

The CRP's Project Partners



Leeds-Morecambe Community Rail Partnership Co. Ltd.
Bentham Station Building
Station Road
Bentham
Lancaster
LA2 7LF



Telephone: 015242 98940
Email: the.bentham.line@gmail.com
Website: leedslancastermorecambecrp.co.uk
Facebook: The Bentham Line
Twitter: @thebenthamline
Linked in: The Bentham Line



Working to become a
Dementia-Friendly Line

The Bentham Line
Leeds - Skipton - Bentham - Lancaster - Morecambe
One of Britain's most scenic lines

The Bentham Line



Dementia and Community Rail

The project was developed during 2016 by members of the Leeds-Morecambe Community Rail Partnership, launched in February 2017 and has been progressing positively since then, with increasing involvement from national, regional and local community organisations along the length of the route.

The initiative is being financed with a grant from the Northern Seed-Corn Fund along with additional funding from Northern, (Arriva Rail North Ltd.), and the Leeds-Morecambe Community Rail Partnership Co. Ltd. A wealth of in-kind support is being offered by all the project partners and supporters.

Plans are being developed to raise the awareness and understanding of dementia amongst staff and volunteers. Specific elements are being designed to reflect the railway environment.

Stations are being audited, from a dementia standpoint, to advise on future developments, walks and guides are being carefully created to provide the best possible activities and the complete travel experience is being examined and suggestions for improvements put forward.

Ultimately, two kits will be produced for use across the rail industry and elsewhere. The first will focus on staff and volunteer understanding and training, whilst the second will concentrate on creating dementia-friendly rail environments and supporting services.

It is hoped that, following the initial project on the Bentham Line, the ideas can be rolled out across the Northern network, on other community-rail lines and by other train operating companies. The project should also enable communities along the Leeds-Morecambe route to develop their approaches to being dementia-friendly too.

The Main Elements:



Raising awareness and understanding of dementia with staff and volunteers

- To provide awareness sessions for all passenger-facing staff and volunteers linked to the Bentham Line
- To offer the opportunity for all involved with the line to become a 'dementia friend'
- To thereby enhance overall passenger care on the line for all passengers

Developing dementia-friendly stations

- To make recommendations to improve stations, including aspects of signage, clarity of information, walking routes and safety
- To focus initially on three stations; Keighley (large footfall), Morecambe (medium) and Bentham (low)



Creating and encouraging dementia friendly excursions

- To develop a portfolio of dementia friendly activities and supporting businesses
- To create dementia-friendly walks to complement the rail journeys and stimulate memories and conversation

The initial four walks will be at Morecambe, Bentham, the Forest of Bowland AONB and Saltire, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Supporting the passengers travelling with dementia and their carers

- To encourage and offer confidence to those living with dementia to enjoy travel by rail.
- To provide customised itinerary and ticket packs for groups and individuals with dementia, travelling alone or with their carers or supporters
- To create volunteer support for groups on trains and on visits
- To investigate and develop ways to support those travelling who have dementia, by providing such things as wallets for personal contact information, railcards, tickets and assistance cards

