

# WEST OF LANCASHIRE COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### 1. Aims

- 1.1 To develop the Preston to Ormskirk line as a showpiece regional railway with a high level of community involvement, attractive station facilities, good co-ordination with other forms of transport and a service that meets the needs of local people and visitors and in so doing provides value for money for passengers and taxpayers as well as benefitting the environment (People, Planet, Profit).
- 1.2 To develop the line as a national demonstration project focussing on improving the train service and encouraging sustainable development along the rail corridor.
- 1.3 To work with stakeholders to achieve the objectives set out in the Community Rail Development Strategy and the line Route Prospectus.
- 1.4 To develop links with other Community Rail Partnerships especially the East Lancashire and South Fylde Line Community Rail Partnerships and share best practice with them.

### 2. Objectives

#### 2.1 Improved Rail Services and Facilities

- 2.1.1 To work with partners to develop an improved timetable for the line.
- 2.1.2 To work with partners to develop the case for a year round Sunday service.
- 2.1.3 To improve journey times.
- 2.1.4 To improve bus and rail connections at the key interchange locations of Ormskirk and Preston.
- 2.1.5 To work with partners to look at how bus links to the line can be improved.
- 2.1.6 To provide improved quality rolling stock.
- 2.1.7 To develop a programme of station improvements including information provision and park and ride facilities where these are justifiable and offer value for money.
- 2.1.8 Develop stations as gateways to the local community.
- 2.1.9 Improve walking routes between stations and their hinterland.

#### 2.2 Sustainable Development

- 2.2.1 To develop links with business, regeneration and tourism agencies in the corridor to ensure that the railway is at the heart of sustainable development strategies. This may include:
  - Links with and participation in environmental projects.
  - Encouraging community enterprise and innovation along the line.
  - Develop links with tourism initiatives.
- 2.2.1 To develop links with all levels of government to ensure that strategy and other documents reflect the requirements of the line.

## **2.3 Community Involvement**

- 2.3.1 To encourage community participation, particularly at stations.
- 2.3.2 To support and encourage the work of the line user groups.
- 2.3.3 To establish 'station friends' groups wherever possible.
- 2.3.4 To encourage community art initiatives at stations and on the train.
- 2.3.5 To develop links with local schools and colleges.
- 2.3.6 To encourage local railway staff involvement in the CRP.
- 2.3.7 To involve local and regional organisations in informing the work of the partnership through the development of a stakeholder reference group.

## **2.4 Landscape and Heritage**

- 2.4.1 To develop the railway as a means of accessing the natural landscape, country parks and other recreational facilities.
- 2.4.2 To maintain and improve the railway heritage on the line and strengthen links with other heritage attractions and the natural landscape.
- 2.4.3 To ensure that the railway plays its part in mitigating the environmental impact of transport and travel.

## **2.5 Line Identity**

- 2.5.1 Develop a strong identity (name, logo etc) either for the Preston to Ormskirk line, West Lancashire line, that is featured on publicity, at stations and on trains.

## **2.7 Communication**

- 2.7.1 To develop a web site jointly with the other Lancashire CRP's.

## **3. Partnership Area**

- 3.1 The partnership will cover the Preston to Ormskirk line. The communities of Preston, Croston, Rufford, Burscough and Ormskirk will form the core area. However, the Partnership recognises that the catchment area of the railway extends beyond these communities in particular towards the Liverpool City Region
- 3.2 The West Lancashire Community Rail Partnership will work closely with the East Lancashire and South Fylde Line Community Rail Partnerships and with any other CRPs that may be formed from time to time.

## **4. Management of the Community Rail Partnership**

### **4.1 Management Group**

4.1.1 This group will be composed of the following people to be nominated by the named body:

- 1 representative from Lancashire County Council
- 1 representatives from Merseytravel
- 1 representative from West Lancashire Borough Council
- 1 representative from Chorley Borough Council
- 1 representative from Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council
- 2 representatives from Northern Rail (normally but not exclusively the Client & Stakeholder Manager and Station Manager)
- 1 representative from Network Rail
- 1 representative from Merseyrail
- 1 representative from Transport for Greater Manchester
- 1 representative from OPSTA (Ormskirk Preston Southport Travellers' Association)
- Other representatives may be invited to join the group

4.1.2 The Community Rail Development Officer will form an ex officio member of the group.

4.1.3 A representative from ACoRP may attend as an ex officio member of the group.

#### **4.1.4 Remit**

- To set and guide the strategic framework for the development of the Preston to Ormskirk railway line.
- To set the agenda for the line's development in terms of building business cases for rail service developments and enhancements; interchange developments; station developments and infrastructure improvements in partnership with the railway industry.
- To develop a 5 to 10 year strategy for the line and agree an annual Action Plan.
- To take on and manage appropriate staff to undertake the agreed Action Plan targets.
- To monitor and review the Action Plan during the year.
- To agree an annual Marketing Plan.
- Handle all media relations relevant to the line.
- To meet at least every 2 months or more frequently if the volume of business requires. A meeting of the Management Group will be quorate if there are 4 members of the Group present.
- The Management Group will appoint a Chairman, Vice - Chairman and Secretary and other officers as required. All officers to be appointed on an annual basis with an AGM to be held in April each year.
- The Management Group may establish sub groups to bring forward projects for implementation. Any sub groups that are established will be issue focused and will use the specialist knowledge of the individuals within the particular sub group. Sub groups will work within the terms of reference of the West Lancashire Community Rail Partnership.

## **5. Funding**

5.1 Members of the West Lancashire Community Rail Partnership will identify on an annual basis the funding required to deliver the Action Plan.