



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref: NL/RCB

Enquiries to: Rachael Bateman

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Tel direct: 07929 836785

Date: 13th November 2020

Dear Headteacher

Northumberland Line Consultation and School Competition

The Northumberland Line is the project name for the reintroduction of rail passenger services between Ashington and Northumberland Park, this has been an aspiration of Northumberland County Council for many years. The line will comprise of six new rail stations at Ashington, Blyth Bebside, Bedlington, Newsham, Seaton Delaval and Northumberland Park, with journeys between Newcastle and Ashington taking around 30 minutes.

As the future users of the Northumberland Line we are really keen to engage young people in the project, we will be creating opportunities to work with schools on rail safety, construction, planning and design as the scheme progresses and be in touch about these in 2021. We are conscious of the complications and constraints of the Coronavirus pandemic; but are keen to involve pupils at this milestone. We have planned a school competition so that it doesn't bring too much administration or complication and hope that you are able to share this opportunity with your pupils, as something that pupils could do either in school, or in their own time!

Northumberland Line Competition – November 2020

To mark the start of public consultation we will be running a competition across primary, secondary and SEND schools based in South East Northumberland who are near to the new station locations.

We would like pupils to design either a **train for the future** or a **logo for the Northumberland Line**.

All entries need to be sent to rail@northumberland.gov.uk before **Friday 18th December**.

Entries will be put into a prize draw, a £20 voucher will be awarded to one pupil from each participating school and a £250 prize will be awarded to the primary, secondary school and SEND school with the winning entry in each category. To be entered into the prize draw pupils need to send a picture of a train for the future or a logo for the Northumberland Line to rail@northumberland.gov.uk before **Friday 18th December**, include their full name, class and their school name when submitting their drawing.

Completed entries would be shared on Northumberland County Council website and used on future publicity for the Northumberland Line project. Pupils names would not be shared online without prior consent.

**Rachael Bateman, Senior Programme Officer (Rail), Regeneration,
Commercial & Economy**

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www.northumberland.gov.uk



Northumberland Line Consultation

The Northumberland Line public consultation is planned for 16th November and will be open for four weeks. The consultation will give people the opportunity to find out details of the scheme and specific details of the proposed stations, this is the opportunity for people to provide feedback on the proposals.

Please could you let your staff, parents and carers know that the consultation is coming, it would be great to share the message through local school communities. For details of the consultation please visit www.northumberland.gov.uk/line This will be updated once consultation is open.

If you would like any further information, please do get in touch.

Kind regards

Rachael Bateman

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