

Press Release 7 October 2014

## **Runcorn East station in bloom**

Runcorn East station has been given a green boost after volunteers and pupils from local schools helped to make environmental improvements to the site.

Local volunteers tidied up the green areas at the station, creating a small garden near the station building. Bat boxes have also been crafted and erected around the station, and signs reminding rail users not to drop litter are now clearly visible around the site.

The improvements have been designed to make Runcorn East, which has a long heritage in the area, into a wildlife-friendly train station and more pleasant for rail users to visit.

The project was made possible by funding from local chemicals manufacturer INEOS ChlorVinyls through the Landfill Communities Fund, as part of The Mersey Forest. It was coordinated by Halton Borough Council's Community Team, Northern Rail Users Group with support from Norton Priory staff.

Janet Ward of INEOS ChlorVinyls said: "These improvements will enable people from all sections of the community to enjoy visiting this historic train station. It's great to see such an improvement in the station's green space."

## **ENDS**

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## **Notes to editors:**

## **The Mersey Forest**

The Mersey Forest is a growing network of woodlands and green spaces spread across Cheshire and Merseyside, which has been creating 'woodlands on your doorstep' for more than 20 years.

The Forest is one of the leading environmental regeneration initiatives in the North West.

Through community and partnership working, we have planted 9 million trees - equivalent to five new trees for every person living within the Forest area.

The Forest helps our towns and cities adapt to climate change, creates woodlands that 20% of local people visit at least once a week, and by improving the image of our towns and cities sets the scene for growth within the region's £98 billion economy.

We achieve all of this and more through our partnership of local authorities, landowners, the Forestry Commission, Natural England, the Environment Agency and businesses.

www.merseyforest.org.uk