

## Objectives

- LO 1** To consider which services local councils usually provide.
- LO 2** To consider how local councils represent the community.

<b>Class:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Last lesson:</b>	
<b>G &amp; T pupils:</b>	<b>SEN pupils:</b>	<b>M:</b>	<b>F:</b>

## Connect

Students discuss the following questions:

- *What surprised you in the lesson about human rights: checks and balances (or a previous lesson)? What surprised your partner?*
- *Should local councils be closed down so that all decision can be made in the Houses of Parliament?*

## Activate

### Worksheet 1.19a: The importance of local services

- Students read about services local councils usually provide. They list them in order of importance.
- Students then consider how their order might change in different circumstances: if they were a 90-year-old blind person and if they were a 35-year-old parent with seven children.

## Demonstrate

### Worksheet 1.19b: How do local councils represent the community?

- Students complete the anagrams in sentences 1–10, which describe how local councils represent communities. (Answers: A – district, B – elected, C – registered, D – independent, E – public, F – decisions, G – communities, H – London, I – area, J – teenagers)
- **Extra support:** provide the first two letters of each anagram for certain students.

## Consolidate

- **Small-group discussion:** students discuss:
  - *How might having lots of young councillors help to make good decisions about local services?*
  - *How might having lots of young councillors help local councils to better represent their communities?*
- **Class feedback:** ask a spokesperson from each group to share the group's ideas.

## Extra challenge

Ask more able students: *How can local councils ensure that vulnerable groups are well represented within the community?*

## Recommended websites

[www.gov.uk/find-your-local-council](http://www.gov.uk/find-your-local-council)

[www.nalc.gov.uk/library/publications/800-all-about-local-councils/file](http://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/publications/800-all-about-local-councils/file)

## Homework

If a local councillor visited your school next week, what five questions would you ask her, or him?

## Worksheet 1.19a: The importance of local services

- a) Fire and public safety
- b) Play areas
- c) Planning (who builds where)
- d) Dealing with rubbish
- e) Bus shelters
- f) Education
- g) Housing
- h) Libraries
- i) Trading standards (whether things are sold fairly)
- j) Transport
- k) Social care (e.g. supporting the elderly)
- l) Council tax collection
- m) Community centres
- n) Public clocks
- o) Allotments
- p) Grants for local groups

1. In your opinion, which council services listed above are the most important? Write the letters in order, from most important to least important, on the line below.

Most important	Least important

2. Now imagine you're a 90-year-old blind person. Will your number order change? How?

Most important	Least important

3. Now imagine you're a 35-year-old parent with seven children. Will your number order change? How?

Most important	Least important

## Worksheet 1.19b: How do local councils represent the community?

Solve the anagrams in the sentences below.

1. In some parts of the country there are county councils as well as city, borough or **[icdsirtt]** councils.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

2. A local council is made up of councillors. Councillors represent their community because they have been **[litedec]** into their role by local people.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

3. Local elections usually run every four years. Most over-18s are allowed to vote, as long as they have **[stegidrere]**.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

4. Each political party hopes to get as many councillors elected as possible. There are also **[dennipdeten]** candidates who wish to be elected.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

5. Councils run **[bpicul]** meetings. These let local citizens find out in person which important issues are being discussed.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

6. It wouldn't be sensible for MPs to spend time discussing every bus shelter, park and school in the country. That's why local councils are given the power to make local **[ioisndesc]**.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

7. Councillors represent their **[tiesmcuomni]** at important meetings with police officers, headteachers, the Highways Authority and so on.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

8. Some large areas are split into 'metropolitan boroughs'. It makes sense that council decisions in **[ndnLoo]** happen differently from council decisions in small villages.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

9. You can easily find out how council services are being run in your **[raae]** at the moment, by going online.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_

10. The more **[negerstea]** who plan to be part of their local council when they're older, the better. Why not run for local election when you're 18? You could take part in your local Youth Council in the meantime.

Answer = \_\_\_\_\_