

What does the term Civic Leader mean to you?

Below are the responses of the Councillor attendees at the Councillor's Consultation event at King's College, Cambridge on the 8th September 2009.

What the term Civic Leader means to them:

- Elected councillors; decision makers on behalf of electorate; conduits for public opinion
- Officials i.e. Mayors, council leaders
- Someone acknowledged to have a clue what is going on
- Sticking your hand in the air and saying following me
- Local chief executive
- Boss Hogg" syndrome (reference to powermad character in 80s TV series Dukes of Hazard County ~ CR-))
- Mayor
- Aldermen
- Church
- Council chair
- A voice for the people (who matter)
- Representatives
- Messenger
- Mayor/councillor etc
- Head of council

- Leader
- Representative of council at public functions
- A person (not necessarily a councillor) who is prepared to be involved in the community (selflessly)
- Involvement
- Commitment
- Civic leader – to lead local development to good practices. Person who leads council policies
- A civic leader also has to act as a conduit for government policy and interpret it in best way possible for him/hers community
- Local politician
- Decision maker on civic matters in a democratic setting
- Hearer and interpreter
- Taking ideas forward
- Leaders, cabinet members and chairman
- To make decisions to improve the lives and well being of residents
- Politics and large institutions etc (e.g. police, colleges)
- Putting forward proposals and carrying them through
- Civic leader – a person in the community who leads a public body on project
- Accessibility
- Leader of administration
- Inspiring leadership
- Responsible for managing and determining policy to suit local needs
- A facilitator for best practice
- Head of elected authority
- Leads the controlling council group
- Group leaders arising from local issue e.g. wind turbines, local needs housing, water, electricity
- Prominent member of the locality, not necessarily elected – lawyers, doctors, elected members, teachers

- To inspire, to provide leadership, to share a vision, to motivate
- “Civic leader” is meaningless or at least utterly ambiguous. Main associations would be ability to enthuse others – or possibly ability to decide without answerability
- Emphasis should be on the word leaders i.e. Not a follower of the herd
- Person in the public eye
- An approachable person who gets things done