

You can help to represent the views of the whole community by bringing your ideas and viewpoints to the group.

How can I learn more about the Have Your Say group?

To sign up to the group please follow the link on the Have Your Say web page:

<http://www.rochford.gov.uk/haveyoursay>

More information can be obtained from Andrew Lowing, Community Planning Officer:

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Have Your Say

Consultation Group

What is the 'Have Your Say' group

This group is made up of Rochford residents who volunteer to express their views on the Council's proposals and local services. The information provided helps the Council to make its decisions.

The group seeks to involve all members of the community to ensure that the views expressed are as representative as possible.

What does it involve?

In order for us to get the information we need, you will be asked to fill in questionnaires, take part in telephone surveys and participate in focus groups.

When signing up to take part in the group you be asked to highlight any particular areas of interest. This is to ensure your views are taken into account when relevant consultations come up.

Will it take up a lot of my time?

You will be approached to get involved in consultations throughout the year. You don't have to respond every time; we just ask that you get involved at least once a year.

Members are selected to get involved according to the type of consultation. Sometimes every member of the group will be called upon; sometimes it may be only twenty people.

Questionnaires shouldn't take longer than 15 minutes but focus groups will take longer.

Why should I join the group?

The group gives you the chance to express your opinions to the people that make decisions.

You can help to represent the views of the whole community by bringing your ideas and viewpoints to the group.

Being part of the group will be valuable experience and is an opportunity to give something back to your community.

How does it make a difference?

The consultation exercises help the Council to understand what residents think about the issues and as a result can help to influence decision making.

Members will receive a regular newsletter explaining how their views have helped in the decision making process.

