Votes are counted in **different ways** in **different countries** – and in the UK a number of different systems are used.



We can model this with voting in a youth club.



Is it fair?

The club has 11 members. The club has a little money to spend and is trying to choose between:

- set of disco lights
- pool table
- trampoline.

The members vote to show how the money should be spent.

Count the votes using the three different systems.

What should the club buy?

Comment?

Voluntary sector organisations are often run by elected committees. Different ways of counting the votes give different results.

> First past the post Only count people's first preference. Which has the most votes?

Transferable vote

Which has the least votes? Re-allocate those votes to their second preference. Which has the most votes now?

Borda points

Give 3 points for each first choice, 2 points for each second choice and one point for each third choice. Add the scores. Which has the highest score?

based on an idea from Human Rights in the Curriculum: Mathematics published by Amnesty International Electoral systems