

Citizenship

# Why is registering to vote so important?

## Lesson 5 of 6

Downloadable Resource

Mr Miskell



**OAK**  
NATIONAL  
ACADEMY

# Task 1: How do you register to vote?

Fill in the gaps after watching the short video from Stockton-on-Tees Council.

Your vote matters. Every **individual** is now responsible for their own voter **registration**, so if you are **16** or over, you must make sure that you are on the register of **voters**, or you won't be able to **vote**. Thousands of people in Stockton are not. Registering only takes a few **minutes**. You will need your National Insurance Number. You can register **online**. If you are not registered to vote it may stop you from getting a mobile phone, opening a bank account or getting a **loan**.

registration	loan	voters	individual
vote	16	minutes	online

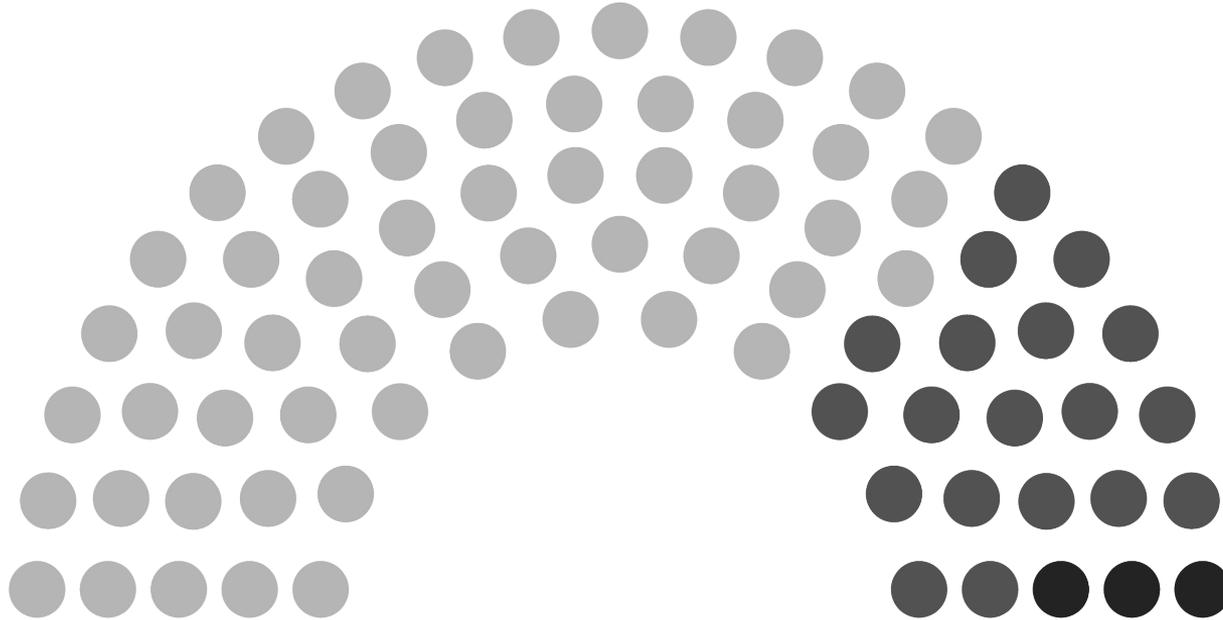


## Task 2: self assessment feedback

		
<b>Does it explain why registering to vote is important?</b>		
<b>Does it explain what you need to do to register to vote?</b>		



# Example: Newcastle City Council



Credit: Newcastle City Council, Public Domain

***Number of councillors needed for a majority = 39 (50% + 1)***  
***2020: Labour = 56 / Liberal Democrats = 19 / Independents = 3***



## Case study: Local election result in Walsall means that *power shifts to the Conservatives*

Read this summary of the local election result in Walsall to help you with the next task:

*In May 2019, local Conservatives in Walsall won enough seats to form a **majority** on the local council. This followed on from the local Labour Party winning control of the council in the May 2018 local election. Both political parties fought the election on very different **manifestos**, each making different promises for the West Midlands town. The choice people made at the **ballot box** made a direct difference to who was in power in their town.*

