



# Community Rail Partnership

15 December 2021

Debbie Frost  
Deputy Town Clerk  
Felixstowe Town Council  
Town Hall, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 2AG

Dear Debbie,

The East Suffolk Lines Community Rail Partnership's **Line Group East** (LGE) is comprised of town and parish councils, community groups, businesses, user groups, and individuals who have an active interest in their local rail service provision. For several years the LGE has been devising, implementing, and partnering in projects along the Felixstowe Line to help improve passenger facilities, involve the community in its development, and promote the line and the towns and villages it serves.

In this time the Line Group East's devolved budget was hosted by East Suffolk Council and administered by Helen Grassgrass of Felixstowe Forward, the joint venture between East Suffolk Council, Suffolk County Council and Felixstowe Town Council. Helen was a very active member of the Line Group East. As you will be aware Felixstowe Forward will cease to exist at the close of 2021; this will mean the Line Group East's budget will no longer be able to be hosted by East Suffolk Council.

Having discussed this with Graham Newman who chairs the Line Group East and sits on the Community Rail Partnership Board, we feel it would be best for the LGE to continue to retain local control of its finances.

Would Felixstowe Town Council consider hosting the Line Group East budget? Doing so would ensure the LGE could continue to efficiently administer its own affairs.

We envisage the handling of one or two grant receipts per annum, plus around a dozen or so payments / transfers to suppliers / other authorities, which will be authorised by majority decisions of the Line Group.

As you are aware, the Town Council already sends a representative to the Line Group (currently Graham), and such an arrangement would further embed the Council in the activities of the Line Group.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards,

Aaron Taffera  
Chairman

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c/o Suffolk County Council  
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