

Alternative Vote Referendum - May 5th



Everyone is aware that a referendum is taking place on May 5th concerning the adoption of the Alternative Vote system for elections to the House of Commons. It asks a crucial question about how our democratic political system operates and how we interact

with it, because how we vote will affect the sort of parliament and government we get out of it.

It is important that churches are aware that the referendum is happening and are equipped to help people think through the issues involved. For some Christians, this may not be an issue that they have given much thought to, however others may hold very strong views and others still would prefer to be answering a different question and considering different systems. Disagreement though should not prevent us bringing our beliefs into the heart of the political process.

Various neutral and informative resources are available to stimulate reflection and discussion including the following:

Faithworks Direct Democracy campaign:

<http://www.faithworks.info/SubSection.asp?id=9239>

Evangelical Alliance:

<http://www.eauk.org/articles/debate-av-referendum.cfm>

Theos:

<http://campaigndirector.moodia.com/Client/Theos/Files/VotingReform.pdf>

In addition to these, the official campaign sites are at:

<http://www.yestofairervotes.org>

<http://www.no2av.org>

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