

Hodgepodge commitments – April 2026

We are coming together because we are interested in making York a fairer, just and more sustainable city.

All of us here are working to tackle social injustices, whether through paid/unpaid community organising and activism.

This is the first time that York Together has convened in this way, and we know it will be imperfect. If you would like to give feedback on this agreement or how we held the space, then please speak to someone from York Together on the day or [email Anjelica and Emmie](#).

We invite you all into this space with the following commitments:

- **Curiosity:**
We can all learn something from everyone in the room.
- **Chatham House Rules:**
We can use the information (and learning) that we gain from being here, but cannot reveal the identities or affiliations of the people we learn from.
- **Recognising your humanity and making space for others:**
Think about what you might need to stay present and engaged.
This might mean moving around, or taking a quiet moment, making sure you are drinking enough water, etc. Ask for support from York Together staff and members if you need it.
- **Sharing experiences:**
You may want to share your insight and experiences but there is no expectation to do so. We invite you to only share to the point that you feel comfortable.
- **Lived experience:**
You are invited to speak from your own lived experience. We respect that someone's lived experience is their own.
- **Step forward/step back:**
Take time to reflect on the space you occupy in the room. i.e. If you are someone who tends to speak a lot, you may wish to 'step back' into a listening role and vice versa.

- **Expectation of discomfort:**

We recognise discomfort enables transformation. We invite you to take a break if things feel too uncomfortable.

- **Disagreement:**

There might be points of disagreement or misunderstanding. We recognise that this can be part of coming together. If you feel uncomfortable or if any disagreement feels unresolvable in the moment, please come and talk to any member of York Together, and we will support you.

- **Use of phones/devices:**

Some people in the room might need to use their phones/devices (whether for taking notes or for their own access needs).

- If you are using them for work emails or for any other reason that will disconnect you from Hodgepodge, we kindly invite you to step out of the room.

- There is no space for hate speech.

Aftercare

If things come up for you during the day, you can check in with York Together by emailing hello@yorktogether.org.

We really love **Healing Justice Ldn's** [aftercare menu](#), which you might also find helpful.