

Moving ahead Branching out with The Tree Council



The strong relationship we have fostered with The Tree Council has been enhanced with a new Community Planting Fund for 2010/11.

We are aware that when we remove trees and vegetation from areas of the railway, communities can feel a real sense of loss. Whilst we need to make sure that the railway is kept safe and efficient we would like to be able to give something back to affected communities. This is where our partners The Tree Council play a vital role.

Building on their expert guidance, we have funded an initiative that will allow communities to replant at a safe distance from the railway. In selected areas where we have had to carry out large-scale vegetation removal, communities will be invited to submit planting schemes in their area. The Tree Council will work with community groups to identify the best schemes and our funding will make it possible for them to provide the tools, materials and plants required. Our funding allows the groups to design the scheme and also to undertake all the work themselves.

The Tree Council is able to advise on the best types of plants and on how to keep them healthy once the planting has been completed.

We are committed to sustainability and keeping the railway safe – whilst giving community groups the opportunity to improve their local environment. We also hope it will strengthen the community by allowing them to work together for real local benefits.

This scheme reinforces our aim of sustainability and keeping the railway safe. We are committed to giving community groups the opportunity to improve their local environment.

