



## PRESS RELEASE

### Community Rail Week 2024

#### Community Rail Lancashire Hosts Successful Open Day at Accrington Station

**Accrington, May 23, 2024** – Community Rail Lancashire celebrated Community Rail Week by hosting an open day event at Accrington Station, emphasising the theme ‘More Than A Railway’. The event, held on Thursday, May 23rd, featured a variety of activities designed to engage local primary and secondary school students, attracting approximately 80 children to the eco resource centre.

#### Morning Activities Focused on Sustainability and Education

During the morning session, students participated in several hands-on and educational activities. In collaboration with the local environmental charity Prospects Foundation, children made seed bombs, learning about sustainable practices and environmental conservation. Additionally, students produced artwork centred around the theme of ‘Green Travel’, fostering awareness of eco-friendly transportation options.

The event also provided valuable insights into careers in the rail industry. Students had the opportunity to learn about various roles and opportunities within the industry. To further their understanding of sustainable practices in rail transport, children dressed up and took a guided tour of the station. This tour highlighted the features that contribute to Accrington Station's status as an eco station, emphasising the importance of sustainability in public transportation.

#### Afternoon Session Open to Public

In the afternoon, the eco resource centre opened its doors to members of the public and guests, offering them the chance to learn more about the initiatives and efforts of Community Rail Lancashire. The open day aimed to showcase the station's eco-friendly practices and the broader impact of community rail projects.

#### Engagement with Industry Professionals

Throughout the day, representatives from Community Rail Lancashire, Network Rail, Northern, Prospects Foundation, and Stations of Welcome, the station adopter group, were present to answer questions and engage with both the children and other visitors. Their involvement provided a comprehensive overview of the collaborative efforts to promote sustainability and community engagement within the rail industry.

#### Dave Savage, Community Rail Officer, said

“This has been a great day and despite the weather we have enjoyed meeting a large number of school pupils, their teachers and local residents at the station to mark Community Rail Week. CRL is passionate about engaging with young people helping them to become confident and independent travellers as well as increasing their awareness of the environmental benefits of rail travel.”

For more information, contact Dave Savage at [press@communityraillancashire.co.uk](mailto:press@communityraillancashire.co.uk)