifth Framework Programme of the European Commission. It aims to 'demonstrate and evaluate the effectiveness and acceptance of integrated urban transport pricing schemes to achieve transport goals and raise revenues.

The project centres on eight demonstration sites: Bristol, Copenhagen, Edinburgh, Genoa, Gothenburg, Helsinki, Rome and Trondheim. Across these sites a number of road pricing concepts and technologies are being developed and demonstrated.

PRoGRESS is co-ordinated by Bristol City Council.

3. CUPID is the EC funded thematic network on urban transport pricing running in parallel to PRoGRESS. It is a partnership of 6 European expert organisations working together to promote state of the art knowledge on urban transport pricing schemes. Its other important role is to provide guidance and assistance to the eight PRoGRESS cities.

CUPID is co-ordinated by Transport & Travel Research Ltd, a transport research consultancy with offices in Bristol, Lichfield, Nottingham and Oxford.

4. Transport & Travel Research Ltd (TTR) was formed in 1991 and provides a range of transport consultancy services to public and private sector organisations in the UK and Europe. TTR's experience of road pricing and access control spans projects covering feasibility studies, consultation and scheme design for several local authorities, and the production of design guidelines and exploration of key operational issues for national government.



## PRoGRESS-CUPID



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### **NewsRelease~NewsRelease~NewsRelease~NewsRelease**

#### **London Sets the Ball Rolling on Congestion Charging in Europe**

London will be the first major city in Europe to introduce an extensive road pricing system, when the scheme is launched on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2003. The Norwegian city of Trondheim has had a road pricing scheme in operation since 1990, when it introduced tolling on its city ring roads as a means to raise funds for transport investment. Internationally, Singapore has had an electronic road pricing scheme since 1998.

Several other European cities have also shown an interest in the options for development of road pricing schemes. In 2000, eight cities (Bristol, Copenhagen, Edinburgh, Genoa, Gothenburg, Helsinki, Rome and Trondheim) embarked on the PRoGRESS project, a major EC funded project designed to evaluate the potential and options for congestion charging with the support of its sister-project CUPID.

The eight cities are carrying out a range of projects; Trondheim is monitoring the development of its tolling system, and considering options for the future, whilst the city authorities in Rome have introduced limited access to the city centre by specific groups of drivers who now pay for access permits. The remaining 6 cities are conducting user trials and modelling research; some cities are considering area-wide charges; others are exploring simple tolling at entry points to the city and the imposition of charges based on the use of different sections of the road network at various times of day.

The results of the research will be published in the summer of 2004. These will include guidance aimed at local and national government authorities on the technical, legal and operational issues associated with such schemes, as well as social equity and privacy.