

## *You call this 'democracy'!*

The role of political funding, our voting system and centralised government in climate chaos.

### Party Funding:

How donations compare to share of the vote:

<b>Party</b>	<b>Donations Jan - Mar 2008</b>	<b>Balance end Mar 2008</b>	
Cons	£4.2m	-£12m	
Lab	£3.0m	-£17.8m	Note: all in <u>debt</u> . But biggest is big two parties
LibDem	£0.47m	-£1.1m	

Votes in May 2008 elections.

<b>Party</b>	<b>Vote</b>	<b>Income (diff if proportional funding)</b>
Cons	44%	£3.56m (-£0.64m)
Lab	24%	£1.95m (-£1.05m)
LibDem	25%	£2.03m (+£1.56m)
Rest	7%	£0.57m

How different would this be if we had PR? People vote tactically against those they don't want, so people like the Greens and Respect will have lost votes to the bigger parties.

Note: 37 parties reported donations late... that's a lot of parties who get donations, and presumably some votes, but don't get any recognition.

### Voting System

London Mayoral elections were based on a transferable vote, and the Assembly elections were on a form of PR. The result was that 5 parties got seats, and there was no overall control.

The thing to note is that London has been a leader on Climate Change, and has adopted many policies that the government hasn't.

	constit	top up	total
CON	8	3	11
LAB	6	2	8
LD	0	3	3
GRN	0	2	2
BNP	0	1	1

### Centralisation

UK most centralised govt in Europe apart from Malta which has a population smaller than many of our cities at 400,000 people.

Central govt has a "tenant tax" which currently is taking £200m out of council housing rent, which could be used locally where people are demanding to have more council housing, run by their local authority!