

# Coventry and Warwickshire community rail partnership to be chaired by WMRE executive director

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Malcolm Holmes, the executive director for **West Midlands Rail Executive (WMRE)**, has been appointed to chair the **Heart of England Community Rail Partnership (CRP)**.

This partnership brings together volunteer groups who adopt, improve and use 36 local railway stations in Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire. They also deliver projects that tie in with four pillars of community rail, these being: providing a voice for the community, promoting sustainable and healthy travel, bringing communities together and supporting diversity and inclusion, and supporting social and economic development.

The partnership's online annual meeting saw volunteers join with train operating company representatives, local authorities, project partners and others. It saw the launch of the **Heart of England CRP's** 2021 Annual Report as well as the election of the chair.

Projects undertaken during the last year include creating a rail safety video as part of a schools rail safety

programme, organising a 'Go Green by Rail' Pledge Day for Community Rail Week and working with Coventry Transport Museum to deliver Sustainable Stations workshops.

Malcolm has 30 years' experience in the railway sector and held senior posts at Chiltern Railways and London Overground Rail Operations and has been executive director at [WMRE](#) for the past five years.

Malcolm said: "Community rail plays a vital role in the continued development of our railways. [WMRE](#) is one of Heart of England CRP's partners and I've seen first-hand the positive impact they're having on our local railways. I look forward to having greater involvement in the CRP, strengthening our engagement with local communities."

To find out more about the activities of the region's CRP's and how to volunteer at local railway stations download the full 2021 annual report [here](#).