



Southern Midlands Council

2009 election report

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Local Government Elections in Tasmania

Every two years elections are held in all 29 municipal areas for the positions of mayor and deputy mayor and half the councillor positions. Where required, by-elections are held concurrently for vacancies that have occurred since the last elections. In 2009, 27 elections were held in September/October, with the Break O'Day and Glamorgan-Spring Bay elections being postponed while an investigation into a proposed voluntary merger between them took place. These elections were then held in November/December.

The Tasmanian Electoral Commission (TEC) supervises the conduct of elections in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*. Elections by postal ballot have been held in 1994, 1996, 1999 (deferred from 1998), 2000, 2002, 2005 (deferred from 2004), 2007 and 2009 with the next elections due in October 2011.

Since 2000, mayors and deputy mayors have been elected directly by the electors in all municipal areas. Previously, in most councils, mayors and deputy mayors were elected by the councillors at the first meeting of a new council.

Candidate information booklets and complete election results for the state are available from the TEC and are posted on the TEC website www.tec.tas.gov.au.

2009 Election timetable

Notice of election published	Saturday 12 September
Electoral rolls closed	6 pm Thursday 17 September
Nomination period	14 September–12 noon on 28 September
Nominations closed	12 noon Monday 28 September
Nominations announced & draw for ballot paper positions	12 noon Tuesday 29 September
Ballot material delivered to electors	13–16 October
Polling period	13–27 October
Close of poll	10 am Tuesday 27 October

Casual vacancies

Casual vacancies are filled by recount where possible, unless the vacancy occurs within 6 months of a forthcoming election. Only unelected candidates from the relevant election may contest a recount. A candidate elected at a recount serves until the next council election. If a recount is not possible, a by-election is held—with the candidate elected to serve for the remainder of the term of office of the original councillor.

Elector polls

A council may hold an elector poll on any issue it determines. It may also be required to hold an elector poll following petitions from electors in accordance with Part 6 of the Act. A council is not bound by the result of an elector poll.

Electoral system

Voting in Tasmanian local government elections is not compulsory.

Elections for councillor positions are conducted using a system modelled on the Hare-Clark method of proportional representation used in Tasmanian House of Assembly elections.

Mayoral and deputy mayoral elections use a preferential system similar to that used for Tasmanian Legislative Council and federal House of Representatives elections.

Report on the 2009 Southern Midlands Council Election

Elections were held for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2 year terms, and 5 Councillors for 4 year terms.

4333 Southern Midlands electors were enrolled for the 2009 elections, comprising 4261 (98.34%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 72 (1.66%) from the General Manager's roll.

60.21% of Southern Midlands electors returned their ballot papers in comparison with 55.54% statewide.

Candidates at the 2009 elections

Mayor		Councillors	
★ BISDEE, Tony*	Melton Mowbray	★ BISDEE, Tony*	Melton Mowbray
		★ CAMPBELL, Bob	Andover
		CASHION, Deb	Bagdad
Deputy Mayor		★ CONNORS, Marie*	Tunnack
GREEN, Alex	Campania	★ GREEN, Alex*	Campania
★ JONES, John	Kempton	★ JONES, John*	Kempton
SCOTT, Helen Margaret*	Woodsdale	McDOUGALL, Rowena	Andover
		THOMPSON, Delia Fay*	Campania

★ denotes elected candidate

* denotes seeking re-election

Southern Midlands Councillors following the 2009 elections

Mayor	9 Councillors	
<i>term ends 2011</i>	<i>term ends 2013</i>	<i>term ends 2011</i>
BISDEE, Tony	BISDEE, Tony	JONES, Mark
Deputy Mayor	JONES, John	SCOTT, Helen Margaret
<i>term ends 2011</i>	GREEN, Alex	FISH, Donald Frank
JONES, John	CONNORS, Marie	BEVEN, Colin John
	CAMPBELL, Bob	

Southern Midlands Council - 2009 Councillor election

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009

Electors enrolled: 4 333

Declarations rejected: 27

Ballot paper adjustment: 2

Formal Votes: 2 526

Number to be elected: 5

Declarations returned: 2 609

Declarations admitted: 2 582

Total ballot papers: 2 580

Informal ballot papers: 54

Returning Officer: Ms Maree Ward

Response: 60.21%

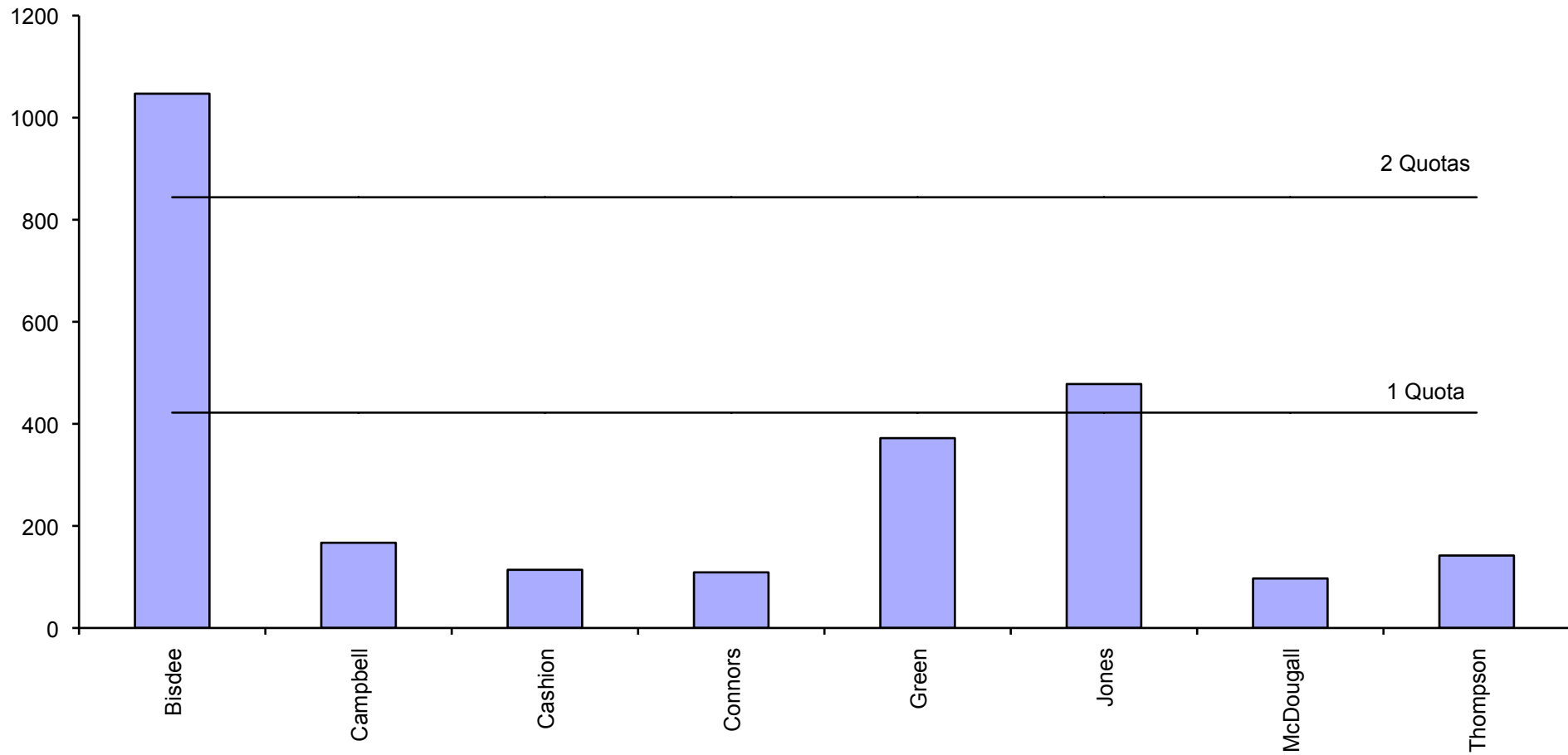
Rejection rate: 1.03%

Informality rate: 2.09%

Quota = 422

Count	Bisdee	Campbell	Cashion	Connors	Green	Jones	McDougall	Thompson	Votes Exhausted	Loss (Gain) by Fraction	Total Votes	Remarks
1	1 047.00	167.00	114.00	109.00	372.00	478.00	97.00	142.00			2 526.00	Bisdee elected 1, Jones elected 2
2	- 625.00	91.33	57.30	128.34	251.31		56.70	39.99		0.03		Bisdee's surplus distributed
	422.00	258.33	171.30	237.34	623.31	478.00	153.70	181.99		0.03	2 526.00	Green elected 3
3		17.69	9.13	15.81		- 56.00	9.37	3.98		0.02		Jones' surplus distributed
	422.00	276.02	180.43	253.15	623.31	422.00	163.07	185.97		0.05	2 526.00	
4		48.77	25.82	78.42	- 201.31		32.51	15.77		0.02		Green's surplus distributed
	422.00	324.79	206.25	331.57	422.00	422.00	195.58	201.74		0.07	2 526.00	
5 to 8		28.24	40.38	77.99			- 195.58	48.93		0.04		McDougall excluded
	422.00	353.03	246.63	409.56	422.00	422.00	0.00	250.67		0.11	2 526.00	
9		40.00	- 134.00	59.00				34.00	1.00	0.00		Cashion part excluded
	422.00	393.03	112.63	468.56	422.00	422.00		284.67	1.00	0.11	2 526.00	Connors elected 4
10		33.42	- 68.04					34.02	0.59	0.01		Cashion part excluded
	422.00	426.45	44.59	468.56	422.00	422.00		318.69	1.59	0.12	2 526.00	Campbell elected 5

2009 Southern Midlands Councillor election - first preferences



Southern Midlands Council

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009

Returning Officer: Ms Maree Ward

Mayor — Tony Bisdee (elected unopposed)

Deputy Mayor

Declarations admitted: 2582

Ballot paper adjustment: 2

Total ballot papers: 2580

Formal Votes: 2525

Informal ballot papers: 55

Informality rate: 2.13%

		Candidates			Exhausted	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
		GREEN	JONES	SCOTT				
Count 1	Progress Total	741	1 033	751	0	2 525	1 263	First preferences
Count 2	Votes transferred	- 741	328	343	70			Green excluded
	Progress Total	0	1 361	1 094	70	2 525	1 228	Jones elected

2009 Southern Midlands Deputy Mayor election - first preferences

