

Opposition Group Motion for Debate

This Council resolves to reintroduce Ward Forums with devolved budgets by this Autumn. The absence of Ward Forums leaves many residents with the impression that Ealing Council does not want to listen to them.

The Council recognises that the promised, but not delivered, Town Forums would have the disadvantages of the previous Area Committees, and would do little to improve local democracy.

Ward Forums with devolved budgets are a proven, and effective, means of improving resident engagement. They require Ward Councillors to interact with their constituents and to respond to their concerns. They are key to helping those residents who find themselves digitally excluded. With no Ward Forums, there is a democratic deficit. Ealing deserves better.