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West Midlands Railway invites communities to join Rail Conference

Communities in the West Midlands can find out more about getting involved at their local station and discuss the future of the railways at a special online event next month.

West Midlands Railway (WMR) is holding its annual Community Rail Conference on Thursday 11 November from 10am to 12.30pm.

The virtual event, being held jointly with London Northwestern Railway (LNR), comes at a time when passengers are returning to the railway following the pandemic.

Fay Easton, WMR head of stakeholder and community, said: "Local communities are at the heart of our railways and this event will be a celebration of their work at our stations and in local neighbourhoods and a chance to look to the future.

"During the pandemic we have seen more volunteers coming forward than ever before and we are excited to bring people together to share ideas for rail recovery, community stations and local neighbourhoods"

Among the subjects for discussion will be a look back at the past year of intense community activity, a business update from WMR and LNR, how customers can be placed at the heart of the railway business, the future of community rail and how stations can become community hubs to drive social and economic growth.

Across the WMR network volunteers have donated more than 5,000 hours so far this year to help support their local stations, creating innovative landscaping, arts installations, literary displays and events for people to come together.

To register for your free place at the event, click <u>here</u>.

Ends

About West Midlands Trains

For further information on this release, call our press office on 03300 955150 or email press.office@wmtrains.co.uk

West Midlands Trains operates both West Midlands Railway and London Northwestern Railway services.

- London Northwestern Railway services operate between
 Liverpool and Birmingham, and on the West Coast Main Line to
 and from London Euston.
- West Midlands Railway services operate to destinations across

the West Midlands via Birmingham New Street and Birmingham Snow Hill.

For more information on these services visit<u>westmidlandsrailway.co.uk</u> or londonnorthwesternrailway.co.uk

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