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PRESS RELEASE
London Borough of Waltham Forest Resident Card goes into third year with increased growth and improved services

London Borough of Waltham Forest has entered the third year of operation of their resident card scheme which continues to grow and help the Council improve services and save money.

Smartran Ltd, the smartcard specialist company responsible for the successful launch of the scheme, and The London Borough of Waltham Forest have agreed a new two year contract to the borough resident card scheme, the OneCard.   The contract will include additional functionality to the card scheme, as well as ongoing support and assistance.

Initially, the OneCard was configured for residents to pay their rent, council tax and other council payments and for council staff to use as ID and to access key council sites. With Smartran as business partner, this first phase project was delivered within the timescale and budget set in the autumn of 2006 for the replacement of the existing AllPay cash collection card. Now, with over 20,000 cards issued, the OneCard has been expanded for use within the first two secondary schools in the borough for cashless catering and discussions are ongoing to add other schools to the scheme over the coming year.

Following the success of the scheme so far, it has been extended to cover the issue of licences for off-licences, bars and clubs.   These licences are administered by the Council and a new system was required to issue the licences. The OneCard scheme system was selected to enable the licences to be printed with additional security elements and to encode the licence so that the details can be read and verified with a card reader. The encoding of the

card conforms to the LASSeO standard, which has been extended to include this licence application.

The Waltham Forest resident card is one of the leading schemes conforming to the Your London Card design which ensures consistent card numbering and card encoding. Smartran has engaged AIDC in Halifax to verify independently the encoding of the cards to ensure the cards would be compatible with cards from other borough schemes. AIDC tested sample cards and issued a detailed report on the encoding and conformance to the LASSeO specification.

A key element to Smartran's successful delivery of the project was effective communications and co-ordination with stakeholders (internal and external), suppliers and service providers. Through regular communications, all parties were kept involved and co-ordinated on the delivery of each phase.

Smartran's Managing Director Kevin Farquharson commented, "We were always confident that this would be a successful project, and that significant savings could be realised for the Council. The OneCard scheme has enabled Waltham Forest to transform the way it delivers services and further enhance the citizen experience with the continual growth of the scheme. We are delighted to continue to help the Council develop and expand the scheme."

For further information on the OneCard visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk or www.smartran.co.uk.

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Notes to Editor:

Smartran Limited provides solutions, independent consultancy and project management services. Smartran delivers exciting, innovative and effective solutions for multi-application smart card schemes and related retailing, cash collection, payment, e-commerce and settlement requirements. Smartran was closely involved with the National Smart Card Project (NSCP) and the early starters using the NSCP starter kit. Smartran has assisted a wide range of organisations including projects for Lewisham Council, Chester City Council, Waltham Forest Council, Hillingdon Council, Barking & Dagenham, London Connects, DfT, ODPM and Bracknell Forest Council.

Smartran currently support resident cards schemes for Hillingdon and Lewisham which are both growing year on year.

Kevin Farquharson is Managing Director of Smartran and Co-Chair of the Smart Card Networking Forum (see www.scnf.org.uk).

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