

How politics affects... **where you live**

It permitted the building of your home, and regulated how it was constructed • **affects whether or not you can build an extension, in what style, and what materials you use** • sets safety standards for your boiler and ensures the person who repairs it isn't a cowboy • **prevents your landlord chucking you out on a whim** • ensures that rubbish gets collected and how much of it then gets recycled • **keeps the streets clean and free of graffiti** • maintains the roads and pavements in your area • **installs and digs up speed bumps** • decides if you can park your car in your street and how much it will cost you • **affects the times and frequency of buses and trains, and creates bike lanes and paths** • decides whether or not the pub next door stays open until 11pm or 3am.

