

Neighbourhood Forums

Have your say. Make a difference.

www.portsmouth.gov.uk



Got something to say about where you live?

Neighbourhood forums give you the chance to speak up about what's happening on your doorstep. Parking, crime, planning developments, policing and schools are all hot topics, which affect people's lives. If you've got something to say, neighbourhood forums are a way to get your voice heard and to make a difference to your local area.

Fed up of all talk and no action?

“When you speak up, you see action”

Resident, Eastney
Neighbourhood Forum

There's no such thing as small change.

You'll be amazed at what can happen when people speak up. Forums have been successful in making a real difference. There are 14 forums across Portsmouth, with some securing grant money to build new games areas and skateparks, and others having a real say about policies affecting their local area.

The way forums work

All forums have an independent chair, a local resident elected by other residents to manage all meetings, make sure discussions don't stray from the agenda and finish on time.

“You can't expect things to get done, unless you get involved”

Resident, Fratton
Neighbourhood Forum

An agenda is set for each meeting by residents on a forum committee, which means there are a list of issues to be discussed. If you want an item on the agenda please let us know in advance, our contact details are on the back of this leaflet.

There can be a real mix of discussion at forums, and speakers are invited to talk about specific topics. These can be staff from the council, ward councillors, police, health or others. Because forums are non-political it is important to get everyone's views on an issue so there is a fair debate and discussion.

Who can attend forums

“ It's open to all - even if you just want to listen to what others have to say ”

Resident, Stamshaw and Tipner
Neighbourhood Forum

Anyone who lives, works, studies or has business interests in the relevant forum area, can join in the discussion. It's an open door policy. So just turn up and have your say at a forum meeting.

Local means local

If we're talking about local issues we wouldn't expect you to trek halfway across Portsmouth to give your views. Forums are held in local venues like schools, community centres or church halls. Most meetings are held on weekday evenings and run for about two hours.

Meetings are advertised locally, in the local press and you can also find out details at www.portsmouth.gov.uk and click on **have your say**.

If you can't make your forum, you can have your say online on the discussion forum.

“ Our forum has made a real difference in our area ”

Resident, Drayton and Farlington
Neighbourhood Forum

We make sure that venues are accessible for people with limited mobility and/or impaired hearing. However, if you have other special requirements, or need something specific, please contact us and we will do our best to cater for your needs.

Like the sound of neighbourhood forums?

Forums are just one of the many ways we involve local people and communities. To find out more, write, telephone, email or pop in to see the Democratic and Community Engagement team who can answer any questions you have - for further contact details, please turn over.

Democratic and Community Engagement
Neighbourhood Forums
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You can get this
Portsmouth City
Council information
in large print, Braille,
audio or in another
language by calling
9283 4059.



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