

27 January 2005

Candidacy at 18: Press comment from the Local Government Information Unit

The comment below responds to today's announcement from the Department of Constitutional Affairs that the Government will legislate to allow election candidates at 18 (<http://www.gnn.gov.uk/environment/detail.asp?ReleaseID=143620&NewsAreaID=2&NavigatedFromDepartment=True>)

Dennis Reed, Chief Executive of the Local Government Information Unit, said: "Candidacy at 18 will be a beneficial move in engaging young people in local politics and boosting local democracy. However, coming off the fence and legislating for votes at 16 would be an even more positive and courageous act of modernisation."