



Health and specifically Older People

- ❖ There is now a need to align the priorities between the Ribblesdale Locality of the East Lancs CCG, other neighbouring and overlapping CCG groups of GPs and the reformed Public Health Grouping under the County Authority. These priorities must be relevant to the specific needs of Ribble Valley residents.
- ❖ At present just under half of the Ribble Valley population is fifty years old or over. This is the third highest level in the County and one in three of those have a long term limiting illness. The higher life expectancy in our locality and the higher than average growth in population for the area predicts that in 2025 the population in Ribble Valley of an age above 50 will be significantly higher than neighbouring areas and above the national average.
- ❖ Rural Isolation and Loneliness is a significant issue.

Environment

- ❖ Improved access to the country side through footpaths, bridleways and organised walking, horse riding and mountain biking
- ❖ Increase the opportunities for public transport through the communities and parishes
- ❖ Promote waste reduction and recycling
- ❖ Work with the private sector to evaluate schemes that result in positive changes in energy use and pollution minimisation
- ❖ Encourage the promotion and protection of Industrial Archaeology and Historical sites



We'd like to hear your thoughts on this community strategy.

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Ribble Valley has produced several Community Strategies which covered the period 2002-20013. These documents were compiled after extensive community engagement and reflected the issues that the people of the borough felt were important to them at the time.

The proposed Community Strategy for 2014-19 will naturally follow on from that work, and provides a complementary document for the Borough outlining key objectives across a range of topic areas. Action plans can then be developed to address issues of concern to the community. This strategy will be initiated by the Borough Council through a consultation with committee chairs with further input from other councillors, parishes, partners and community groups. It is anticipated that the strategy and associated action plans will be refreshed, discussed and ratified annually by the Borough Council's Policy and Finance Committee.



Working together in seven core areas to:

- **Support our Communities in articulating their hopes, needs and priorities**
- **Focus the actions of all public, private, voluntary and community organisations operating locally**
- **Create a working document that sets objectives and allows reports on 'direction of travel'**
- **Help the Council identify its corporate priorities**
- **Encourage partnership working**

Local Democracy



- ❖ Introduction of new mechanisms to strengthen local democracy and allow people to have a greater say in local decision making
- ❖ Neighbourhood Planning

Education and the Economy

- ❖ Whilst the education resources and results in the Ribble Valley Schools are excellent, and a high proportion of students move on to further education, there is still a lack of vocational training provision for 16-19 year olds in the Borough.
- ❖ Opportunities must still be available for businesses to develop in the area, through continued business support and the encouragement of entrepreneurship and enterprise.
- ❖ Tourism, and in particular food, heritage and green tourism initiatives need to be developed
- ❖ The existence of a successful culture of social enterprise in Ribble Valley will also lead to further opportunities which may in turn support the sustainability of the local communities.



Housing



- ❖ Provision of affordable Housing in the borough. There is also a hidden homeless problem particularly amongst young people within the district and a lack of suitable housing for older people in the villages.
- ❖ The district also features significantly high in the ranking for households who are experiencing fuel poverty



Community Safety

- ❖ Maintaining low levels of crime in the district
- ❖ Improving awareness and education around road safety issues
- ❖ Reducing the incidence and impact of alcohol abuse amongst young people

Facilities

- ❖ Rural Isolation impacts upon many of the issues highlighted within the Strategy and the provision of, and access to facilities and services, for young and old alike, remains a priority.
- ❖ New initiatives that will result in increased outreach to the villages are needed.
- ❖ There are many volunteers working in Ribble Valley, often in an informal way, and whilst there is no central "recruiting" of these, each group in the district seems to do particularly well in attracting the help they need. Our aim is to further support the work of this invaluable volunteer network
- ❖ The Play Alliance still has the potential to be a vehicle that could collectively improve the sustainability and maintenance of existing play provision

