



DATA DECISION-MAKING DEMOCRACY DESIGN DISPLAYS EVENTS FORUMS FORMAL INTERACTIVE INTERNET INTERVIEWS LEAFLETS MEDIA MEETINGS NEWSLETTERS ONE-TO-ONE OPEN PARTICIPATORY PARTNERSHIPS PARTICIPATIONS PUBLIC QUESTIONNAIRES RESPONSE SHARED SITE STAFF SURGERY TELEPHONE SURVEYS TELEVISION AND RADIO VISITS WEBSITES WORKING GROUPS

Displays

Displays are used to provide information for community members, but they usually allow some consultation as well. The design and format of Displays may vary considerably from interactive Displays to simple information posters. In order to use the techniques efficiently, information offered must be relevant for the audience, attractive and comprehensible. Displays can include, for example, photographs, maps, models and diagrams and can use computer displays or videos. Different types of Displays are described in more detail in [Interactive displays](#), [Unstaffed displays](#) and [Staffed displays](#).



Simple Displays on site can help collect information from users.



A staffed Display (Inverness Forest District).

Resources and requirements

Skills

- Good writing and graphic design skills are necessary, as well as personal communication skills in staffed displays.
- Professional skills can be used if complex Displays are to be designed.

Equipment

- Possible resources include photographic equipment, poster materials and display easels.
- Standard office writing and printing equipment.

Level of engagement

INFORMING: ★★

CONSULTING: ★

INVOLVING:

PARTNERSHIP:

Strengths

- Displays can extend to people who are not normally reached in the involvement process.
- They will tend to stimulate public interest in the planning process if well designed and visually appealing.
- Displays provide a good way of distributing information about the planning process.

Weaknesses

- Failure to prepare good information may lead to conflicts if people feel that the full range of options is not presented.
- Choosing a wrong site will waste resources.
- Displays may be resource intensive if they are staffed.
- Careful designs required.

Time

- Time needed to prepare, review and revise Display material depends on the type of Display; at least a week or two is normally needed to prepare a new Display.
- Time requirements are usually higher in staffed Displays compared to other forms of Displays.

Useful sources of information

Books

- Community participation in Local Agenda 21. J. Bishop (1994). Local Government Management Board, London.
- Creating involvement. Environment Trust Associates (1994). Local Government Management Board, London.
- Public involvement in environmental permits: a reference guide. US Environmental Protection Agency (2000). Available from: www.epa.gov
- Reference manual for public involvement. J. Barker et al. (1999). 2nd edn. Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham Health Authority, London.



An unstaffed Display of environmental plans (Irk Valley Project, Joanne Tippett).



An interactive Display (Red Rose Forest).

This toolbox is designed to assist Forestry Commission staff when they are considering which tools they could use to involve the public in the forest and woodland planning process. For more information please visit the website at: www.forestry.gov.uk/toolbox