



Partnership opportunities

Community Rail Network is a not-for-profit organisation with charitable objectives, working to support community rail partnerships and groups to be effective in benefitting their communities. We are dependent on grants, donations and sponsorship from government, industry partners, and other organisations that share our passion for community rail, sustainable travel, and making a difference to communities.

Our work is supported through collaboration, grants, donations and sponsorship from organisations that share our commitment to sustainable travel, stronger communities and inclusive railways. Through partnerships and sponsorship opportunities, organisations can support community rail while engaging with a growing movement that connects people, places and opportunities across Britain's rail network.

You can also keep in touch by signing up to our [fortnightly email bulletin](#) and following us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), [Bluesky](#) and [X](#).

Government and not-for-profit partners

Community Rail Network works closely with partners in national, regional and local government and the third sector to support the community rail movement to be effective in benefitting local communities.

[The value of community rail](#) is evidenced in our report (of that name) and by numerous [case studies](#) available on the Community Rail Network website.

Our relationship with each government and not-for-profit partner is unique, but we take the approach of working collaboratively and innovatively to maximise social value. **If you are a government or not-for-profit organisation and would like to explore working together, please contact [Chris Birks](#), director of policy & communications, c.birks@communityrail.org.uk or call 07495 318 506.**

Corporate supporters

There are many ways a company can support Community Rail Network and its members. From helping to raise awareness about the movement, to funding our work, to proactively supporting members directly. We're keen to talk to potential partners, both within and outside of the rail industry, to explore mutually beneficial ways of working together and to develop understanding of community rail and what it achieves.

For more information on becoming a corporate funder or sponsor, please contact either:

- Ian Savage, fundraising & partnerships manager, i.savage@communityrail.org.uk / 07940 914 614
- Hazel Lavery, events & partnerships manager hazel@communityrail.org.uk / 07939 958 752

Corporate partnerships:

Our corporate partners make a minimum annual (renewable) contribution to Community Rail Network of **£5,950 +VAT**. We are pleased to discuss with partners how we can proactively work together to support community rail, including (as appropriate) developing tailored partnership agreements to help meet the specific aims of our partners, while providing mutually beneficial outcomes for community rail.

As standard, corporate partners can access the following benefits:

- Community Rail Network partner logo and text for your website, annual relationship summary report and other communications, and certificate for you to display.
- Expert advice and input on community rail and how you can best support community rail partnerships and groups to achieve more.
- Regular corporate partner meetings (3-4 per annum), to discuss current plans / activities / progress and support required.
- Promotion of your corporate volunteering opportunities to community rail partnerships, station adoption groups and other community/voluntary groups via our communications channels.
- Support with your PR and communications activities promoting community rail, such as social media engagement, quotes for press releases, advice and information, and where possible our attendance at your events.
- A free place at our prestigious Community Rail Awards, plus discounted sponsorship and table booking packages (max discounts apply). This event was attended by more than 600 guests in March 2026, from community rail partnerships and groups, plus senior rail industry and government representatives.
- The option to get involved with other Community Rail Network events and initiatives. This includes free and discounted places (where available) at Community Rail Network conference, webinars and workshops, and opportunity to get involved in key initiatives, like Community Rail Week, via social media and by supporting local events etc.
- Acknowledgement of your support, via your **logo** on: our website ([partners and supporters page](#)); in our annual Impact Report ([2024/25 version here](#)); and on generic supporter banners and/or presentation slides displayed at key annual Community Rail Network events.

Corporate donors:

Corporate donors make a minimum annual (renewable) contribution to Community Rail Network of **£2975 +VAT** and receive the following standard benefits.

- Community Rail Network partner logo and text for your website and certificate for you to display.
- Initial consultation, offering expert advice and input on community rail and how you can best support community rail partnerships and groups to achieve more.
- Opportunity to engage with our social media campaigns and demonstrate your support of community rail (and partnership with us);
- Promotion of your corporate volunteering opportunities to community rail partnerships, station adoption groups and other community/voluntary groups via our communications channels.
- A free place at our prestigious Community Rail Awards. This event was attended by more than 440 guests in March 2024, from community rail partnerships and groups, plus senior rail industry and government representatives.

- The option to get involved with other Community Rail Network events and initiatives. This includes free and discounted places (where available) at Community Rail Network webinars and workshops, and opportunity to get involved in key initiatives, like Community Rail Week, via social media and by supporting local events etc. Acknowledgement of your support, in **logo** format, on our website ([partners and supporters page](#)); in our annual Impact Report ([2024/25 version here](#)).

Other funding & partnership opportunities

Community Rail Network offers a range of partnership and sponsorship opportunities for organisations looking to support sustainable travel, strengthen communities and create positive social impact through Britain's railways.

Events sponsorship

Community Rail Awards

The Annual Community Rail Awards celebrate the outstanding work of community rail partnerships, station groups and volunteers across Britain, recognising projects that improve accessibility, sustainability, tourism, community cohesion and station environments. The event attracts more than 600 attendees from across the rail industry, government, local authorities and community organisations, providing sponsors with a high-profile opportunity to align their brand with social impact and sustainable transport while connecting with key stakeholders and decision-makers across the sector.

National Community Rail Conference

The National Community Rail Conference is the annual gathering of Community Rail Network's members, bringing together the most experienced and influential voices from across the community rail movement. Attendees are primarily representatives from community rail partnerships and station groups alongside a smaller number of senior figures from train operators, government, local authorities and the wider transport sector. The conference provides a vital platform for these grassroots leaders to share insights, shape priorities and drive change across the sector. With representatives from the UK Department for Transport in attendance and actively engaging with delegates, the event also plays an important role in informing national policy by giving community rail leaders a direct opportunity to share the realities, challenges and successes from the communities they serve.

Additional sponsorship and funding opportunities

Tourism Partnership programme

Community Rail Network's tourism partnership programme connects organisations with the Community Rail Tourism Network and local community rail partnerships to promote sustainable travel and regional economic development. Through collaborative campaigns, strategic planning sessions and engagement with community-led tourism initiatives, partners can support the growth of rail-based tourism while demonstrating leadership in sustainable travel and destination promotion.

Scenic Rail Britain

Scenic Rail Britain is the national sustainable tourism platform delivered by Community Rail Network, inspiring people to explore Britain by train and highlighting scenic routes, local destinations and community-led experiences. Through a tailored partnership, organisations can support the growth of rail-based tourism while gaining national digital exposure, campaign collaboration opportunities and access to

local tourism networks that help drive visitor footfall to rail-connected destinations and local economies. This opportunity can be included as part of the tourism partnership programme suite of benefits.

[Integrated Sustainable Travel programme](#)

Community rail organisations deliver projects that promote rail as part of integrated, sustainable travel networks, linking rail journeys with walking, cycling, buses and local visitor attractions. Funding partnerships in this area help expand initiatives that encourage low-carbon travel choices, improve connectivity between transport modes, and support communities to access employment, education and leisure opportunities through more sustainable transport systems.

[Community Rail Education Network](#)

The Community Rail Education Network brings together community rail members, rail industry partners and education organisations to support youth engagement and learning linked to the railway. Through forums, training, resources and partnerships with organisations such as schools and youth groups, the network helps young people gain skills, confidence and awareness of sustainable travel while enabling community rail groups to deliver impactful educational programmes in their local communities.

[Overcoming Gender-Based Barriers to Travel](#)

Community Rail Network is developing work to tackle gender-based barriers to using public transport, supporting community rail partnerships to raise awareness, deliver confidence-building travel initiatives and collaborate with rail operators and safety organisations. This work helps ensure that stations, journeys and local transport environments feel safer and more inclusive, particularly for women and girls, through initiatives such as travel confidence training, active bystander awareness and community-led station improvements that increase visibility and natural surveillance.

[Individual supporters](#)

Individuals can make a valuable contribution to Community Rail Network by making an annual donation. As well as making sure you are receiving our communications, we are happy to chat to you about any ideas or projects we might be able to work with you on. [Please get in touch](#) to find out more and visit our [membership pages](#) for more details of how community groups can join us.

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