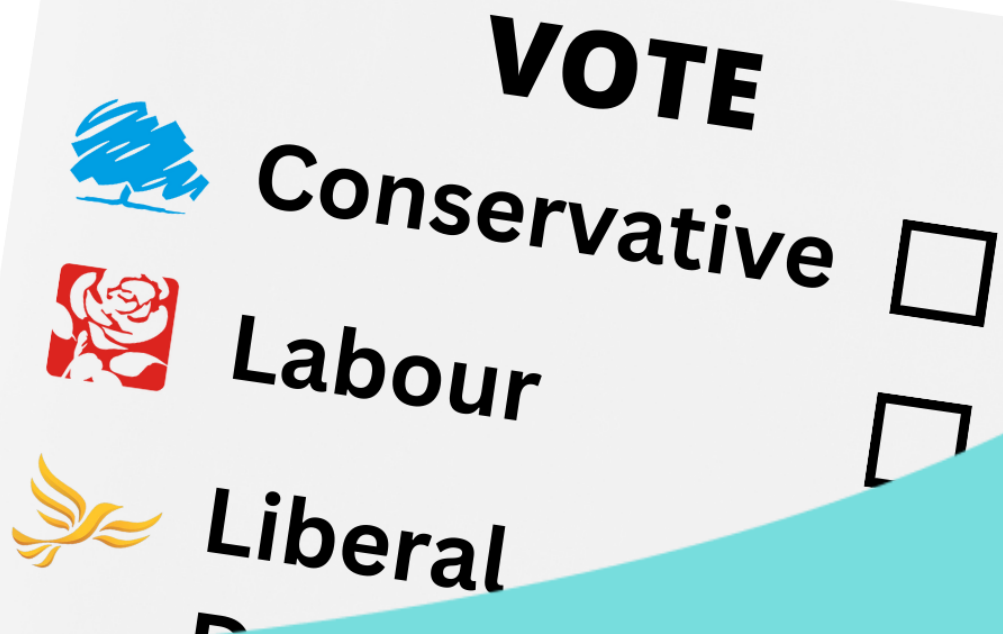


**My Vote**   
My Voice

# Easy Read Guide to England's Main Political Parties





People have different ideas about how the country should be run.

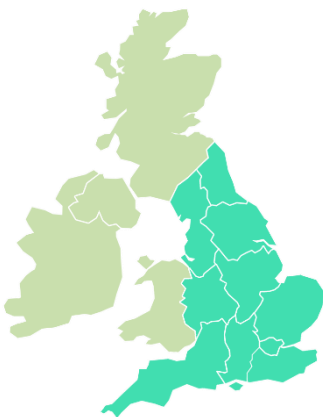


A **political party** is a group of people who share similar ideas about how the country should be run.



Political parties want to be in **government** so they can turn their ideas into law.

The government is a group of people who have the power make laws and set rules for the country.



England has **three main political parties**.



They are:

- the **Labour Party**
- the **Conservative Party**
- the **Liberal Democrats**



Some political parties are described as being either **left-wing** or **right-wing**.



Some political parties are also described as being in the **centre**.



Left-wing political parties believe in **equality**.

This means that they want all people to be given equal chances and have more support from the government.



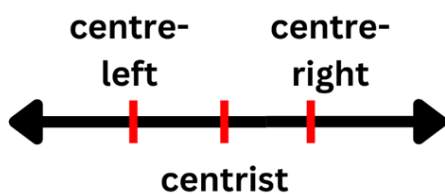
Right-wing political parties believe in **tradition**.

This means that they want people to make their own decisions about their lives and for the government to be smaller.



Political parties in the centre support a **balance** between left-wing and right-wing ideas.

This means they want equality and also want people to make their own decisions about their own lives.



Most of the United Kingdom's **main political parties are based in the centre**, but each lean in different directions.

These positions are called **centre-left**, **centre-right**, and **centrist**.



The Labour Party is **centre-left**.

They believe that the government should do more to help people who earn less money and are in need.



They want to spend more money on **public services**, like schools, transport, and the NHS.



The Conservative Party is **centre-right**.

They believe that the government should be smaller to give people more freedom.

They are also called “**the Tories**.”



They want to **cut taxes** so people can keep more of their own money and spend it.

**Taxes** are the money people pay to the government. The government spends this money on public services.



The Liberal Democrats are **centrist**.

They believe that the government should support the neediest and give people more freedom.

They are also called “**the LibDems**” for short.



They want to put money into public services but also want people to pay less taxes.

All of these political parties have **Members of Parliament** elected from all over England.



A Member of Parliament is also called an **MP**. An MP is elected to speak for people living in their area in **Parliament**.

Parliament is where the United Kingdom's laws are made.

The Conservative Party have won the last 3 **general elections**.



This is when the people of the country vote for the next government.

General elections usually happen every 5 years.



The party with the most MPs after a general election forms the government.



The Conservative Party have the most MPs and are the party in government.

Their leader is **Rishi Sunak** and he is the **Prime Minister**.

The Prime Minister is in charge of the government.



The Labour Party has the second-most MPs and form the **Official Opposition**.

This means they challenge the government and make it explain its decisions. At the next general election, **they want to replace the government**.

Their leader is **Sir Keir Starmer** and he is the Leader of the Opposition.



The Liberal Democrats are also part of the Official Opposition.

Their leader is **Sir Ed Davey**.

**My Vote My Voice is on a mission to register more autistic people and people with learning disabilities to vote at the next general election.**

**Visit [www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk](http://www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk) to find out more!**

## Get in touch

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