Recommendations guidance

Community Impact Assessment

Creating positive industry partnerships

Why does it matter?

Network Rail employs over 36,000 people and spends £7.5bn per year across a diverse supply chain. Creating positive industry partnerships is essential to delivering social value and promoting ethical, responsible business across the rail industry.

With this theme we recommend you consider partners like Network Rail colleagues, your supply chain, train and freight operating companies, the Department for Transport, the Association for Community Rail Partnerships, as well as industry regulators. Consider referring to the Sustainable Rail Programme strategy from the Rail Safety & Standards Board (RSSB).

Highly recommended activities

Approach your industry partner(s) to discuss a collaborative social impact campaign. Consider linking your activity to improving the passenger experience, perhaps through work on trains or at stations. Please ensure your activity addresses the issues identified in this community impact assessment.

Suggested activities

Below are some suggested activities you could deliver to help create positive industry partnerships.

- Work with a train operator to use the local station for community activities, such as fundraising or community support initiatives.
- Develop Modern Slavery training for staff and contractors within the project which includes; an understanding of the Act, awareness on how to recognise modern slavery and information on Network Rail policies and procedures to address the problem.
- Work with an industry partner in a competitive fundraising event, such as sporting events or quiz nights to raise money for charity and build strong relationships.
- Link your industry partner with Network Rail's charity of choice for wider industry charitable support.
- Deliver Network Rail’s ethics training and ‘Everyone’ training to all staff working on the project.
- Source products or services from local or Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), allowing a positive impact locally by directing value through the supply chain.
- Identify opportunities for joint early engagement activities, such as rail sector careers promotion or work experience opportunities for young people in the local area.
- Support Community Rail partnership activities via Network Rail Route contacts and ACoRP – the Association of Community Rail Partnerships.

Recommendations guidance

Community Impact Assessment

How do you measure success?

Monitor the management of relationships (contractual or less formal) according to good practice principles of transparency and good governance, so that the reputation of our industry to external stakeholders is enhanced.

Key performance indicators

- Number of partnership events supporting positive social impact outcomes
- % of staff completing Modern Slavery training
- % of staff completing Ethics training
- % of staff completing ‘Everyone’ Diversity and Inclusion training
- % of goods or services sourced locally or via SMEs
- Number of volunteering days that are combined activities with volunteers from across the industry.