

youth

citizenship commission



Old enough to make a mark?  
Should the voting age be lowered to 16?

Summary of consultation responses



**Old enough to make a mark?**  
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This information is also available on the Youth Citizenship Commission's website:

**[www.ycc.uk.net](http://www.ycc.uk.net)**

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## Introduction

This document provides a summary of responses to the discussion paper 'Old enough to make a mark? Should the voting age be lowered to 16?'.  
The comments received were either in response to the general content of the discussion paper or to the eight consultation questions outlined at the end of the paper. The questions were as follows:

1	Do you think the voting age should be lowered?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Please tell us why	
2	Do you think the voting age should remain at 18?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Please tell us why	
3	Do you think the voting age should be lowered to 16 in all elections?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Please tell us why	
4	Do you think the voting age should only be lowered in local elections?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Please tell us why	
5	Do you think lowering the voting age might encourage young people to take part in elections?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Please tell us why	
6	If the voting age were to be lowered, what measures should the Government take to ensure young people register and exercise their right to vote?	
	Please tell us why	
7	What more can be done to encourage new electors to vote?	
	Please tell us why	
8	What other issues may arise if the voting age is lowered to 16? What are the issues for:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funding and administration of electoral registration?</li><li>• Administration of elections?</li><li>• Education, advice and information for young people?</li></ul>	
	Please tell us why	

## Background

The remit of the Youth Citizenship Commission (YCC) is to focus on young people aged 11-19 and to:

- Examine what citizenship means to young people
- Consider how to increase young people's participation in politics; the development of citizenship amongst disadvantaged groups; how active citizenship can be promoted through volunteering and community engagement; and how the political system can reflect the communication preferences of young people
- Lead a consultation with young people on whether the voting age should be lowered to 16.

The Commission will report to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Justice, and the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families in June 2009.

'Old enough to make a mark? Should the voting age be lowered to 16?' was a public discussion document published by the YCC on 20 October 2008. It asked for evidence and views on whether the voting age should be lowered to 16.

The discussion paper outlined relevant information about the voting age, such as the current legal position in the UK, international comparisons, engagement amongst young people and citizenship education in secondary schools. The paper also discussed the implications of lowering the voting age to 16 or of maintaining the voting age of 18.

The eight questions (see page 3) listed in the consultation document invited discussion about the relevant issues and points that would help the YCC to form conclusions on this issue.

Responses to the paper were requested by 20 January 2009. A total of 509 responses were received from:

- Members of the public, including young people
- Charities
- Children and youth organisations
- Campaign organisations
- Electoral services organisations
- Councils and Local Government organisations
- Unions
- Staff Networks
- Councillors, Members of Parliament and political parties

The quality and content of the responses ranged from those of great detail to very brief comments about whether the proposal was supported or opposed. It was clear that many of the groups and individuals who responded had put a large amount of time and effort into their responses.

We appreciate the level of engagement shown by everyone who took the time to respond. We are now considering the best way to take the comments and arguments made forward now that the consultation has ended.

## Summary of Responses

The Secretariat to the Youth Citizenship Commission received a total of 509 responses to the consultation from a wide range of groups and individuals in the UK. 488 separate respondents (individuals and organisations) participated in the consultation and there were a large number of arguments and comments put forward about the consultation itself or the eight questions included in the discussion paper (listed on page three).

The responses were received via email, post and through the internet using the YCC website; [www.ycc.net.uk](http://www.ycc.net.uk). A large number of young people participated through the YCC website and many provided answers to many or all of the questions. A very small number of responses received through the YCC website contained comments or content not relevant to the consultation, and so have not been included in the summary of responses.

Overall, 64 percent of respondents (314) supported the proposal to lower the voting age to 16. Those who supported the proposal generally provided more detailed comments and arguments than those who opposed lowering the age. While responses in support of the proposal offered many arguments why the voting age should be lowered, there was very little evidence provided in the responses about the benefits or effects of lowering the age to 16.

32 percent of respondents (158) were against the lowering of the voting age to 16. These responses were generally shorter and less detailed, as many respondents felt the remaining questions were irrelevant once they had argued why the voting age should not be lowered. However, some respondents raised important issues should the Government decide to lower the voting age.

Some organisations who responded to the paper included the results of polls conducted for young people and school council debates. The results of these polls were often opposed to lowering the voting age. However, they usually had very small numbers of young people participating, so while these results are interesting, they cannot be judged as reliably representative of young people generally.

Three percent of respondents (16) remained neutral about whether the voting age should be changed or remain the same. These responses generally discussed the implications of any changes to the voting system and also other issues that may arise should the decision be made to lower the voting age to 16.

## Question 1

### YES!

A number of arguments were made supporting lowering the voting age to 16.

A large number of respondents argued that 16 and 17 year olds should have the right to representation because like those over 18, they are subject to taxation and other decisions that directly affect them made by UK, local and European governments.

Another common argument was that 16 and 17 year olds were capable of making informed choices when voting. Respondents pointed out that young people make complex decisions everyday, and can be as intelligent and knowledgeable about politics and the world around them as people aged 18 and over. Many who responded also pointed out that age is not always relevant to political understanding.

Respondents also discussed the need for 16 and 17 year olds to connect their political interests with formal processes. Many respondents stated that this generation is more politically aware, due to the relevant skills and knowledge learned through citizenship education at school, making them suitable voters. Additional points made included:

- being able to vote at 16 would coincide with the completion of citizenship education and provide a natural progression
- investing the voting rights in young people is the most meaningful way to improve their relationship with government.

Bruce Crawford (Minister for Parliamentary Business), on behalf of the Scottish Government, argued in support of lowering the voting age to 16 in all UK elections. The Scottish Government had introduced a bill in 2008 that would allow 16 and 17 year olds to vote in local health board elections (this bill has now been enacted) and stated that their aim was to lower the voting age to 16 in all Scottish elections. Their response argued that the UK Government should transfer legislative and executive

responsibility to Scotland. They stated that this would be the most effective way to deliver elections in Scotland.

Some respondents argued that not allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote is a breach of basic human rights – particularly international treaties signed by the UK government. These treaties included:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) – Article 21 (3) and 2
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) - Article 25 (b) and 2
- European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) – Article 3 (protocol 1) and 14
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) – Article 12.

The case of *Hirst v UK (No.2)* [2005] 74025/01 from the European Court of Human Rights was also raised in support of lowering the voting age.

A few respondents suggested that lowering the voting age might increase the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) participation in elections, as the population under 18 years is increasingly more ethnically diverse.

Respondents discussed the likelihood that political candidates and political parties would pay more attention to young people's issues if the voting age was lowered to 16. Respondents also argued that many young people support lowering the voting age. One respondent quoted a Funky Dragon poll from 2006/07 and stated it showed that 80% of young people who participated said yes to lowering the voting age to 16. This respondent stated that they rated the poll highly due to a 95% confidence level.

## NO!

Most respondents that argued against lowering the voting age to 16 argued that 16 and 17 year olds were not mature enough to vote.

Respondents stated that 16 year olds were not able to make reasoned decisions and lack the perspective and life experience needed to make political decisions. Other respondents felt that 16 and 17 year olds were generally impressionable and would not take voting seriously or would be influenced by their parents. One respondent felt that citizenship education was an “apprenticeship” on the way to having the right to vote. In addition, some respondents believe that 16 and 17 year olds were not interested in voting.

A few respondents argued that keeping the voting age at 18 is not a breach of human rights, as the restriction preventing those young people between 16 and their 18th birthday from voting was only temporary, i.e. two years or less. Respondents also argued that by keeping the age at 18, the UK is in line with the vast majority of other countries.

Respondents commented that there is a lack of evidence to consider from countries that have lowered the voting age.

Many respondents also argued that the general public is not in support of lowering the voting age to 16. A 2004 ICM poll was quoted as revealing that only one third of 18-24 year olds supported a reduction in the voting age and the Electoral Commission’s surveys were said to have found that two thirds of the public supported the current voting age.

A small number of respondents felt that the age should be changed, but not to 16. Ages suggested include 17 years and 21 years of age.

One respondent commented that the proposal to lower the voting age to 16 looked like an attempt to work around voting apathy instead of dealing with the reasons for voting apathy.

Another respondent argued that a minimum voting age should be abolished altogether.

## Question 2

### YES!

Many respondents focused on the age of responsibility (18) as the best age to be entitled to vote. 18 years of age was stated to be the age of more independence and life experience and so a more suitable age to begin the voting process.

Some respondents argued that it was irrelevant whether 16 and 17 year olds pay taxes. One respondent commented on the passing of the Education and Skills Act 2008, which they stated would keep young people up to the age of 18 in full time education and training – rather than working and paying tax.

A number of respondents argued that not all young people were in support of lowering the voting age. They argued that studies showed young people support the voting age remaining at 18 or being raised to 21. They also commented that those who were in favour of lowering the voting age are those who were already more actively engaged in political activities – and that the majority of 16 and 17 year olds are not.

One respondent felt that the lack of interest from 16 and 17 year olds in voting meant that lowering the age would be a waste of money and voting opportunities.

### NO!

The number of responses to this question was low, as many respondents stated that they had covered this question while answering yes to question one. However, a few responses were received.

Respondents argued that society now expects people to recognise and act on their roles and responsibilities as citizens at a younger age, and that society's awareness and understanding of young people has increased substantially.

One respondent discussed suffrage and argued that universal suffrage should apply to anyone capable of exercising a vote (who hasn't transgressed the rules of society) including 16 and 17 year olds.

Another respondent argued that 18 years old is too young to vote and that the age should be raised to 21.

## Question 3

Do you think the voting age should be lowered to 16 in all elections?

### YES!

Respondents made three main arguments for lowering the voting age to 16 in all elections.

Respondents argued that 16 and 17 year olds were fully capable of voting in all elections, as the voting process is the same for all people. Respondents stated that those who would be capable of voting in local elections would also be capable of voting in national and European elections.

Many respondents felt strongly that it would be inconsistent to lower the voting age in some elections, but not others. They stated that this would create confusion for the general public and young people generally, and would extend to things such as the correct age to register for certain elections. Many respondents also argued that it is very important to be consistent.

Many respondents were concerned about the distinctions that would be drawn between local council and national elections. These arguments covered two issues – the first being that allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote in local council elections only would mean that those elections would be seen as second rate compared with national elections. The second issue raised was that allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote in local council elections only would create the impression that they were not trusted or taken seriously, despite being equally interested and knowledgeable in national and international matters.

Respondents felt that 16 and 17 year olds should have the right to representation at all levels, because they are affected by political decision making as any other citizen.

Other respondents agreed with this point of view, arguing that allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote in all elections would promote trust between young people and the Government, and draw them further into democratic society.

One respondent argued that many young people's attitudes are very similar to those of older people on matters such as health education and crime<sup>1</sup>.

### NO!

Comments made by respondents did not focus on the reasons why the age should not be lowered to 16 in all elections, but focused on what the voting age should be – suggestions were either 17 or 18 years of age.

<sup>1</sup> Holland J. and Thompson R. (1999) Respect. Youth Values: identity, diversity and social change. ESRC Children 5-16 Research Briefing) (Henn, M. Weinstein, M. Forrest S. (2005) Uninterested youth? Young people's attitudes towards party politics in Britain Political Studies Vol 53 Pp. 556-578.

## Question 4

### YES!

Respondents generally commented that lowering the voting age to 16 for local elections would provide more experience and a greater appreciation of politics before enabling 16 and 17 year olds to vote in national elections.

Some respondents also felt that elections at local level would give young people more of a say in their locality, which would then encourage them to take national elections more seriously when they turn 18. Some respondents felt that young people are more interested in their own local areas and so this is a more suitable level at which to vote.

### NO!

Respondents felt strongly that 16 and 17 year olds have the right to representation at local, national and international elections. One respondent argued that the process of enfranchisement should not depend on subjective judgements about the importance of powers or the size of a tier of government.

Other respondents were concerned that lowering the voting age in local elections only would appear to be a token gesture by the Government. They argued that it would send a message that local politics are less important than national politics and that 16 and 17 year olds could only be trusted to vote in the less important elections. One respondent also felt that in this situation, there would be no point in being interested in local council politics because it would be seen as second rate.

Further arguments included that it was important to be consistent; the voting age should remain at 18 years, and it would be impossible to justify the difference between elections.

A number of respondents argued that lowering the voting age only in local elections would create logistical problems for electoral administrators.

Respondents also commented that lowering the voting age to 16 in local elections would not increase the low levels of voter turnout, particularly amongst younger voters.

## Question 5

Do you think lowering the voting age might encourage young people to take part in elections?

### YES!

A large number of respondents argued that giving 16 and 17 year olds a real and personal stake in citizenship through the vote would give them the opportunity to turn their interest in politics into political participation. Respondents stated that enfranchised 16 and 17 year olds would feel valued in society and engage in voting, and that the vote would give their citizenship lessons greater meaning.

Some respondents argued that young people are not apathetic, but disenfranchised and sceptical about their ability to bring about change through the vote. There were a number of points made by these respondents:

- Young people discuss feelings of powerlessness and are inhibited by lacking knowledge about voting
- An impression is given that young people are not real citizens and their views are not valid
- The exclusion of 16 and 17 year olds from elections fuels the disengagement of 18 to 24 year olds
- Girlguiding UK surveyed 1000 members aged between 14 and 25 – their survey found that while these young women are among the most active citizens they felt disengaged from local and national politics – one fifth felt deterred from getting involved by feeling politics is not worth the effort and 17% felt they could not make a difference
- YVote/YNot<sup>2</sup> – many participants suggested that young people think formal politics are dull and boring and that politicians do not take notice of young people's concerns – they stated this to be a direct result of this age group being unable to vote.

Respondents also commented that if 16 and 17 year olds were allowed to vote, a habit of voting would be developed earlier and would be more likely to be maintained by those aged between 18 and 24 years. One respondent quoted a study by Beth Breeze (former Deputy Director of Social Market Foundation), which found that the closer an individual's 18th birthday was to an election; the more likely they were to vote.

A few respondents felt that lowering the voting age would only encourage young people to vote if associated with meaningful education on the political and electoral processes and the benefits of participating in these processes.

Further comments included the argument that there will be a steady and fundamental shift in attitudes amongst the public about voting if the process was sufficiently supported; and that initial publicity about lowering the voting age might slightly increase voter turnout.

### NO!

Many respondents simply said no to this question and did not offer an explanation.

Some respondents argued that lowering the voting age would not increase voter turnout. One respondent quoted:

- Turnout of 18-24 year olds in 2001 was 39% and in 2005 was 37% and the turnout of 16 and 17 year olds would be even less
- Lowering the voting age would decrease voter turnout since this age group would be less likely to vote than the median voter.

Many respondents argued that a local and national awareness campaign is more appropriate to achieve an increase in voter turnout, rather than lowering the voting age to 16.

One respondent commented that the key to encouraging young people to vote is to ensure that young people have a real influence over the process.

<sup>2</sup> YVote/YNot? was a project organised and run by the DfES's Children and Young People's Unit (CYPUP); reported on in 2002. This project involved young people telling the Government, politicians, the Electoral Commission and the media what turned them off and on to politics.

## NEUTRAL

A small number of responses did not respond yes or no to this question, but made general comments.

Some respondents (including some who agreed that lowering the voting age would encourage young people to vote) stated that the right to vote and the issue of voter turnout were separate issues, and turnout did not impact on the decision to lower the voting age to 16.

Other respondents felt that there were no guarantees that lowering the age will encourage young people to vote. One respondent questioned whether the increase in the electorate that would be created by lowering the age would mean that the overall turnout would diminish as a percentage of the electorate.

Some respondents pointed out that there is little conclusive evidence on this issue either way.

## Question 6

Respondents offered a number of suggestions to this question.

A large number of respondents argued that the Government needed to provide infrastructure that would support young people to vote. These respondents' suggestions were to:

- encourage greater civic engagement of young people in their communities and provide accessible and informative education on democratic processes
- expand opportunities for young people to be active in decision making
- put sustained investment in citizenship education in schools and give this a high profile
- increase the dedication to the consultation and involvement of young people on the development of education and advice on the voting process and the ways they are involved in civic society in Britain.

Respondents also made suggestions associated with the administration of voting:

- implement voter registration in schools for 15 year olds and above
- consider remote voting for those who find access to voting difficult, e.g. email, online, post, text message, digital television
- develop an engagement programme with the voluntary and NGO sector
- develop an appropriate timetable to allow adequate time for implementation of changes to voter registration practices
- include polling stations in schools and introduce targeted election promotion.

A number of respondents also commented on changes to security and legislation that could be made to improve the UK's electoral process:

- introduce individual voter registration
- increase ballot security, e.g. Photographic ID prior to voting
- strengthen the powers of the Electoral Commission to investigate and police the electoral system
- have less constraints on local authorities so that votes are perceived as having a difference.

One respondent argued that the Government should give consideration to the reasons for declining turnout among voters of all ages; another suggested that the Government liaise with media to encourage education about voting processes.

## Question 7

A number of respondents mentioned existing programmes that encourage young people to vote as ones that should be introduced nationally.

These programmes included:

- Inform and Influence Programme – 80% of those who attended training stated that their involvement had made them more likely to vote<sup>3</sup>
- Citizens @ Work events<sup>4</sup>
- FE College Students' Unions – their political involvement model<sup>5</sup>
- Active Citizens programme<sup>6</sup>
- Active Citizens in Schools pilot (2001-2004)<sup>7</sup>.

Many respondents felt that participation in elections and voting should be encouraged much more strongly. These respondents argued that people need to be connected with the issues that are affecting them through education, and that volunteering and community action should be promoted; all of this would encourage young people's civic engagement. In addition, a number of respondents stated that additional resources are needed to produce revised materials aimed directly at young people.

One respondent argued that Electoral Registration Officers and local authorities should more actively encourage people to participate in elections.

Some respondents argued that changes needed to be made to politics and political parties to encourage new electors to vote. Respondents felt that politicians need to meet young people and find ways of ensuring that they and their parties represent the views and interests of young people. One respondent also commented that politician's expenses should also be reviewed.

A few respondents discussed the UK's electoral system. Some argued that the current voting system should be changed to systems such as STV<sup>8</sup> or mixed member proportional<sup>9</sup>, so that people would feel that their vote counted. One respondent argued that the Government should rectify fundamental flaws in UK electoral laws. Another respondent suggested that a box be added to ballot papers to record abstentions by voters.

Further suggestions were for the Government to re-evaluate the spending of youth engagement; and to lower taxes for those that vote.

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3 The Inform and Influence programme is organised and run by the British Youth Council and is funded by the Electoral Commission. The programme aims to increase the number of young people registering and voting in elections.

4 Citizens @ Work events have been organised and run by the Trades Union Congress. These events encouraged school and college age students to debate on current issues affecting them and the UK population.

5 Further Education Student Unions are separate entities; the National Union of Students suggested their model for political involvement; no further information supplied.

6 The British Council organises and runs the Active Citizen programme (along with their partners), which involves connecting with young people aged between 18 and 35 from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal through capacity building, developing youth networks and social action projects and facilitating policy dialogue. More information can be found at <http://www.britishcouncil.org/bangladesh-active-citizen.htm>.

7 Active Citizens in Schools was a pilot programme run from 2001-2004. Changemakers and ContinYou were the two pilot agencies involved. An evaluation of the pilot conducted in 2005 on behalf of the Department for Education and Skills found that a national roll-out of this pilot would be viable. More information can be found at: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/RR620.pdf>.

8 Voters fill in a ballot paper by marking their ballot paper 1,2,3 etc. against their most preferred individual candidates across any party or combination of parties. Winning candidates must obtain a 'quota' of support so as to qualify for one of the seats in a constituency.

9 Electors cast two votes – one for a constituency representative and one for a party list. The percentage of party list votes obtained by each party determines their overall number of representatives and is used to top-up the number of constituencies won to the required degree of proportionality. The constituency or directly elected members are usually elected by first past the post; the list element is usually closed.

### Funding and administration of electoral registration

Many respondents discussed issues around funding, such as possible increases associated with making changes to the electoral system:

- Councils need to increase funding
- Parish elections should be paid out of business rates and rate support grants
- Costs for changes to the electoral system would be borne by taxpayers, the majority of whom do not support any change.

Other respondents commented on how the administration of electoral registration would be affected. Respondents either argued that there would be a minimal increase in workload and cost for registration, staffing of polling stations and increasing the number of new electors to vote; or they argued that a reduction in the voting age would involve additional administration and expense for electoral services departments without any evidence that it would achieve any positive outcome.

Respondents who were concerned with registration also raised the following points:

- Young people would need to register at the age of 14-15
- Obtaining the details of those under the age of 16 should be treated with greater care than that of adults due to sensitive information that would be available on the electoral register (a public document) and so the ERO could be required to hold the names of this age group unpublished until the voter turned 16
- The Chief Electoral Officer should be given the power to request information from schools in order to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the electoral register (as in Northern Ireland).

### Administration of elections

Respondents commented that if the voting age was lowered, the candidacy age would also need to be lowered to match the voting age.

One respondent argued that there would be a minimal increase in workload for the administration of elections; and some respondents were particularly concerned that problems might arise if the voting age was only lowered to 16 in local elections.

Some respondents argued that the voter turnout of young people aged 16 and 17 would be likely to mirror low turnouts already experienced among the 18-24 age group, which might affect the overall voter turnout at elections.

A small number of respondents argued that voting should be made compulsory.

One respondent stated that electoral administrators would have to cope with juvenile behaviour if the voting age is lowered.

### Education, advice and information for young people

A large number of respondents commented on this issue. Most responses and arguments centred on the need for citizenship education to be improved with more information and to be taken more seriously in schools. Suggestions for improvements included making the subject more practical and to provide more political background on parties to ensure that young people are fully informed. One respondent felt that it is important that young people have a framework for articulating their political views.

Some respondents argued that citizenship should be taught at a much younger age, such as 5 years old.

Respondents felt that voting publicity material should be improved to reach new voters. One respondent commented that Returning Officers and Registration Officers will need new ways to do this through such publicity material. Another respondent commented that where any publicity work will be led by the Electoral Services Team, there would possibly be an impact on capacity given current staffing levels.

### Other

Respondents raised a number of issues unrelated to the other issues discussed above.

A few respondents argued that even if the voting age were lowered to 16 (a decision that would appear to give them the same rights and responsibilities as adults), 16 and 17 year olds should retain their right to protection as children under domestic and international law until they reach the age of 18.

One respondent argued that engaging young people in voting could encourage their parents to become more involved in the democratic process.

Some respondents were concerned about young people and how they could be influenced to vote. Respondents stated that young people would vote for personalities and not for policies; while another respondent argued that rogue political and undemocratic parties could influence younger minds that lack experience, as can also happen to older voters.

A small number of respondents felt that the voting system should be revamped; and one respondent suggested that young people should be made more aware of the role trade unions can play in engaging young people to vote.

## Appendix A

Thank you to everyone who contributed!

488 respondents to the YCC consultation on lowering the voting age to 16

1	Trades Union Congress	61	Sarah Roche
2	Tadcaster Town Council	62	Catherine Little
3	Ester Dowling	63	John Chapman
4	Jennifer March	64	Mark Murphy
5	Glen Ingham	65	Charlotte
6	Changemakers	66	Annabelle
7	Riccall Parish Council	67	Nat Elliott-Green
8	Trafford Council	68	Christie O'Connor
9	Settle Town Council	69	Helen
10	Silkstone Parish Council	70	Rhian Jones
11	Draughton Parish Council	71	Dominic Male
12	Chapel Haddlesey Parish Council	72	Alexa Karr
13	Eleanor Laing MP	73	David Sydenham
14	Rachael Todd	74	Eamond Mohammed
15	Clare Lee	75	Nicki Cave
16	John Parson	76	Charlotte Smith
17	Michell Cox	77	Andrew Rose
18	Joshua Pearce	78	Ste Reddie
19	Hellen Raftery	79	Matt
20	Laura Deffley	80	Aleks Cvetkovic
21	Tim Coates	81	Charlie Haynes
22	Daniel Gilksen	82	Peter Morgan
23	Lou Ferns	83	Stephen Marshall
24	Jack Westmore	84	Jayne McCoy
25	Nathan Hazlehurst	85	Martin Jones
26	V Bruce	86	Katharine Crofts-Gibbons
27	Joseph Smyth	87	Rebecca
28	Samantha	88	Dylan Tynan
29	Claire Trainor	89	Tammila
30	J Doran	92	Sanchia
31	Paul Douglas	93	Levi Scanlon
32	Narthan Medley	94	Yasmin Thomas
33	Elinor Milne	95	Amber
34	Joseph Craig	96	Shanz
35	Liam Beattie	97	Nadine
36	Samantha Till	98	Ibiere
37	Phillip James	99	Tatiana
38	Norman Lee Plumpton	100	Naomi
39	Emma Lees	101	Ella
40	Alan Cocking	102	Eleanor Sherwood
41	Hazel	103	T
42	Mair Reeves	104	Juniper
43	Leah Bell-Langford	105	Princess
44	Grace	106	Carla
45	Katharine	107	Ash
46	Lan Wood	108	Deborah
47	Conor Hayers	109	Alan-Na
48	Tom Carr	110	Jannelle
49	Charlotte Cox	111	Sophie Camm-Crosbie
50	Bobbie	112	Tamanna
51	Carla Graney	113	Lucy Cait Alexander
52	Lauren	114	Zia
53	Paulina	115	Vanessa
54	Michael Fulton	116	Burtie
55	Margaret	117	Marlon
56	Miles Smith	118	Emilio
57	Terri-Louise	119	Henry Freestone
58	Lisa	120	Jordan
59	Emma Gooding	121	Nicholas Sharma
60	Craig	122	Finlay McIntyre

123	Eniola Alonge	192	Dr James Downe
124	Aimee Ramsay	193	Carina Woodcock
125	Zara Ezaz	194	Wythall Parish Council
126	Debbie	195	Gemma Mckenzie
127	Maisie	195	Elli Sorsby
128	Harry	196	Duncan Charles Hill
129	Makaya	196	G Gaudian
130	Caitlin	197	Paul Medley
131	Anna Gardner	198	Gurnard Parish Council
132	Hattie Moore	199	Roxanna Arif
133	Rachel	200	Sukbir Kaur
134	Zara Ezaz	201	Llody Russell-Moyle
135	Joe Burrows	202	Phil Dawson
136	Kitty	203	Dan Litman
137	Caitlin	204	Peter Dickson
138	Mikey Valentino	205	John Bateman
139	Jack	206	P Davis
140	Ikraam	207	David Brooks
141	Edie	208	Trevor Long
142	Jack	209	Andrew Burchell
143	Tellacia Low	210	South Tyneside Council Democratic Services
144	Jerome	211	Martin Brabazon
145	Romario Moseley and Shivesh Seedhar	212	Claire Taylor
146	Daniel Oyewo	213	Kenny Ducan
147	Emelia	214	Billericay Youth Town Council
148	Ellie	215	Maureen Rigg
149	Liz	216	Sarah Hembrough
150	Osheane	217	Jade
151	Osheane	218	Fred
152	Gabriel Dada	219	Mark
153	Sagal	220	Jack Evans
154	Fabio Greco	221	Reece Young
155	Vicky	222	Robin Young
156	Kelvin Lai	223	Kate Robinson
157	Jamila Robinson-Perry	224	Michael Calderbank
158	Sarah Wong	225	Zoe Przyjemski
159	Kassina	226	Claire Allen
160	Faduma	227	Jacob Reynolds
161	Jael	228	The Association of Electoral Administrators
162	Fenella	229	Nikki Cheung
163	Henry	230	Mary Danby - A Burntwood Town Council
164	Stephen	231	Unison
165	Hakan	232	Councillor David Halik
166	Tom Lane	233	Michael Benbow
167	Rhys Vassell	234	Barry Heap
168	Jonathan Aluko	235	City of York Council
169	Kwame Philips	236	SOLACE (Scotland), SOLAR , AEA (Scotland and Northern Ireland Branch) and SAA (Association of Electoral Administrators Scotland & Northern Ireland Branch
170	Raheem		
171	Gus	237	Joshua Hope- Collins
172	Williams Richards	238	Youth Voice
173	Harry	239	Olivia Mercy Sangster-Bullers
174	Ricardo Fernandes	240	Jason Piper
175	Freddie	241	Stuart MacDonald
176	Jim	242	Jacob Rix
177	Peter Ifakola	243	Youth Voice
178	Eden	244	Epping Forest District Council
179	Max	245	Sheila Glass
180	Mehmet	246	Natalie Ellis
181	Daniel Crouch	247	Electoral Registration Central Services King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council
182	Jonathan Aluko		
183	Paul Arnold	248	Sebastian Kraemer
184	Brendan Hampsey	249	Scottish Government
185	Sam Skelton	250	Holme Valley Parish Council
186	Charlotte Scothern	251	Mrs Anne Palmer
187	Leah Greenhill	252	Jo Shaw
188	Daniel	253	Terence Eden
189	Sian Cooper	254	Safiyah
190	Helena	255	Michael Skinner
191	Madeleine	256	Louise

257	Kesiena	326	Miss N Ellis
258	George Lindars-Hammond	327	Christopher Hook
259	Aaron	328	Ross Johnson
260	William Mournian	329	Edna Desouza
261	Ben Adams	330	British Youth Council
262	Jacob Kavanagh	331	Rathbone Cymru
263	Alice	332	Envision
264	Richard	333	The National Youth Agency
265	Tom	334	National Council for Voluntary Services
266	Omar Salem	335	Usdaw
267	Richard Angell	336	Denby Dale Parish Council
268	Kate Robinson	337	Network One
269	Meurig Marshall	338	National Union of Students
270	Jack	339	National Association of Local Councils
271	Amy	340	V
272	Emily	341	Family Education Trust
273	James	342	Foyer
274	Asdfg	343	Cirencester Town Council
275	Kelly	344	Abingdon Town Council
276	Claire	345	Epping Forest Youth Council
277	Chris Watters	346	Gateshead Council
278	Aimee	347	The Scout Association
279	Charlotte	348	National Children's Bureau
280	Jordan Churchill	349	Amire Choaie
281	Raniel Dowan	350	Justicia Adjei
282	Marney Borriss	351	James Harris
283	Student boy	352	Veidehi Patel
284	Camy and Faye	353	Manika Gurung
285	Yosi	354	Cassie Cheng
286	Owen	355	Sharjeel Kiani
287	Henrieta	356	Faduma Hussein
288	Emma Feather	357	Rizwaan Malik
289	Amanda Crank	358	Hetal Hirani
290	James Baker	359	Kishan Parshotam
291	Tohunny	360	Hemsworth Council
292	Philip Halliwell	361	Unlock Democracy
293	John Briggs	362	Electoral Reform Society
294	Alex Chisholm	363	PROUD
295	Kevin Spacey	364	Alwoodley Parish Council
296	Georgia Williams	365	Children's Rights Alliance for England
297	Joel	366	Votes@16 Coalition
298	Aleisha	367	Kathy Best
299	Adam Gorge Robinson	368	The Electoral Commission
300	Roy	369	The Conservative Party
301	Keir Hartley	370	Local Government Information Unit
302	Becky	371	Joyce Denton
303	Rosie Kendrick	372	Councillor Ben Rawlings
304	Clare	373	James
305	Sarah	374	Mark
306	David	375	Braden Davy
307	Will Corran	376	Scott Forbes
308	Joanne	377	Adam Roberts
309	Samantha	378	Nick
310	Charlotte	379	Ben Mallet
311	Laura Hanmer	380	TigerFly
312	Tom Langley	381	Harriet Allen
313	Sally Bryson	382	Jamie
314	Kate	383	Phillip
315	Julia Seufert	384	Minhaz
316	Sally	385	Shahida
317	Stephanie Wilson	386	Sarah
318	Max	387	Kirsty Gray
319	Carolina	388	Francesa
320	Doug	389	Catherine Rawstone
321	Daryl	390	Holly Waltham
322	Amelia Jones	391	Charlie Raspin
323	Tom Ellis	392	John Simmons
324	Eleanor Dodd	393	Charlie
325	Ebberston with Yedingham Parish Council	394	Daniel Reynolds
		395	Savy and Emily

396	Steven Reynolds	443	Usman Ali
397	Becky	444	Jane
398	Thomas Landricombe	445	Joe
399	Summer	446	Myriam Roberts
400	Kirsty	447	Matt Bruce
401	Megan	448	Jamie M
402	Daniel Heath	449	Amrit Duhra
403	Shada	450	Nik
404	Isadora Abrahamson	451	Waqar
405	Georgia Marsh	452	Robin
406	Amber	453	Vicky Heywood
407	Amalia	454	Clare
408	Lynda	455	Andrew Shipley
409	Grahame Thorne	456	Rosanna
410	Sam Dickson	457	Joe Wyatt
411	Maurice Frank	458	Lucy
412	Alex	459	John Bryant
413	Saul Hemingway	460	Councillor Alexis Rowell
414	Rachel	461	Dominique
415	George Kean	462	A
416	Alex Rogahn	463	David Boot
417	Laura Hargreaves	464	John Clifford
418	Zakariyya Ahmed	465	Sharjeel
419	Councillor Louise Baldock	466	Clementina
420	Tom	467	R Hughes
421	King Kong	468	Rosie
422	Daniel Fendall	469	Chris Smith
423	Dominic Riley	470	Julian
424	Matthew Coney	471	David Giles
425	Tom Ainsworth	472	Emily
426	Jack Light	473	Councillor Dr. Roy Lodge
427	Hugh David Graham	474	Reading Borough Council
428	Bradley	475	Holme Valley Parish Council
429	Phil Young	476	Kathleen Marshall (Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People)
430	Lee Griffin	477	Sunderland City Council
431	Ryan Mitchinson	478	Eliza Gawood
432	Kenneth Law	479	Alexander French
433	Pascale	480	Jenna Higgin
434	Rob	481	Jacob Ehrlich
435	Kevin Maltby	482	Abbots Langley Parish Council
436	Tom Ough	483	Frogmore Community College
437	Katie Lumsden	484	Lawley & Overdale Parish Council
438	Hannah	485	Burley Parish Council
439	Dane Barker-Finch	486	Filey Town Council
440	CJ	487	Bentham Town Council
441	Ben Laddiman	488	John Cutler
442	Geoff Hamilton		

Further anonymous responses were submitted in favour or against Votes at 16.



