

**To the Chair and Members of the
ELECTIONS AND DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURES COMMITTEE**

ELECTIONS/BY-ELECTIONS UPDATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report provides an update to Members on recent Elections that have taken place since the last meeting.

- Thorne Moorends Town Council – Thorne Town Ward – 13th July 2017

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Committee is asked to note the report and make any additional comments in relation to the contents.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

3. Having accessible and well organised elections is key to public engagement in the democratic process. 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 national and local government.

BACKGROUND

4. The Terms of Reference of this Committee provide an overview of Electoral Services issues. Set out below is the current position in respect of recent and current activity.

THORNE MOORENDS TOWN COUNCIL – THORNE TOWN WARD 13TH JULY 2017

5. A casual vacancy occurred due to the death of a Town Councillor and a By-election was held for Thorne Moorends Town Council – Thorne Town Ward on Thursday 13th July 2017.

Results

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes
ELLIS, Craig Steven	Labour Party	689 Elected
MUNDIN, Karen Lesley	Independent 'for the people'	259
POWELL, Linda	The Community Group	550

As well as postal votes there were six polling stations for the 9,261 eligible electors to vote in the Thorne-Moorends Town Council – Thorne Town Ward election and 1,498 electors casted their vote, marking a turnout of 16.18%.

6. A further vacancy recently occurred due to a Councillor resigning and it was not called by electors for the vacancy to be filled by an election. Therefore, on the 6th November 2017 the Clerk was notified to arrange for the casual vacancy to be filled by co-option.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

7. All of the above are statutory duties and must be carried out in accordance with statutory requirements. This report is primarily for information only.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY PRIORITIES

8.

	Priority	Implications
	We will provide strong leadership and governance, working in partnership.	By ensuring the necessary arrangements are in place to deliver well-run elections and improving our reputation by meeting the Electoral Commission's Performance Standards.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The arrangements detailed in this report are designed to ensure compliance with a range of statutory duties including:
 - Local Elections (Principal Areas) (England and Wales) Rules 2006
 - Representation of the People Acts 1983, 1985 and 2000
 - Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. The cost of this Election has been claimed back from the Town Council.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Previous EDSC reports

REPORT AUTHOR AND CONTRIBUTORS

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