Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance

Autumn workshop, Monday 9th November 2026

in Barnstaple Guildhall, supported by Barnstaple Town Council

Transport Planning Day 2026: "*Transport Planning for Thriving People and Places*"

Programme

10:30-11:00
Arrivals, tea and coffee

11:00
Introduction
Roger Blake, Acting Convener, NDRDA

11:05
Welcome to Barnstaple
Mayor of Barnstaple Loki Dawson

11:10
The regional perspective
Hannah Shrimpton, Programme Director, Peninsula Transport

11:20
North Devon Line modernisation – services and infrastructure
Rolling stock - David Whiteway, Regional Growth Manager (West), Great Western Railway

Devon Metro 2025-40 - Peter West OBE, independent adviser, NDRDA; Chris Burridge-Barney, Senior Transport Planning Officer, Devon County Council; Andrew Robinson, Senior Strategic Planner (Western), Network Rail

Planned route improvement works - Chris Fuoco, Western Route Programme Director for Devon and Cornwall, Network Rail; Steve Lawrence, Service Performance Manager, Great Western Railway

13:20
Group photograph

13:30
Finger buffet lunch

14:30
Speakers Corner'd – Q&A with panel
Hannah, David, Peter, Chris, Andrew, Chris, Steve

15:00
Conclude

Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance
Modernising the North Devon (Tarka) Line - fit for the 21st Century

Delegates attending NDRDA autumn workshop, Monday 9th November 2026 in Barnstaple

Barnstaple Town Council - Mayor of Barnstaple Loki Dawson, (also North Devon Council), Cllr Janet Coates, Cllr Louisa York (also NDC), Cllr Marsh Pullen, Cllr Gerrard Sables, Cllr David Clayton (also NDC), Cllr Peter Leaver (also NDC), Town Clerk Rob Ward

Devon County Council - Cllr Steve Keable (also Mid-Devon District Council), Cllr Graham Bell (also NDC), Cllr Jim Cairney (also MDDC, Crediton Town Council), Chris Burridge-Barney

Exeter City Council - Lead Councillor for Climate & Ecological Change and Communities & Customer Services Cllr Liz Pole

Mid-Devon District Council – Leader Cllr David Wulff, Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Regeneration Cllr Steve Keable (also DCC), Cllr Guy Cochran (also CTC), Cllr John Downes (also CTC) Cllr Jim Cairney (also DCC, CTC)

North Devon Council – Leader Cllr David Clayton (also Barnstaple Town Council), Deputy Leader Cllr Peter Leaver (also BaTC), Cllr Louisa York (also BaTC), Cllr Ricky Knight, Cllr Graham Bell (also DCC), SarahJane Mackenzie-Shapland

Torridge District Council - Cllr Doug Bushby (also Bideford Town Council), Cllr Teresa Tinsley, Cllr Peter Hames (also Northam TC)

West Devon Borough Council - Principal Economic Development Officer Andrew Elliot

Devon Association of Local Councils - Cllr Pauline Odulinski OBE (also Winkleigh Parish Council)

Bideford Town Council – Mayor of Bideford Peter Lawrence, Cllr Doug Bushby (also Torridge District Council)

Crediton Town Council - Mayor of Crediton Steve Huxtable, Cllr Guy Cochran (also MDDC), Cllr Jim Cairney (also DCC, MDDC), Cllr John Downes (also MDDC)

Northam Town Council - Cllr Peter Hames (also Torridge District Council)

Ashford Parish Council - Jane Mills (also Heanton Punchardon and Winkleigh Parish Councils)

Bishop's Tawton Parish Council - Cllr Graham Hayward (also Friends Of Barnstaple Railway Station)

Chawleigh Parish Council - Cllr Roger Ayling

Georgeham Parish Council - Cllr Nik Zarza, Sue Mackenzie-Shapland

Heanton Punchardon Parish Council - Cllr Julian Turner, Jane Mills (also Ashford and Winkleigh Parish Councils)

King's Nympton Parish Council - Cllr Martin Pailthorpe (also Friends of King's Nympton Station)

Lapford Parish Council – Steve Munday, Rev Ruth Green, Thalia Tonkins

Winkleigh Parish Council - Cllr Pauline Odulinski OBE, (also DALC), Jane Mills (also Ashford and Heanton Punchardon PCs)

Great Western Railway - Regional Growth Manager (West) David Whiteway, Service Performance Manager Steve Lawrence

Network Rail - Senior Strategic Planner (Western) Andrew Robinson, Devon and Cornwall Programme Director Chris Fuoco

Peninsula Transport - Programme Director Hannah Shrimpton

University of Exeter - Sustainability Manager for Travel and Transport Giovanni Currado

North Devon UNESCO Biosphere - Foundation Team Co-ordinator Andy Bell

Burton at Bideford Art Gallery & Museum - Chair of Trustees Robert Millward

North Devon Line Rail Promotion Group (formerly TRA) - Secretary Peter Bunn, Georgina Wainwright

Friends Of Barnstaple Railway Station - Graham Hayward (also Bishop's Tawton Parish Council)

Friends of King's Nympton Station - Martin Pailthorpe (also King's Nympton Parish Council)

Northern Devon Railway Development Alliance - independent adviser Peter West OBE CMILT

Railfuture Devon & Cornwall - regional branch Chair Tim Steer
Railfuture Infrastructure & Networks - national Director Roger Blake (also Acting Convener, NDRDA)
Special guest - former Manager Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership Richard Burningham MBE