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# Abolish the Congestion Charge

Chris Prior for the London Assembly

*"Use your vote, have your say"*

## IT IS NOT ABOUT A SINGLE ISSUE, IT IS ABOUT THE BIG ISSUE – GOOD GOVERNMENT

**24 April 2008  
Immediate Release**

"The congestion charge is a glaring example of bad government that must be abolished," says Chris Prior, candidate in the London wide Assembly elections.

"If politicians cannot distinguish the bad from the good, what doesn't work from what works, what hope is there for better policies to address the challenges we face?"

No one is in favour of congestion and emissions. They are real problems that demand urgent action, not just in central London but across the whole of our city. We need measures that deliver real and lasting improvements.

The congestion charge simply doesn't cut congestion or improve air quality. It costs an average of over £5.50 for every £8 to administer. It is an unfair tax, supported by excessive fines.

We need to acknowledge that the congestion charge has failed. It was meant to make dramatic cuts in congestion and provide very significant sums to invest in public transport. It does neither. Instead, it relies on PR to spin its "success."

Bad government drives out good. As people become resigned to tolerating policies that do not deliver, they lose faith in the power of government to improve their lives and become disenchanted with the whole political process. Our campaign is not about a single issue, it is about the big issue – good government.

Democracy matters; very rarely does the opportunity arise for people have their voice heard so clearly. I urge all Londoners to take a stand. Vote to abolish the congestion charge and for better government on 1 May."

ENDS

### Notes for Editors

1. Chris Prior is 43, is married to the author Lily Prior. He is the Chief Executive of storeton.com. For many years he worked in government trying to improve efficiency and effectiveness. He also the founder of Plug in Britain, which promotes plug-in hybrid and electric vehicles. They live in Battersea with their son.

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