



Ministry of JUSTICE

Ministry of Justice

Selborne House
London SW1E

T 020 7210 8040

F 020 7210 8948

E elspeth.rainbow@justice.gsi.gov.uk

www.justice.gov.uk

Mr Malcolm Clark
Make My Votes Count
6 Chancel Street
London
SE1 0UU

16 April 2008

Dear Mr Clark

Subject: Make Votes Count Campaign

Thank you for your letter and the enclosed documents and photos of the young people who attended the People and Politics Day on 18 March.

It is always reassuring to see the interest and enthusiasm of young people towards politics. The Democratic Engagement Branch of the Ministry of Justice part-funded this event in order to provide an opportunity for young people to engage in debate with senior political figures and to experience politics in a way that is real to them. We hope that young people who become engaged at an early age will be more likely to actively participate in democratic processes throughout their lives.

The Branch's wider youth engagement work programme includes a range of other initiatives designed to improve and the skills, confidence and knowledge of young people, better equipping them to discuss issues that are important to them with civic leaders, politicians and authorities. If you'd like more information about these initiatives, please contact Dinendra Haria on 0207 210 1322 or via email at Dinendra.Haria@justice.gsi.gov.uk

The Government published a review of voting systems on 24 January 2008 and we have received a range of correspondence concerning the Review of Voting Systems. At this point the Government is not seeking to reform the electoral system for the Commons. However, a suitable voting system for a reformed and substantially or fully elected House of Lords is currently being considered by a cross-party working group. The Voting System review was published to contribute to the ongoing debate on electoral reform for the Commons. Its purpose was to present the wealth of information on the practical operation of different forms of voting systems within the United Kingdom, since the new voting systems were set up.