

Part 1

Choosing things and  
changing things

Part 2

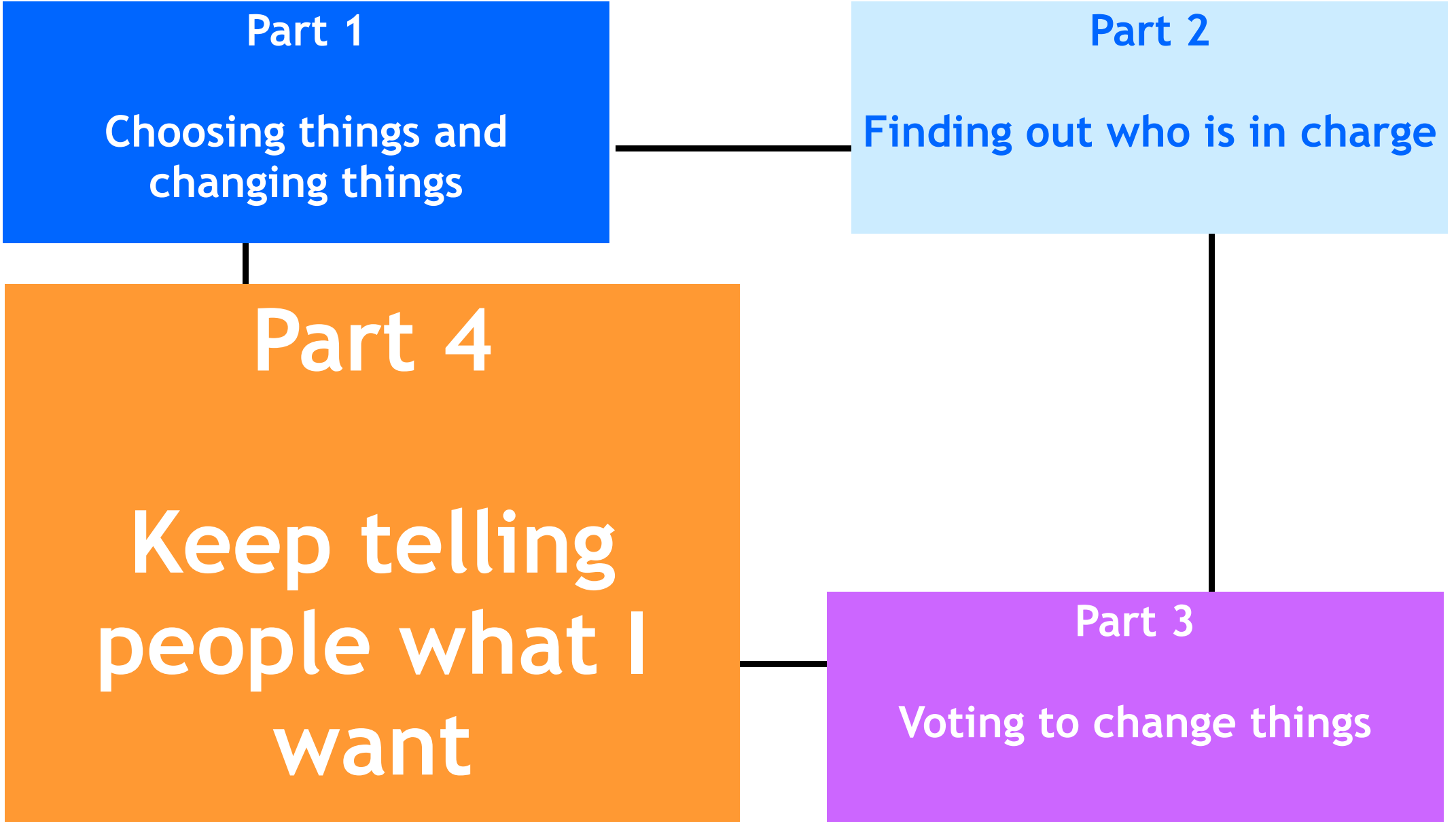
Finding out who is in charge

Part 4

Keep telling  
people what I  
want

Part 3

Voting to change things





# Next steps...

## Think

Voting is not the only way of having your voice heard.

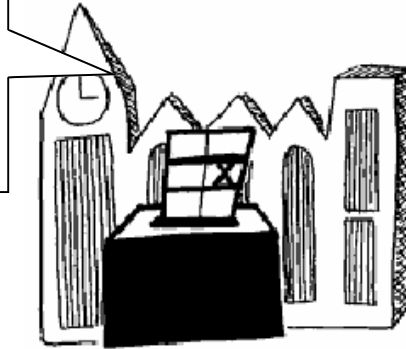
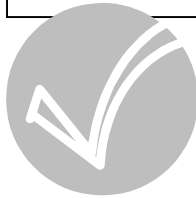
There are lots of other ways too.

If you want things to change, you need to keep telling people what you want.

Keep telling people about things that are important to you!

How could you start telling people about things you want to change?

We voted in the elections.

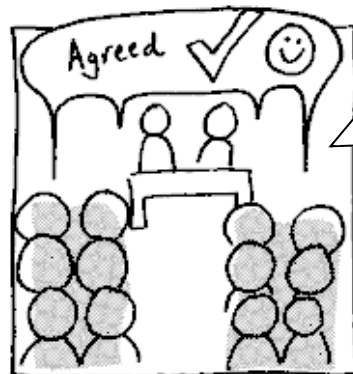
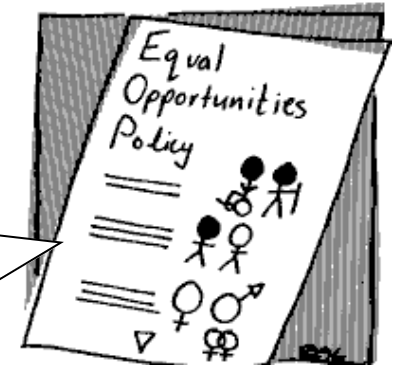


We campaign for things to change.



We tell people what we want.

We speak up for our rights.



We go to community meetings and get involved.



We make our own decisions.

# Keeping in touch

How can you keep in touch with the people who were elected?

- Write letters / phone / email
- Go to see them in Parliament / Council
- Go to their surgery
- Invite them to speak to your group

Do you know who your representatives in Parliament are?

Do you know who your representatives in the Council are?

How would you find out?

(Try the library!)



Write letters /  
phone / email.

Go to see them in  
Parliament or Council.



Go to their surgery. (This is where they meet people in their local area and listen to their ideas and problems.)

Invite them to speak to your group. You could ask them about things that are important to you.



# But we didn't vote...

If you didn't vote in the last election...

...That is okay!

You can still get in touch with the people who were elected.

You can do lots of other things too:

Find other people who want to change the same thing.

Find out what other people have done.

Start a group.

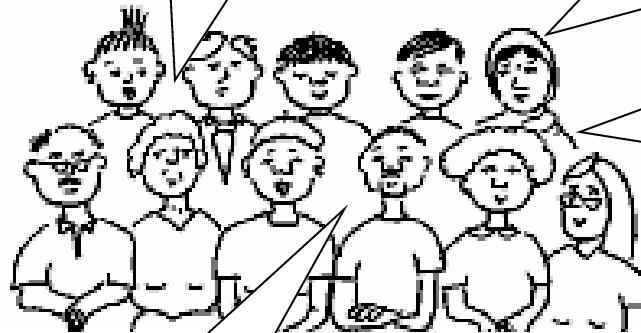
Work together to tell people about what needs to change.



I vote at every election. Even if I didn't I could still speak to the people who were elected.

We didn't vote because we didn't think we could. Now we know we can. We are not waiting for an election though, we are going to speak to our councillor tomorrow about the state of our local park.

I can ask my MP to help me even though I didn't vote for them.



I have never voted. I want to vote next time. I am going to visit my MP at her surgery next month.

Our group have all discovered that we all have a problem with our bus passes. We are going to find out who is in charge and start to write letters. Maybe we can get things changed.

Maybe we will find other groups who want things to change too. We can work together.

# Having our say

We asked some people to explain what was important about having your say.

Here are some of the things that people told us.

You can download this poster and more great posters on the Outside the Box website:

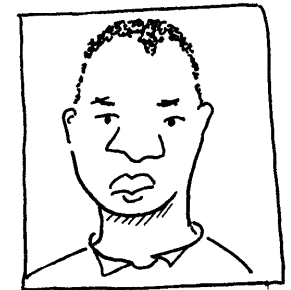
[www.otbds.org/vote](http://www.otbds.org/vote)

This picture is by Albi Taylor.



“Sometimes it’s hard to ask for things for yourself.”

“Go in a group!”



“Having the right person to support you is so important.”

“Different folk can help in many different ways.”

# Conclusions

## Choosing things and changing things

I matter.

I am important.

I have the right to choose things in my life.

I have the right to change things.

Decide what is important to you.

Think about what you want to change.

## Finding out who is in charge

Find out who is in charge of the things you want to change.

Sometimes more than one group of people are in charge.

Find out who does what.

If you are not sure, ask.

Think about ways to tell people what you want.

## Voting to change things

Voting is one way to change things.

Find out what the parties think.

Find out what the candidates think.

Find out how to vote.

Vote!

## Keep telling people what I want

Keep telling people about things that need to change.

Keep in touch with people who get elected.

If you didn't vote you can still talk to the people in the Council and Parliament.

To learn more about  
“Choosing things and  
changing things”,  
go to Part 1

To learn more about  
“Finding out who is in  
charge”,  
go to Part 2

To learn about “Voting to  
change things”,  
go to Part 3

Part 1

Choosing things and  
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