<u>Moving ahead to reopen railway lines</u> and stations including one not used since reign of King George V

- government commits £15 million in funding to develop 9 Restoring Your Railway schemes
- comes after the launch of Restoring Your Railway in 2020, as well as the successful reopening of the Dartmoor Line
- schemes will receive funding to kickstart reopening and level up local communities across the country

Rail Minister Wendy Morton has announced a further £15 million in funding to develop 9 Restoring Your Railway schemes across England to reopen disused railway lines, services and stations, including some that were axed in the 1950s and 60s — with one station taken out of use as far back as 1930, Haxby Station on the York to Scarborough Line.

The <u>Restoring Your Railway Fund</u> was announced in January 2020 as part of the levelling up agenda when the government pledged £500 million to deliver on its manifesto commitment and start reopening lines and stations.

The fund is kickstarting and boosting development on projects and has already seen success with the <u>reopening of the Dartmoor Line</u>. Communities across England are now closer to having their connections restored, improving access to jobs, homes and education.

This funding will continue the development of some schemes identified through the Ideas Fund, which is providing early-stage development funding to 38 schemes in total.

This announcement comes after the completion and reopening of the Dartmoor Line, which was delivered ahead of time and under budget. The restored line has been hugely popular, with more than 50,000 journeys undertaken in the first 20 weeks since the line reopened – more than double the number predicted.

Rail Minister Wendy Morton said:

This funding will reconnect communities long cut off from the railway.

The last time you could catch a train from Haxby Station was 1930, George V was on the throne and The Times had just published their first-ever crossword. But now, thanks to this funding, communities across England could be reconnected to our railways once more.

This fund is a great example of how we are committed to helping

communities across the country level up and reconnect people and businesses to new opportunities.

The 9 schemes receiving funding are:

- Aldridge station and line upgrade in Walsall
- The Barrow Hill Line between Sheffield and Chesterfield
- The Ivanhoe Line between Leicester and Burton on Trent
- Meir Station between Stoke-on-Trent and North Staffordshire
- Haxby Station on the York to Scarborough Line
- Reinstating the Fleetwood Railway Line
- Ferryhill Station in County Durham
- The Mid Cornwall Metro, connecting Newquay, Truro and Falmouth
- Devizes Station between Pewsey and Westbury in Wiltshire

By funding development to reopen these lines and stations, the government is levelling up local communities, providing transformative opportunities for people to travel to work, get to school and see their family and friends.