



Community Rail Conference
Connecting Communities with the Railways
8 & 9 / 15 & 16 March 2021
DRAFT Programme

Part 1

Monday 8 March: 10:00 – 13:30

- **Host for session 1 – Opening the conference, welcome and introduction, setting the scene** (15 mins)
- **Jools Townsend**, chief executive, Community Rail Network

THEME 1

Engaging and galvanising relationships with local communities, including volunteers and local partners

- **External partner speaker**
- **The English Football League Trust: Stronger Healthier, More Active Communities** (15 mins) TBC
- **Q&A** (10 mins)

Community rail case studies session

- **Backtrack and Community Rail Education Network**
- **Setting up a CRP during lockdown - Creative Isle CRP, Kent** - Sanjivan Kohli TBC
- **Discussion** (10 mins)

Break (10 mins)

Summary and closing remarks – Jools Townsend (5 mins)

12:00 - 12:30 Lunch break - *The conference Zoom meeting will stay open for informal networking in breakout rooms so if you wish to network with colleagues over lunch, please feel free to do so.*

12:30 - 13:30 Department for Transport, update on the Rail Reform - Joshua Monahan, devolutions and regions lead, Department for Transport

13:30 – 14:30 Celebrating ‘Women in Community Rail’ for International Women’s Day
optional session – join this diversity focused group to celebrate International Women’s Day

Part 2

Tuesday 9 March: 10:00 – 13:30

- **Host for session two: welcome and introduction, setting the scene (10 mins)**
- **Shawney Murphy** - stations & community rail policy manager, Department for Transport

THEME 2

Restarting/prioritising projects and activities to support social and economic recovery

- **External partner speaker (15 mins) TBC**
- **Q&A (10 mins)**
- **Community rail case studies session**
- **Better Side of the Tracks – Community Rail Cumbria** - Warren Birch
- **Suit Yourself - Isle of Wight CRP** - Bobby Lock
- **Discussion (10 mins)**

Break (10 mins)

Summary and closing remarks – Shawney Murphy (5 mins)

12:00 - 12:30: Lunch break - *The conference Zoom meeting will stay open for informal networking in breakout rooms so if you wish to network with colleagues over lunch, please feel free to do so.*

12:30 - 13:30 The UK Government's new Social Value Model and community rail - Liz Holford, sustainability strategy manager, Network Rail

Part 3

Monday 15 March: 10:00 – 12:00 *with optional PM networking session 12:30 – 13:30*

- **Host for session 3 – welcome and introduction, setting the scene** (10 mins)
- **Richard Burningham** - chair, Community Rail Network

THEME 3

Bringing communities together, working with vulnerable/marginalised groups and promoting social inclusion

- **External partner speaker** - Lizzie Saunderson, National Citizenship Service (15 mins) TBC
- **Q&A** (10 mins)

Community rail case studies session

- **Lyric & Line - Tyne Valley CRP** - Fiona Forsythe TBC
- **From Seats to Sacks – Community Rail Lancashire** - Karen Bennett TBC
- **Discussion** (10 mins)

Break (10 mins)

Breakout session (30 mins)

Summary and closing remarks – Richard Burningham (5 mins)

Part 4

Tuesday 16 March: 10:00 – 12:00 *with optional PM networking session 12:30 – 13:30*

- **Host for session 4 – welcome and introduction, setting the scene (10 mins)**
- **Simon Huish** - head of stations & community rail, Department for Transport

THEME 4

Promoting rail as safe, accessible and sustainable travel

- **External partner speaker, Keith Richards:** chair of the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (15 mins) TBC
- **Q&A (10 mins)**

Community rail case studies session

- **“Round robin” multi-modal travel ticket Three Rivers CRP** – Nick Farthing TBC
- **Blackmore Vale CRP & Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership joint working** TBC
- **Discussion (10 mins)**

Break (10 mins)

Breakout session (30 mins)

Helping community rail to flourish - looking to the future (20 mins, inc Q&A)

- **Jools Townsend** - chief executive, Community Rail Network TBC

Closing the conference, to include summary and closing remarks. (5 mins)

- **Simon Huish** - head of stations & community rail, Department for Transport