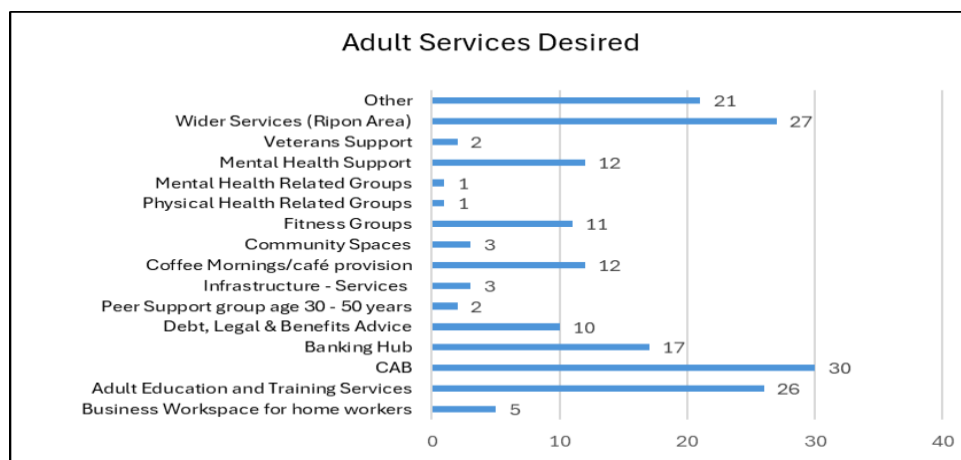


Detailed Insights of the top 4 RCH Public Consultation themes – 14th April 2025

The brief

1. Identify the needs, challenges and issues facing people living in Ripon and surrounding villages.

1. Adult Services



The public consultation highlights the growing need for more accessible and regular Adult Services for Ripon Community. Currently there are various organisations, as well as RCH, who provide adult services and signposting, however from the volume of responses on this subject, it seems many are unaware of them or can't easily access them.

The services most requested by the community at this time are:

Citizen advice bureau,

currently Ripon Library host 1 session per month, which books up quickly, so has limited capacity. Harrogate Library is the next available session. Therefore, an individual could be waiting sometime to seek advice, unless they are able to travel to Harrogate.

Due to Ripon's rural location, many services which are readily available in nearby towns are less available and accessible here. The survey responses tell us there is a need for,

Individual support for the community such as:

Warm spaces to meet with others socially, and find support for form filling, access to benefits, mobility, help at home, medical entitlement etc.

A selection of comments from the survey,

An inclusive area for older people who are often isolated in their homes.
Information about pubs, restaurants and cafes that are "properly" wheelchair friendly. /A directory of services would be useful for locals and visitors.
Where to find help /form filling /citizens advice /disability help/hospital appointment driver /banking hub /warm space with food & drink
Help at home with sorting paperwork, moving furniture etc /Access to therapy & Counselling services
More courses & social meetings with accessibility for older people /more signposting to help & other agencies /arts crafts/painting/sewing /knitting
Mobility aids hire /free fitness classes/Citizens advice /activities for the elderly
Community spaces where people can come together.
it would be good to make people aware of their medical entitlements, importance of power of attorney and benefits and to actually help people sort these out.
Improved services to enable people to be able to attend their GP and nursing appointments rather than requesting home visits due to transport or financial issues egg expansion of Ripon voluntary driver's service access to Benefit, peer support adults' group 30-50
Coffee morning & questions for help - I often feel stuck where to go for help
central hub of information and support that can direct people to the agencies and/or charities that can help.
Drop in facility for ex forces - help & advice
Drop in for older people not linked to any religion.

Education & Learning for all ages

Ripon Library currently hosts many courses and learning opportunities, advertised on their website. Other local organisations, such as Ripon Museums, also offer ad hoc courses. However, the survey highlights a growing need in Ripon to provide more accessible learning opportunities, both daytime and evening. For those wishing to learn for the joy of learning and those who wish to upskill for employability etc.

A selection of comments from the survey

More courses that are available for people that are in employment not just those that are unemployed, /advice on how to get and what help is available, I use your Wednesday food club when I can it's fab.
More adult training courses other than computer-based qualifications
More opportunities for skills development – including vocational training, apprenticeships, and higher education options. Investment in local employment hubs
Make & mend of household items /basic car skills / basic home DIY skills
More adult learning that's not based around key skills.
jobs/careers fairs, volunteer fairs
Foreign language classes/conversation opportunities. Art classes/workshops U3A meetings French Conversation Classes
Foreign Language classes
Adult evening courses level 3 and above Centerer for U3A community education
. first aid courses weekend craft activities /support for EHPC's
I think a course on computer literacy
First Aid Courses
British sign language
Computer course for beginners

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Jkcoaching50@gmail.com

Tel.07920044037

Weekly lectures
More short craft type courses /days/sessions
Art classes /flexible hours
Digital help
languages courses. Regular speakers /crafts Lunch club meet ups Quizzes and bingo
Sewing skills /crochet
A pop in office or a monthly group for technology & phone help
local DWP office
Adult careers advice

Banking

Currently RCH hosts, Barclays Local, which is available Thursdays & Tuesdays 9am-3.30 pm. Due to many Banks and Building Societies no longer available on the high street in Ripon, there is a request for more availability and choice of banking facilities locally, so to reduce the inconvenience of travelling out of town to larger branches.

A selection of comments from the survey

banking hub
A multi banking hub that represents several banks
A banking hub for all banks
Banking hubs for all banks

Health & wellbeing

The North Yorkshire Director of Public Health annual report 2021-2022, showed that in Ripon, men and women live on average to 79 and 84 respectively. The Health & Wellbeing Strategy for North Yorkshire states they want all residents of North Yorkshire to have a fair chance of living a fulfilling life, free from preventable ill health, adding years to life and life to years.

There are currently many organisations, individuals & businesses who provide health & wellbeing opportunities in Ripon and the surrounding area. From this survey it's also evident that accessible Health & wellbeing services & activities are a priority for the community.

A selection of comments from the survey

Specifically, accessible mental health & wellbeing services
More activities for older (over 50's). Active engagement could be mindful walking groups, gardening projects around the local area
Accessible & inclusive exercises classes for all ages
Pilates class for older people
Day time fitness class for older & retired people
Dementia and mental health services
Adult exercise classes in the evening (post-work) Book club Skills teaching courses Group therapy sessions cross generation opportunities e.g. oaps helping kids read, learn life skills, gardening, how to use tech
Subsidised wellness/exercise classes for benefit receivers
pace for groups to meet regularly, talks, games social get togethers. Places to take elderly people or people with medical physical problems fir activities exercise
A diabetes group
Mental health hub.
Accessible fitness classes - no gyms or anxiety inducing instructors - just plain and simple exercise classes, please!

Jkcoaching.co

Jkcoaching50@gmail.com

Tel.07920044037

Friendship groups and activities to include middle aged neurodiverse people? Dance lessons for single middle-aged people?
More holistic care-massage, aromatherapy, homeopathy especially during the daytime Online booking facility to book a room for occasional/regular us
Herb garden - classes to learn about herbal medicine / class for drying herbs & flowers - holistic & natural health remedies
sport/physical exercise sessions for lonely/shy people with varying levels of physical fitness/ability. Widow/widowers choir Lectures/talks Support with financial/welfare planning i.e. power or attorneys
A functional fitness class with more oomph than seated classes/ NOT Pilates/yoga /dance
Bereavement counselling., mental health HUB
Mental health services Benefits hub Citizen's advice
Free activities in an evening/after work. Yoga, wellbeing, men's activities etc
Menopause support group
Gym for ladies only
Yoga sessions /recycling projects /free cooking & baking classes/book groups/swaps
Supporting the veterans finding them accommodation and access to food banks and somewhere to go for support or weekly chat /
Menopause support group
Seniors' community Line dancing
Dance classes for ladies only
Cheap exercise classes late afternoon times.

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Jkcoaching50@gmail.com

Tel.07920044037

Food & Clothing Security

While Ripon may appear affluent, there are large areas of the population who live below the poverty line, and due to the cost-of-living crisis, individuals and families who are struggling to make ends meet. Ripon currently has several organisations who provide food support, such as, Ripon Community House Food Bank, Waste Not Wednesday, Back to Basics, Salvation Army food bank, Ripon YMCA, and many churches in surrounding villages currently provide food support.

A selection of comments from the survey

More clarity about accessing the food bank. Make it easier.
Xmas lunch for needy / feed the homeless café
Could community house set up a whole food cafe at reasonable prices
Waste not Wednesdays food drop in.
Clothing bank similar to Harrogate
clothes swap

Work & Meeting Space

A knock-on effect from the covid years, has seen an increase in many people working from home and more solo entrepreneurs. Ripon does not currently have a community space where the solo entrepreneurs /self-employed can hot desk, and meet others, who wish to feel less isolated, and other likeminded folk.

A selection of comments from the survey

A communal work space for sole business owners to work and collaborate, so as not to feel isolated while home working
Reasonable priced hot desk space
Hot desking for sole traders
Community access hybrid and presentation meeting spaces with modern interactive kit, hardwired not WIFI based with interactive panel /Bookable art workshop space. /Disability based Mental

Jkcoaching.co

Jkcoaching50@gmail.com

Tel.07920044037

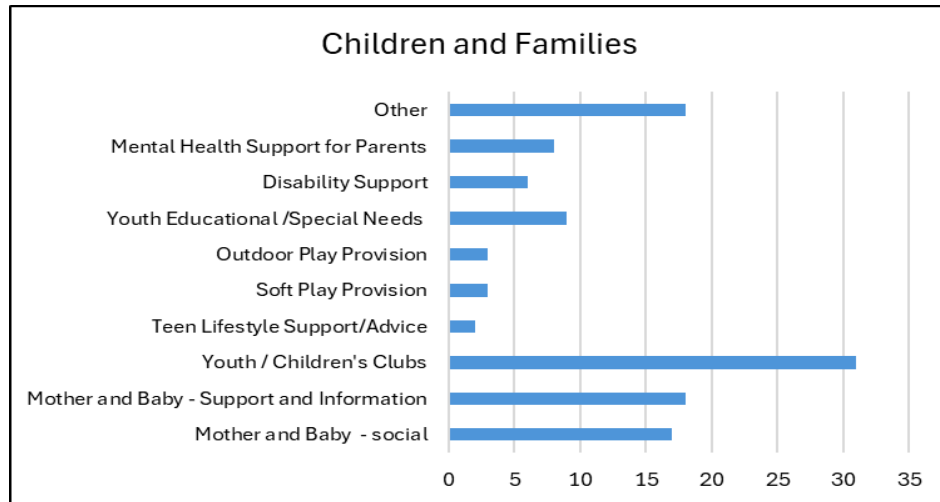
SEN

Currently Ripon is fortunate to have many organisations who provide accessible and inclusive educational & social opportunities, for SEN adults & Children, including, Ohana (currently operating from RCH) Jenny Ruth, Ripon Walled Garden, Evolve Collage. However, there is still an additional need to find suitable places where SEN adults and children can socialise and hang out, safely.

A selection of comments from the Survey

group for adults who are mildly neurodivergent.
Support group for adult ADHD.
Weekend groups for SEN young adults who have younger siblings, art and craft /sketching
School holiday clubs and activities for children, particularly those with additional needs.
Need to be more youth service for people with special needs and to keep to teenagers and younger kids happy
Young people Disability support -
A support group for people with disabilities and young people
Counselling for neurodiverse teenagers
SEN groups /sensory room /youth club
Disability inclusive clubs e.g.: dungeons and dragons, video games and exercise kind of things Maybe a training cafe that is ran by people who need it to build their confidence around people Disabled teen youth club LGBTQ youth club
Accessible & inclusive cinema club

Accessible & inclusive Little free library
Accessible & inclusive pop-up café
Accessible & inclusive exercises classes for all ages
Accessible & inclusive large scale outdoor games such as Jenga /drafts
Accessible & inclusive fashion shows /baking clubs/cooking
Accessible safe & inclusive space to socialize
Accessible & inclusive games/ pool table /darts /karaoke
Accessible & inclusive dance classes



2.Children & Families

According to the 2021 national census, 0–17-year-olds make up 19% of Ripon & Surrounding areas 's population. Currently educational needs are met by 2 secondary schools, 1 SEN Collage & approx. 10 primary schools. Ripon YMCA, Inspire Youth, Ohana & North Yorkshire Youth currently provide additional support and social activities Some villages provide local youth Clubs, supported by North Yorkshire Youth. Currently there is no accessible Youth club or hub in Ripon. From the survey results there is a pressing need for a safe, inclusive and accessible place for young people to meet, and quality support for parents & babies/preschoolers

A selection of comments from the survey with reference to young people

A safe space for young people to meet

Youth provision

Some indoor places where children can play table games (pool, table tennis etc) would be great, especially in alcohol free environments.
Card trading activities for school aged children/young adults Football cards/Pokémon etc

Youth Provision Spaces for young people afternoon & evenings & Youth Workers

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Jkcoaching50@gmail.com

Tel.07920044037

More focus on health promotion especially for teenagers and young persons to encourage them to make healthy lifestyle choices. Better promotion of fitness classes aimed at those with frailty and or disabilities
Youth Centre/Clubs
skate park for scooters, BMX, skateboards, roller blades etc.
Activities for Teenagers & involving them in the conversation access to a range of activities outside school).
Activity centres for teenagers. School youth clubs.
How about some sort of venue for teens to go to, especially on weekend evenings
Maybe more for young people or for lonely people
Teenage warm, dry, safe spaces with Wi-Fi 33 and general supervision
Youth activities/ chess/board games /mental health support drop in /young disabled offer& support groups
More youth groups
Youth club
Activities for young people, particularly indoor activities. A snooker or pool hall would be great. Indoor football tables. Indoor
Stuff for teens to do. A really comprehensive place that allows young people to be young people and express themselves
Youth Clubs & clubs for children teen cafe /games room
Hardly anything is available for teenagers. They have nowhere to go on an evening or weekend
More social clubs. I feel as if teens do not connect as much because they are busy on their phones any place that's warm for just teenagers that is open late during the winter
A place for teenagers to go in the winter where it's warm

A selection of Comments from the survey – with reference to Parents & babies/preschoolers

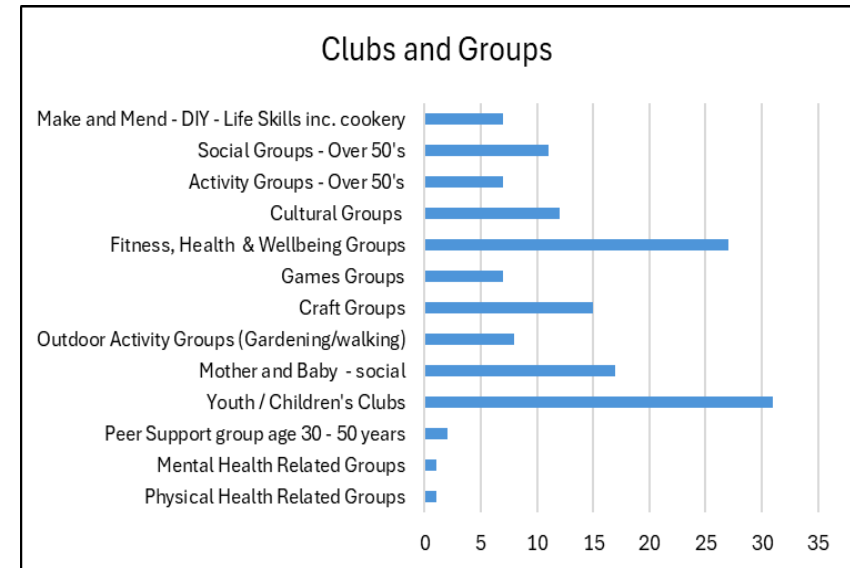
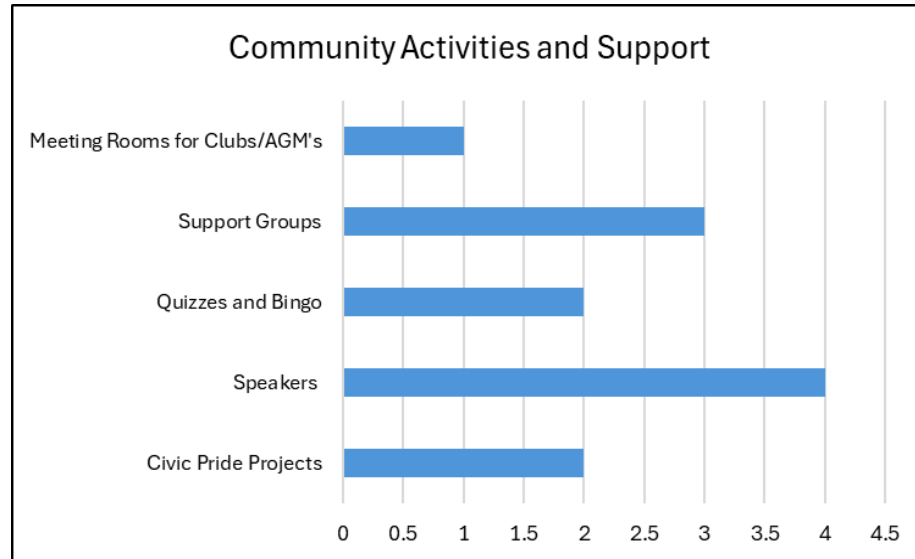
effective and consistent breastfeeding support,
Mum & tot group
Soft play centre
Baby weighing
Baby weigh clinics.
Accessible exercise classes for post-natal mums. There is limited offering. Baby weigh services too seem to have disappeared
More activities that support families. - More activities like Mamas Matter and Mamas Move provides like mindfulness for mums, mental health/Mental support for mums of SEND children - Opportunities for Ripon based in person antenatal peer support groups / social groups for children and young people
<p>More support for families. More mental health and physical heal support for mums like mamas' matter and more men's mental health support and social groups</p> <p>support for new mums including a weigh in clinic and breastfeeding support/Continued mamas move and mamas matter Baby classes such as subsidised baby massage</p> <p>Mental health support for pregnancy women/new mums Lack of free/ discounted classes to meet other new parents Free/ discounted stay and play for children and babies Space to weigh babies</p> <p>Opportunities for peer and community led breastfeeding support, baby weigh in opportunities and mental health support, that NHS services such as midwives, GPs and Health Visitors are comfortable to make referrals to, including self-weigh opportunities (for babies) and stay and play, meet ups that allows mums to meet each other</p> <p>Weigh-in sessions for mums who want to track their babies' weight Baby sleep advice - /Breast feeding group /Mama and Me sessions in the calendar//Weekly coffee mornings for mums and babes to meet to support their own mental health/pre-and post-natal yoga/Pilates class /mum community choir</p> <p>Regular weigh in and checks with HV that aren't at set times Variety of baby classes that are quality weekly or twice monthly baby weighing service/ More activities like Mamas Move and Mamas Matter /Support for pregnant women/couples - could this be used as a venue for antenatal classes? It would be fantastic to have that support in Ripon. Opportunities for families with older children to connect.</p> <p>Mum and baby exercise classes - aimed at mums but where you can bring your baby along./. Access to midwife and specialist support with self-weigh services and apps to meet other mums/parents Support targeting male parents (seriously lacking!)</p> <p>Activities for secondary school age children and teenagers to provide a safe warm welcoming environment that provides access to activities at no or minimal cost at the point of use. Formally known as a 'Youth Club'. /Post afterschool clubs, but there needs to be provision for kids that are turfed out of their homes in the evening by disinterested/absent/disconnected parents, who then roam the streets with - no fault of their own - Guidance from a Youth Club to channel energy in positive ways without costing these kids the 30/40 per month subs that some groups charge</p>
More perinatal and postnatal support groups, such as the 'mama's matter CIC' offerings. /Ripon based 'Baby feeding' peer support group for postnatal

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Jkcoaching50@gmail.com

Tel.07920044037

<p>mums /More informal coffee mornings or meet up groups, focused on antenatal or postnatal mother's wellbeing and helping to form social connections would also be great.</p> <p>Maternal services - pregnancy wellbeing support. /More mama moves classes /More stay and play sessions to meet other parents. A dad's session on a weekend would be good for working dad's/information about local childcare providers, what funding we can apply for, help to apply and what costs we still need to cover, and answer questions we have. Maternal and paternal emotional/mental wellbeing support for pre and post birth.</p>
Parent/carers with children groups Tues/Turs morns and everyday afternoons
<p>New outdoor area for our stay and play area. I believe it is happening soon which is great news.</p> <p>More family events in the Spa gardens or the park opposite Ripon hotel to be used more</p>
After school, clubs/exercise classes with creche facilities
activities that support families and in particular more maternal mental health and wellbeing support activities. /Free, accessible activities and support for new and pregnant mums
parenting classes
Bed supply service for children /families in need
One stop advice shop Job coaching Parent and baby group - like there used to be
First aid for children



3.Social & Community Activities, Clubs & Groups

Ripon & surrounding villages are renowned for their strong community spirit with thriving local events, festivals, cultural, heritage and community activities. There are many local organisations supporting these such as, Ripon Community House, Ripon Cathedral, Ripon Museums, The National Trust, The Community Poppy Project, Ripon Theatre Festival, Ripon Walled Garden, Ripon Togethers Fun Fest, St Wilfrid's Parade, Sporting facilities, Race course. And many more. However there appears to be a growing need for additional specific, social clubs & groups. The community have also felt the loss of Curzon Cinema.

A selection of Comments from the Survey with reference to social clubs & Groups

Social clubs, such as walking, dancing, gardening etc. community cafe or lunch for vulnerable

Community Garden /walking groups /local champions / community bakery/orchard /women's shed /repair shop

meet new friends' or a 'meet your neighbours' type of event(s) may be useful for new and existing residents in Ripon. same-sex (LGBT) parents' event may be helpful for adults and children alike. For children who are being cared for by single parents, same-sex parents, adoptive or foster parents.

Gardening Club /Chess Club

Jkcoaching.co

Jkcoaching50@gmail.com

Tel.07920044037

food-related events /music /health & wellbeing
Chess Club
Daytime singing group. Daytime line dancing. play days
I would enjoy craft workshops, card making classes, decoupage, pottery, botanical castings, etc
afternoon teas, trips out (not free people pay). Exercise classes & Knit & Natter
Film shows Practical skills sessions- day, basic cooking.
Cinema nights pay as you feel community cafe
Retro cinema
Lunch club
A book swap facility where you bring a book in you've read and exchange for one you haven't
Interest based activities for all ages /book groups

A selection of comments from the survey with reference to civic pride

Opportunities for local people to take pride in their area, such as back alleys, small plots of waste ground reclamation or areas outside business premises, both in the week and weekends.
Regular litter picking would definitely improve Ripon. The side streets and the approach to Ripon are a disgrace

The Brief Continued

2. Who and how can people/organisations contribute their skills, expertise, experience. to help address these.
3. What do we need to do to ensure ongoing engagement of community members in the future development of Ripon Community House?
4. What can/needs to be done to address these needs, challenges, and issues?

Next Steps to help address the above questions

Despite the many services, organisations and opportunities, already available in Ripon & Surrounding areas. The RCH Public engagement survey has highlighted significant gaps and needs in provision, particularly for Adult Services, Children & Families and Health & Wellbeing.

The Public consultation has provided the first step in identifying these gaps and needs. So, what comes next?

It is evident there are many organisations working for the benefit of the community. It would be beneficial to bring these organisations together and invite them to a workshop, professionally facilitated, to do the following:

- Identify the breadth of services/clubs/groups/provision etc already in place in Ripon & Surrounding Villages
- Identify the skills & expertise available from each organisation
- Identify capacity of each organisation
- Identify challenges & solutions
- Identify resources currently available, such as physical space/advertising/knowledge sharing /funding
- Discuss & brainstorm how all organisations could work in partnership
- Discuss & brainstorm how services/clubs/groups/provision etc can communicate and advertise, coherently and effectively with the community
- Agree shared goals and ways of working effectively for the benefit of the community and all its residents

Who To invite

<u>Community Organisations such as:</u>	<u>Service Providers such as:</u>	<u>Survey Respondents</u>
Ohana	Schools & Collages	A selection of survey respondents who left contact details
HADCA	Social Prescribing	
Uredale Community Partnership	Doctors	
Ripon Walled Garden	Health & Wellbeing practitioners	
Ripon YMCA	Ripon Library	
Jenny Ruth	The Cathedral & local Churches	
Ripon Together	Banking representatives	

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Jkcoaching50@gmail.com

Tel.07920044037

Ripon Youth Council	MIND	
Ripon Disability Forum	CAB	
	Council representatives	

Bringing the experts together will enable RCH and partners to create a shared community plan to effectively deliver inclusive & accessible services and opportunities, for all members of the community from birth to 65 +.

The Uredale Community Partnership are currently working on key areas of priority for the community. 2 are relevant to the survey data collected.

1.Youth & Community Cohesion – Chaired by Jo Thackwray.

This group is currently exploring creating a Family & Young Peoples hub, in the centre of Ripon. They are currently in talks with a local property developer who has a space available to rent, to test out the concept

They are also working on a communications plan specifically for young people from 11 – 18 years, to ensure all young people are able to access information safely for, services, events, social groups etc

2.Access to Services – Chaired by Cllr Barbara Brodigan

This group is currently working with a range of organisations to build a picture of what's available in Ripon & surrounding villages, to enable better access to services for all

Both groups would value the survey data and RCH knowledge and experience, which would substantiate the informal knowledge of the unmet needs of the community. It would be beneficial for RCH to reach out to both groups for future discussions, i.e. the proposed workshop.

Prepared by Jkcoaching 14th April 2025.