

Appendix A

10.1 Area Forums

The Council will create, facilitate and participate in Area Forums as part of its community leadership role.

The Council may convene Area Forums, if it is satisfied that to do so will ensure improved communication and engagement across all tiers of local government.

The Council will consult with relevant Parish and Town councils when considering whether and how to establish Area Forums or any forms of community-based forums.

Form, composition and function

Area Forums may involve: -

- All County Councillors with divisions in the East Lindsey District
- All East Lindsey District Councillors
- All Town and Parish Councillors
- All Town and Parish Council Clerks

Area Forums will be hosted by ELDC Executive Board Councillors to ensure senior District Councillor involvement, according to their availability and the relevance of the agenda to their portfolio. There is no paid allowance for the Chair or Vice Chair of an Area Forum.

To promote maximum involvement, Councillors and/or Clerks may attend the Area Forum which either covers the area where they are based or is most convenient, depending upon individual circumstances and availability.

The Area Forums have an advisory capacity. There is no requirement for political balance as the Area Forum has no decision making powers. As an advisory body there is no voting but the host can take a consensus view from those attending.

The views of all attendees are sought and carry equal weight. All attendees are therefore able to shape the future direction of the District.

On occasion, if appropriate, MPs representing constituencies within the district of East Lindsey and other relevant agencies involved in strategic issues may be invited to attend.

Each Area Forum is held twice per year usually in the March/April and September/October period.

Area Forum meetings will have a formal agenda issued at least fourteen days in advance of the meeting. The agenda for each Area Forum will be broadly the same but with scope to include issues specific to the locality as appropriate. Agenda items can be proposed by any Councillor from any tier of local government.