

**North Yorkshire Moors Railway
Enterprises Plc**
12 Park Street, Pickering
North Yorkshire. YO18 7AJ

admin@nymr.co.uk
www.nymr.co.uk
T: 01751 473799 F: 01751476970



**NORTH YORKSHIRE
MOORS RAILWAY**

Dear Tim

It is with great pleasure that I find myself writing in support of the Downs Light Railway Centenary Development Programme. The real opportunity this community-based project presents is an easy one for the North Yorkshire Moors Railway to support. Opening up the opportunities for young people to engage with this railway can only be a good thing.

My role as General Manager and director of the Europe's busiest steam railway (the North Yorkshire Moors Railway) enables me to really see the advantage youth and community engagement brings. We are currently delivering a NLHF community-based project (Yorkshires Magnificent Journey) that has similar aims to the Centenary Development Programme. Broadening the horizons of a railway to engage with more diverse profile simply means more areas of our population can benefit from the learning opportunities we have to offer. This broadens the knowledge base and simply enhances the learning experience on quality-of-life to those who's opportunities may otherwise be limited. Projects such as this are even more important as they aim to engage with youth, which as we all know are when societies attitudes can be most positively influenced. It is an ethos close to our hearts at the North Yorkshire Moors Railway and seeing similar schemes elsewhere in the country is heartening and worth of support. I am happy to support this project not only on behalf of the North Yorkshire Moors Railway but also personally, and as Vice Chair of the Heritage Railway Association.

The Downs Light Railway is fantastically placed to deliver on a youth engagement project and is almost unique in its ability to deliver to such a high level of success. Years of training the railway engineers of the future is already at the heart of its reputation. However, this has been perceived as being limited to the selected few. This project looks to broaden this offer into the community, not just locally but also nationally, and it is a prime candidate for significant capital grant funding.

Yours sincerely

Chris Price
General Manager