

**To the Chair and Members of the COUNCIL**

**RESULTS OF THE COMBINED LOCAL AND MAYORAL ELECTIONS HELD  
ON 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. To report to the Council the results of the all-out Borough Council and Mayoral Elections held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017

**EXEMPT REPORT**

2. No

**RECOMMENDATION**

3. The Council is asked to note the report and make any comments in relation to the contents.

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

4. Local elections are the cornerstone of our democratic process and are important to all of our residents. Elections give the electorate the opportunity to hold politicians to account and shape the future direction of local government.

**BACKGROUND**

5. Elections are a significant project, which are delivered by a small core team supported by hundreds of individuals both internally across the Council and externally, who undertake various duties such as working at polling stations and the counting of votes. This is the second time Doncaster has had all-out Council Borough elections for all 55 seats, the last was in 2015. However this is the first time that all-out Council elections and Mayoral Election have been held together and this will be the pattern going forward from now on.

The Electorate for the combined election was 221,789 and 60,067 postal votes were issued to electors in a combined pack with a total of 36,087 being returned for the Mayoral election giving a Postal Vote return rate of 60.08% and a total turnout of 29.35% for the Mayoral election and 29.35% for the Local Borough Election.

It was the first time in 15 years of Mayoral Elections in Doncaster that a Mayoral candidate received more than 50% of the first preference vote with no second preference count required.

Members present at the counts will appreciate that a significant feature of the all-out elections was the need to utilise counting sheets rather than simply allocating single vote ballot papers to the relevant candidate. Overall, the elections were successfully delivered with a very significant contribution made by individuals and teams throughout the Council. A number of positive comments have been made by Candidates, Agents and staff in relation to the election process and, specifically, the verification and counts.

A summary of the results is set out at **Appendix A** of this report. The results, including the number of votes for each candidate, the rejected votes and the % turnout, are also published on the Council's website:

<http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/the-council-democracy/election-results-for-doncaster>

## **IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES**

6. All elections are a statutory duty and must be carried out in accordance with statutory requirements. The Combined Local and Mayoral Elections on 4 May 2017 have been highly successful and make a positive contribution to the Council's objective of increasing participation in democracy.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

7. Although there are no specific legal implications associated with this report there are comprehensive statutory provisions covering the delivery of the Mayoral and Borough Elections.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8. There are no specific financial implications associated with this report. The costs associated with local elections are expected to be contained within existing budgets.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

9. There are no significant HR implications associated with reporting the outcome of the 2017 elections.

## **TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS**

10. The Council's ICT Department was heavily involved in the election delivery. A Council network was installed at the Count venue in order to ensure that connectivity was maintained. Each Senior Counter was issued with a laptop to support the count process and the Control Table utilised the Council's Xpress elections software.

## **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

11. The Council has worked hard to ensure that voting is accessible to all. A full Polling Places review was carried out in 2015 and all Polling Stations are compliant with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. All Polling Stations were supplied with tactile voting devices, large print elections stationery and magnifiers to assist the visually impaired. Ramps were provided to ensure access by wheelchair users and those with mobility issues. Presiding Officers were given guidance at their training session and provided with a handbook as to how to assist electors to vote in the unlikely event that they were unable to access the Polling Station. Electors are also able to apply for a Postal Vote if they were unable to attend a polling station. Electoral Services continually review arrangements and look to improve these where possible.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Previous Council reports.

## **REPORT AUTHOR AND CONTRIBUTORS**

Trina Barber  
Electoral Services Manager  
Legal and Democratic Services  
Tel: 01302 734398  
e-mail: [Trina.Barber@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:Trina.Barber@doncaster.gov.uk)

**Jo Miller**  
**Returning Officer**

## APPENDIX A

### Results for the Local Government Elections held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Ward	Elected	Description	% turnout
Adwick & Carcroft	Rachel Hodson David Hughes John Mounsey	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	25.20
Armthorpe	Tony Corden Christopher McGuinness Sue McGuinness	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	26.63
Balby South	Nuala Mary Fennelly John Patrick Joseph Healy	Labour Party Labour Party	28.12
Bentley	Charlie Hogarth Bill Mordue Jane Nightingale	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	26.02
Bessacarr	Nick Allen  Neil Gethin Majid Khan	The Conservative Party Candidate Labour Party Labour Party	34.36
Conisbrough	Lani-Mae Ball Nigel Ball Ian Pearson	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	25.26
Edenthorpe & Kirk Sandall	David Nevett Andrea Robinson	Labour Party Labour Party	33.70
Edlington & Warmsworth	Phil Cole Tina Reid	Labour Party Labour Party	27.39
Finningley	Jane Margaret Cox  Stephen Leslie Cox  Allan Jones	The Conservative Party Candidate The Conservative Party Candidate The Conservative Party Candidate	33.00
Hatfield	Duncan Charles Anderson Linda Mary Curran Derek William Smith	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	29.85
Hexthorpe & Balby North	Glyn Allen Jones Sue Wilkinson	Labour Party Labour Party	24.91
Mexborough	Bev Chapman  Sean Michael Gibbons  Andy Pickering	Working for Mexborough, the forgotten town Working for Mexborough, the forgotten town Working for Mexborough, the forgotten town	27.61
Norton & Askern	Iris Beech John Anthony Gilliver Austin William White	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	31.81
Roman Ridge	Pat Haith Kevin Terence Rodgers	Labour Party Labour Party	30.16
Rossington & Bawtry	Rachel Blake John Nolan Cooke Mick Cooper	Labour Party Independent Labour Party	28.55

Sprotbrough	Cynthia Anne Ransome Jonathan Blundell Wood	The Conservative Party Candidate The Conservative Party Candidate	35.74
Stainforth & Barnby Dun	George Derx Ken Keegan	Labour Party Labour Party	27.84
Thorne & Moorends	Joe Blackham Susan Jane Durant Mark Stuart Houlbrook	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	29.75
Tickhill & Wadworth	Nigel John Cannings Martin Damian Greenhalgh	Independent The Conservative Party Candidate	35.55
Town	Nikki McDonald John McHale Dave Shaw	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	29.66
Wheatley Hills & Intake	Eva Theresa Hughes Jane Kidd Paul Wray	Labour Party Labour Party Labour Party	27.23

#### **Results for the Mayoral Election held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

	<b>Elected</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>% turnout</b>
Mayoral	Ros Jones	Labour Party	29.35