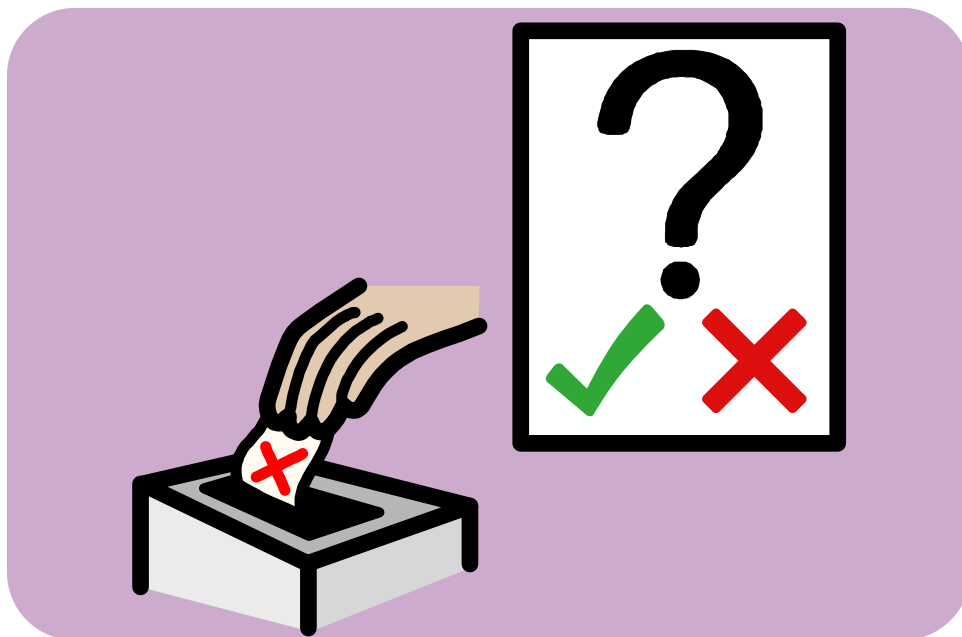


What is a Referendum?

Text Book



What is a Referendum? - Text

Published by Widgit Software

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This book is available electronically from

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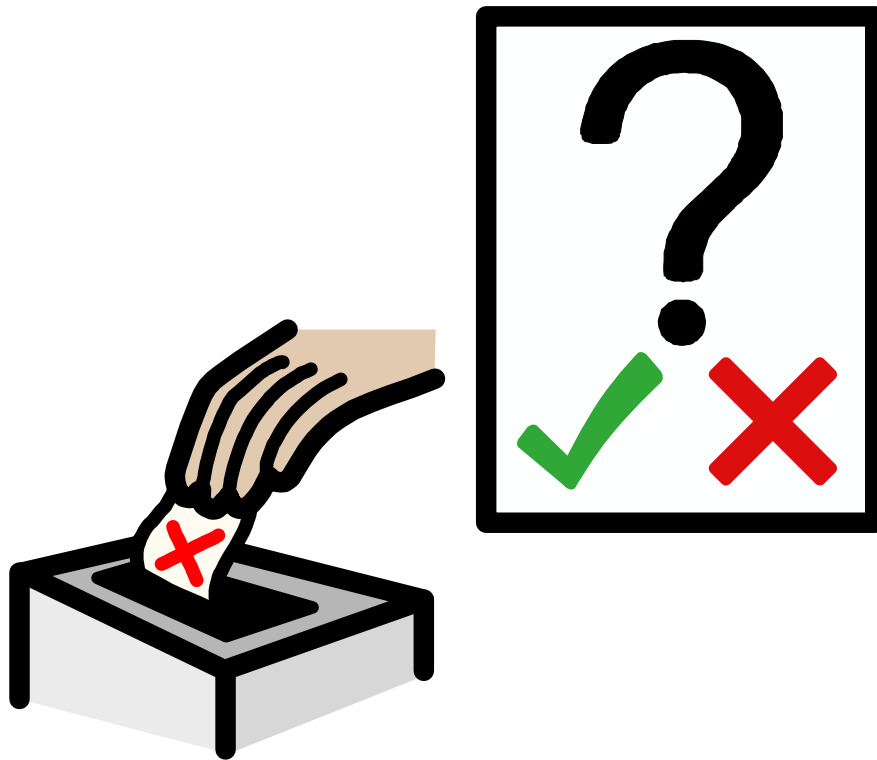
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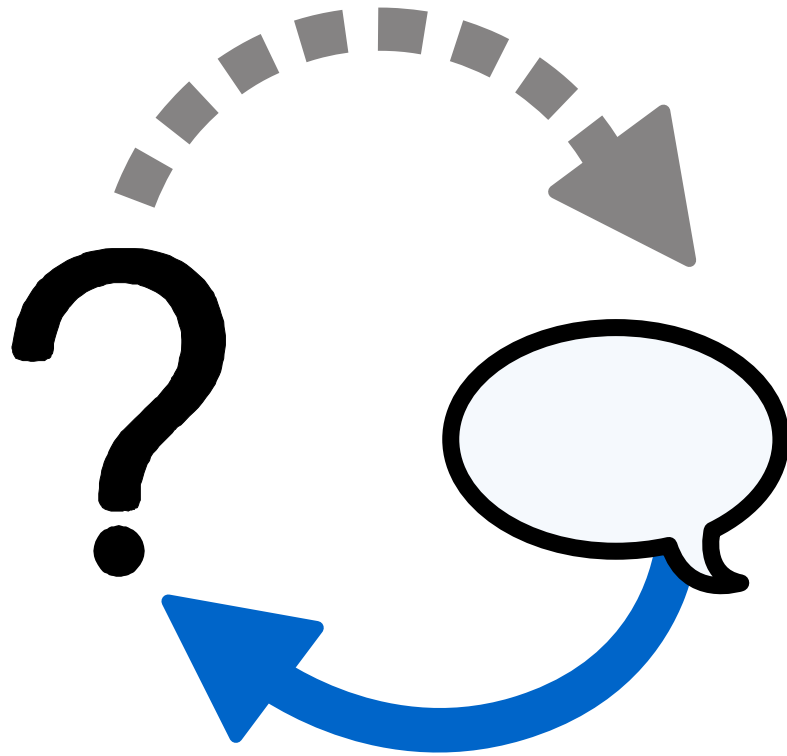


A referendum is a type of voting system.

People go to a polling station.

They fill in a ballot paper.

They put it in a ballot box.

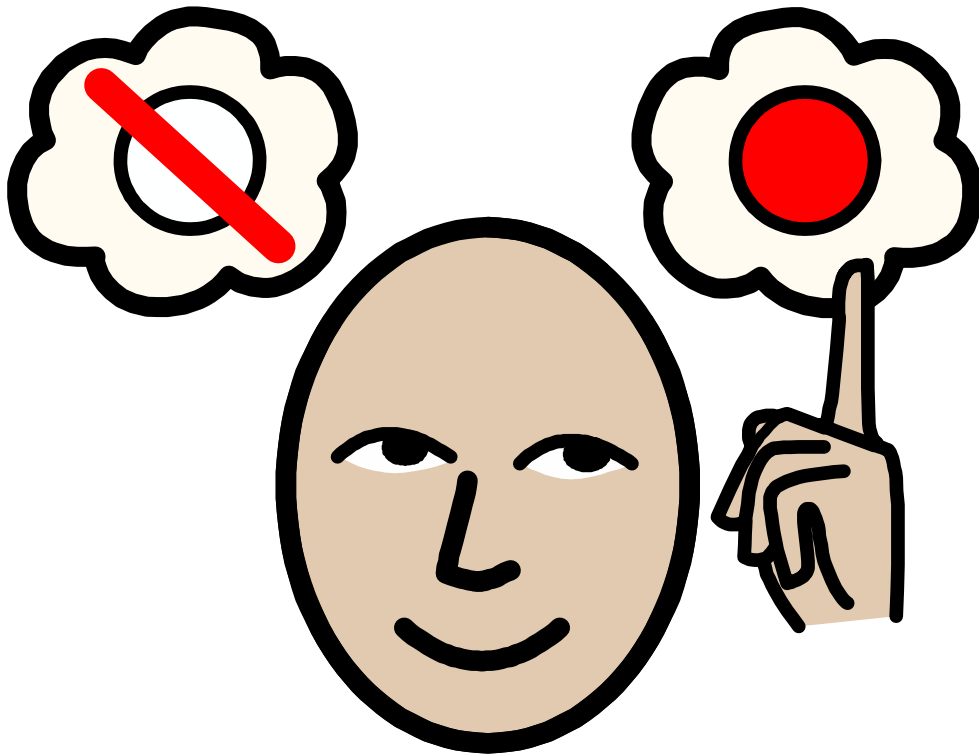


A referendum is not a vote for a political party.

A referendum is not a vote for a person.

A referendum is a vote to answer a question.

In a referendum you vote yes or no.

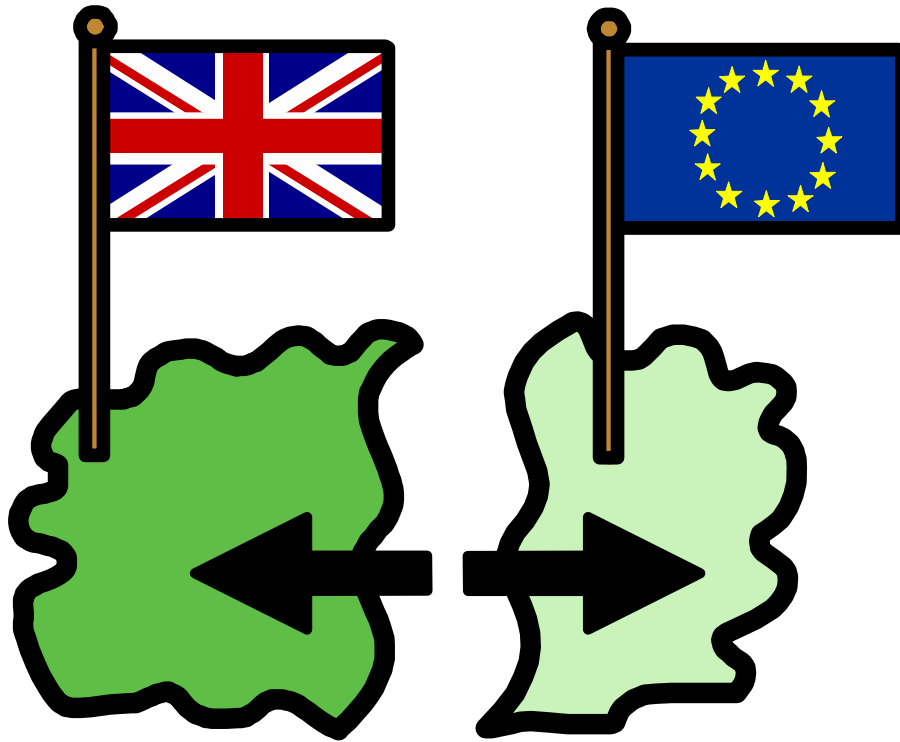


Sometimes a referendum is to decide a new law.

Sometimes a referendum is to decide a new rule.

Sometimes it is to decide how a country works.

Sometimes it is a vote for independence.

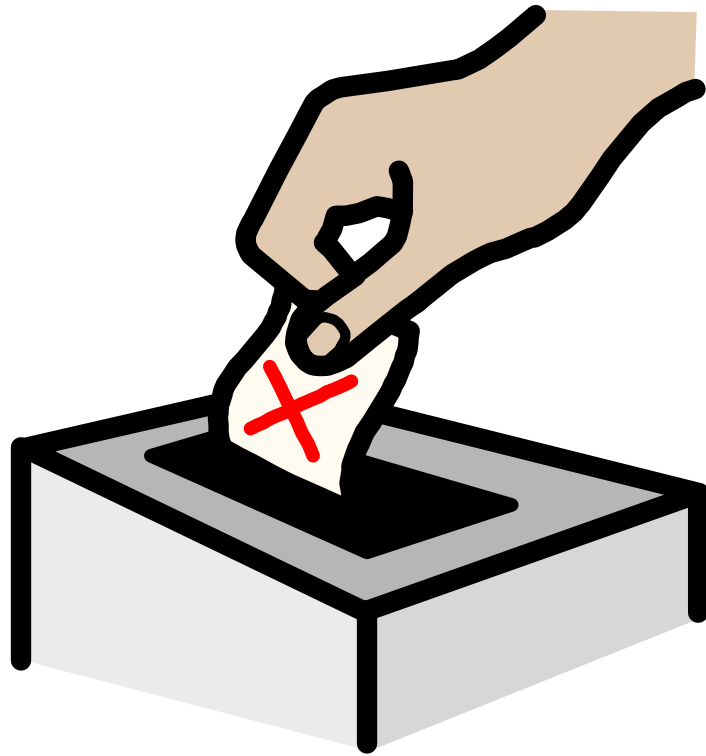


Past UK referendums have been to decide:

If there should be a Scottish Government.

If the UK should leave the European Union.

What sort of voting system we should have.

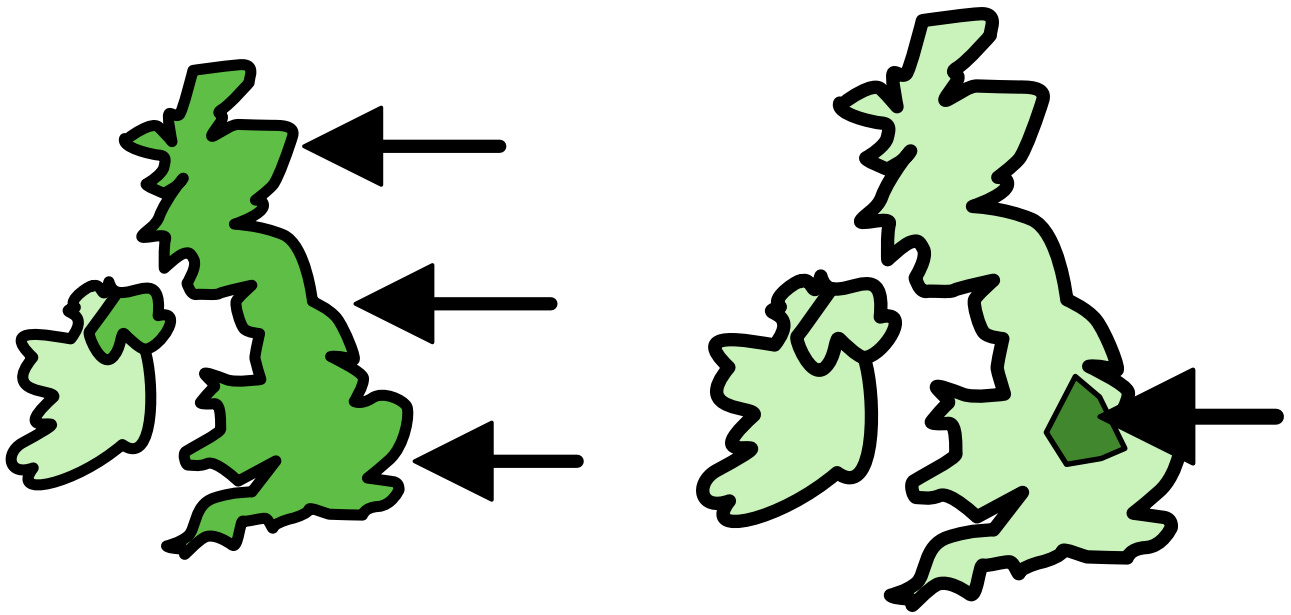


British, Irish and Commonwealth citizens can vote.

Voters usually have to be 18 years old.

In some places they can be 16 years old.

They have to register to vote.

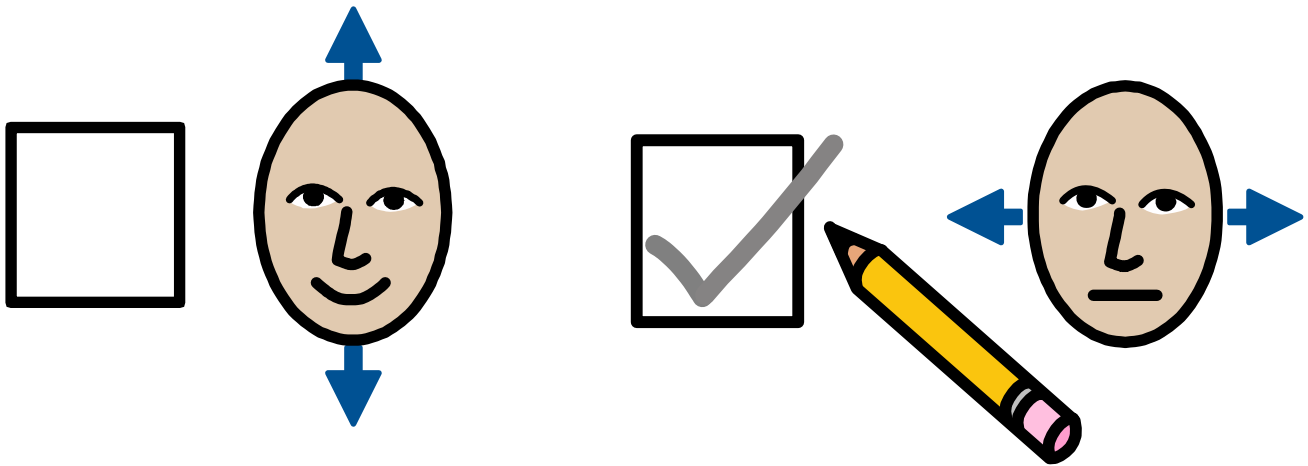


A referendum can be national.

A referendum can be local.

The government or council ask the question.

People get to decide what they think.

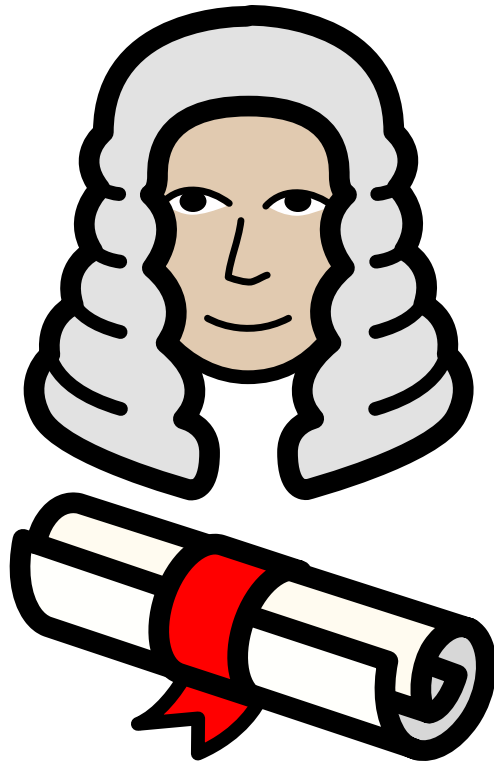


Voters choose a yes or no answer.

The votes are counted.

One answer will get the most votes.

That answer will win.

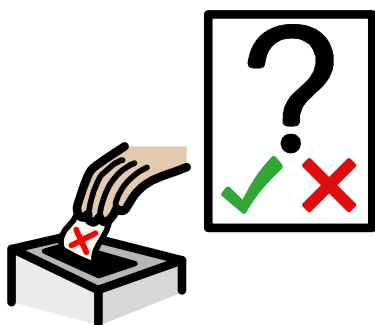


As a result of the referendum the government might make changes.

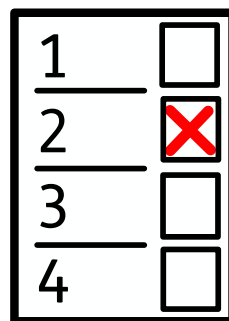
There might be a new law.

There might be a new rule.

Sometimes there is no change.



referendum



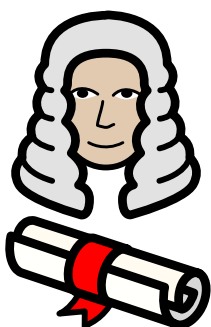
ballot paper



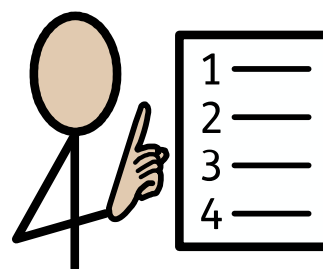
council



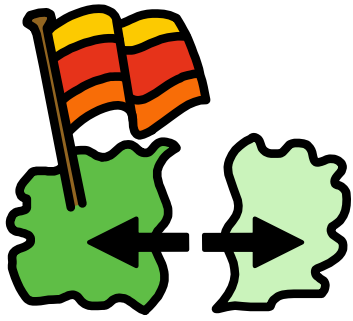
government



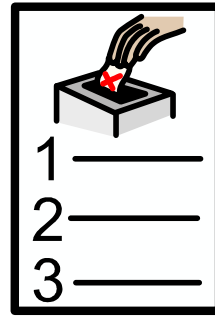
law



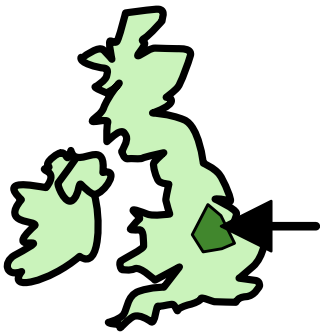
rule



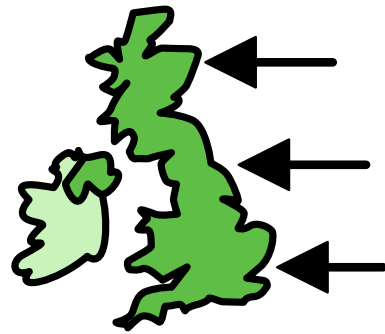
independence



voting system



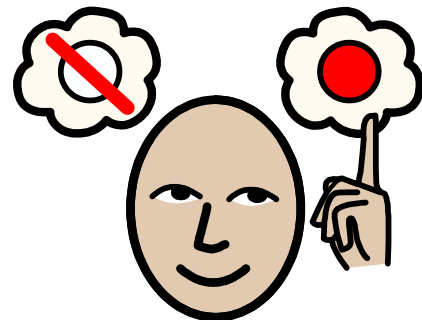
local



national



answer question



decide