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news release

MERSEYTRAVEL TIMED OUT OF APPEAL ON MERSEYTRAM

Merseytravel's Passenger Transport Authority today (Monday) decided not to apply to the Court of Appeal for a hearing into the Judicial Review of Merseytram Line One.

The authority agreed, however, that the scheme should remain within the Merseyside Local Transport Plan for 2006-2011, which will be submitted to the Department for Transport on March 31st.

Councillor Mark Dowd, Chair of Merseytravel said: "We've reluctantly decided not to pursue the appeal although our lawyers tell us we have a properly arguable case. It is simply a question of timing.

"We have been told that we could not get a hearing in the Court of Appeal before the end of February, which means it would be impossible to meet the timescales for Merseytram Line One.

"We still believe in Merseytram, it is a positive scheme which could bring huge benefits to Merseyside and that is why it remains in the Local Transport Plan."