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**Cementing our
place within
communities**

Community Rail Conference,
March 2022



Where are we now? (big picture)

- Rail use remains low; big changes underway
- Economic strains and uncertainties
- Car dependency bolstered by pandemic?
- Climate emergency > challenge of decarbonisation
- Levelling up



(But a state of flux opens opportunities for positive change too)

Levelling up

- “Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest”
- “Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost”
- “Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency”

Levelling up ‘missions’ include:

Transport Infra-structure	By 2030, local public transport connectivity across the country will be significantly closer to the standards of London, with improved services, simpler fares and integrated ticketing.
Pride in Place	By 2030, pride in place, such as people’s satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community, will have risen in every area of the UK, with the gap between top performing and other areas closing.

Plus:

- National Youth Guarantee
- Local Skills Improvement Plans
- Natural beauty accessible to all
- Increased cultural spending
- Community-led regeneration
- Devolution revolution



Where are we now? (in community rail)

- Continued growth: 74 CRPs & 1,200 station groups
- Ongoing development & innovation
- Growing evidence base
- Awareness & respect from industry & government



(But definitely not a time
for complacency either!)

Where do we want to be?



- Achieving rail recovery & modal shift - rail well-used and valued
- Maximise and evidence impact against four pillars
- Spreading community rail across the network
- Open the doors and smooth the way for communities to engage & feed in continually

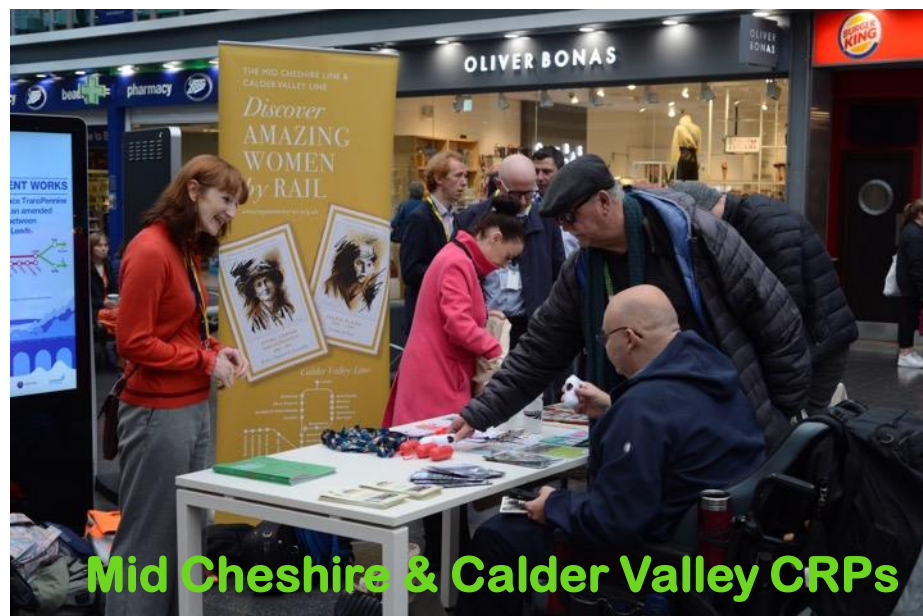






Rail 74

Bringing that to life



Mid Cheshire & Calder Valley CRPs



Beds & Herts CRP



Friends of Buxton Station



Abbey Line CRP

How we'll support you

- Support & development review taking place
- Responsive + proactive
- Ongoing high-quality webinars
- Conference + Awards in-person
- Interactive training + bespoke facilitation + Impact
- Growing range of resources
- Comms & campaigns (see online calendar)
- Advising government & industry



Three Rivers CRP

Community Rail Week 23-29 May

Leisure 'days out' campaign July



Rail is one of the greenest ways to travel
and is getting greener all the time

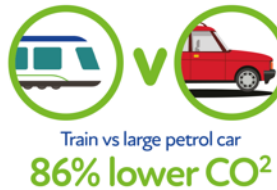


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A couple of announcements...

Community Rail Awards

- 5 October 2022
- Manchester
- Headline sponsorship from TfGM & Northern
- Entries to open mid June
- Aiming for 200+ again!
- A chance to get community rail out there



DfT's Community Rail Development Fund

- Opening for applications 9 March
- Get your bids in early for CRW & summer campaigns
- New form
- Improved process

Strategic & advisory work

- Rail transformation
- Whole Industry Strategic Plan & Sustainable Rail Strategy
- Transport decarbonisation
- Regional & national level



Rail industry
collaboration
w/ community
rail

Local rail
relationships
& inclusion

Smoothing
the way for
stations
development

Modal shift
& modal
integration

Use your member benefits:
communityrail.org.uk/join-us

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Keep talking to us:
[communityrail.org.uk/about-us/](https://communityrail.org.uk/about-us/meet-the-team/)
[meet-the-team/](https://communityrail.org.uk/about-us/meet-the-team/)



Questions, comments, thoughts?

