The implementation of the Town Councils and Community Development Councils is generally reflective of the Singapore Government's style of participatory politics. Although there are varying views as to the roles of the Councils, it is clear that the citizens in public housing estates can expect to participate more in the management of their estates and the enhancement of community development. The Councils have established various avenues to encourage citizen participation in the decision making process.

This study attempts to assess, through a survey, how far the Councils have achieved in getting their citizens' involvement. The findings revealed that most citizens were, or wanted to be, involved in the decision making process. In fact, some asked for more powers, such as to attend the Councils' meetings and to have a voting right in electing their grassroots representative or councillor. The writer also explores other means to maximise citizen participation.

**Keywords**

Community development
Community Development Council
Feedback
Grassroots organisations
Participation
Town Council