

5. Participation

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In December 2017, the Government launched a five-year, [Democratic Engagement Plan](#), which is an overarching strategy to increase democratic engagement across all groups. The Plan does make specific provisions to increase youth participation and civic engagement.

In the 2018 [Civil Society Strategy](#) the government further outlined plans to engage meaningfully with young people when creating policy or designing programmes which affect them.

Additionally, since 2018 the Government has promoted [National Democracy Week](#), to celebrate democracy and raise awareness about the UK's democratic process and institutions to excluded groups, those who face barriers to participation and those less likely to be registered. Gov.uk also provides [resources](#) for young people on democratic engagement and voter registration.

There are many other opportunities for participation, including the UK Youth Parliament, Youth Steering Group, National Young Inspectors Programme and local authority youth voice structures, youth panels and engaging in mock trials. These and other initiatives are described in this chapter.