

PART I

Article 7 – Residents Forums

Current wording

In order to give local residents a greater say in Council affairs it has appointed a forum for each of the towns within the Borough, Oadby, South Wigston and Wigston.

7.01 General role of the Residents Forums

The Resident Forums will discharge the functions delegated to them by Council as set out in Part 3 of this Constitution.

7.01.1 Finances

Residents forums will have budgets delegated by Council to enable local groups, organisations and individuals to apply to their local forum for funding of projects that seek to improve the quality of life for people who live or work in the Borough. Prior approval for the spending of each Resident Forum budget is subject to the approval of the Policy Finance and Development Committee

Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions

**RESIDENTS FORUMS
GENERAL TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ALL FORUMS**

- To increase public involvement in public services
- To help shape the Council's policies for public services
- To challenge and give feedback on the performance of public services
- To promote community cohesion
- To report to the relevant committees

PART II

Proposed Wording

In order to give the local community a greater say in Council affairs, it has appointed a Forum for each of the towns within the Borough: Oadby, Wigston and South Wigston.

7.1. General Role of the Residents' Forums

The Residents' Forums will undertake the role as set out below.

1. Purpose

The Residents' Forums facilitate and enable a constructive relationship between the Council and the residents of the Borough. They provide an opportunity for the

Council to consult the public on its policy decisions, service planning and Council consultations on areas of work that have the potential to impact on residents.

The Residents' Forums ensure that issues important to residents are brought to the attention of the Council and vice versa, always acknowledging that a diversity of views may exist and always promoting better community cohesion.

2. Key Aims

- 2.1 To provide a space for residents to come together and receive updates on current agendas and influence Council policy and decision-makers.
- 2.2 To provide residents with the opportunity to meet and inform elected-Members about issues of concern.
- 2.3 To ensure consultation and engagement on the Council's policies and provide constructive challenge and give feedback on the Council's performance.
- 2.4 To advise and comment on grant applications submitted to the Forums for their specific consideration before final submission to the Policy, Finance and Development Committee.
- 2.5 To act as a key channel for distributing information, engaging with the community and answering questions.

7.2 Finances

The Policy, Finance and Development Committee will have budgets delegated to it by Full Council to enable local groups, organisations and individuals to apply to their local Forum for funding of projects that seek to improve the quality of life for people who live or work in the Borough.

Residents' Forums may make recommendations to the Policy, Finance and Development Committee about the benefits of such grants: however the final approval for the awarding of the grant(s) is a decision to be taken by the Policy, Finance and Development Committee.