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## Local Government Elections in Tasmania

Every two years elections are held in all 29 councils 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.

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) with the next elections due in October 2007.

Since 2000 mayors and deputy mayors are 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.electoral.tas.gov.au.

## 2005 Election timetable

Notice of election published
Electoral rolls closed
Nomination period
Nominations closed
Nominations announced \&
draw for ballot paper positions
Ballot material delivered to electors
Polling period
Close of poll

Saturday 10 September
6 pm Thursday 15 September
12 September- 12 noon on 26 September
12 noon Monday 26 September

12 noon Tuesday 27 September
11-14 October
11-25 October
10 am Tuesday 25 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 2005 Brighton Council Election

Elections were held for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2 year terms, and 5 Councillors for 4 year terms.
For the 2005 Local Government elections, 8722 Brighton electors were enrolled, comprising $8685(99.58 \%)$ from the State House of Assembly roll and $37(0.42 \%)$ from the General Manager's roll.

The percentage of Brighton electors returning their ballot papers was $48.35 \%$, in comparison with $58.52 \%$ statewide.

## Recounts

Two recounts were held between the 2002 and 2005 elections. Councillor Matt DePaoli resigned from the Brighton Council on Tuesday 1 July 2003. Two unelected candidates from the 2000 Brighton Council election contested the recount. The recount took place at noon Monday 14 July 2003. The other recount took place on Friday 9 January 2004 following the death of Councillor Cris Fitzpatrick on Thursday 1 January 2004. One unelected candidate from the 2000 Brighton Council election contested the recount and was therefore elected unopposed. Full details are provided on the back page.

## Candidates at the 2005 elections

## Mayor

$\square$

| FOSTER, Tony* | Pontville |
| :--- | :--- |
| OWEN, Phil | Old Beach |

Deputy Mayor
$\square$
JEFFRIES, Ted*
Brighton

* denotes elected candidate
* denotes seeking re-election


## Councillors

|  | BRODERICK, Wendy | Bridgewater |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\square$ | FOSTER, Tony* | Pontville |
|  | GARLICK, Wayne | Bridgewater |
| $\square$ | GRAY, Leigh | Brighton |
| $\square$ | JEFFRIES, Ted* | Brighton |
|  | NASERS, Gary | Gagebrook |
| $\square$ | OWEN, Phil* | Old Beach |
| $\square$ | WILLLIAMS, Sonya | Gagebrook |

## Brighton Councillors following the 2005 elections

## Mayor

term ends 2007
FOSTER, Tony
Deputy Mayor
term ends 2007
JEFFRIES, Ted

## 9 Councillors

term ends 2009
FOSTER, Tony
OWEN, Phil
JEFFRIES, Ted
WILLLIAMS, Sonya
GRAY, Leigh
term ends 2007
CURRAN, Barbara
FITZPATRICK, Kate
GEARD, Peter John
TAYLOR, Geoff

Brighton Councillor 2005 First Preferences


## Brighton Council

Polling closed at 10am 25 October 2005
Number to be elected: 5
Returning Officer: Mr Damian Read

Electors enrolled: 8722
Declarations returned: 4217 Response: 48.35\%

Declarations rejected: 65 Declarations admitted: 4152 Rejection rate: 1.54\%

Ballot paper adjustment: 3
Total ballot papers: 4149

Formal Votes: 4055
Informal ballot papers: 94 Informality rate: 2.27\%

|  |  | Candidates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Quota $=676$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\stackrel{Q}{\stackrel{Q}{\otimes}}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { © } \\ & \substack{0 \\ \hline} \end{aligned}$ |  | Exhausted | Loss (Gain) by Fraction | Total Votes | Remarks |
| Count 1 | Total | 180.00 | 1692.00 | 231.00 | 259.00 | 433.00 | 167.00 | 856.00 | 237.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |  |  |
|  | Progress Totals | 180.00 | 1692.00 | 231.00 | 259.00 | 433.00 | 167.00 | 856.00 | 237.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 4055.00 | Foster elected 1, Owen elected 2 |
| Count 2 | Votes Transferred | 102.08 | - 1016.00 | 157.32 | 144.11 | 436.54 | 65.45 |  | 110.48 | 0.00 | 0.02 |  | Foster's surplus distributed |
|  | Progress Totals | 282.08 | 676.00 | 388.32 | 403.11 | 869.54 | 232.45 | 856.00 | 347.48 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 4055.00 | Jeffries elected 3 |
| Count 3 | Votes Transferred | 33.01 |  | 48.15 | 46.47 |  | 19.13 | - 180.00 | 33.22 | 0.00 | 0.02 |  | Owen's surplus distributed |
|  | Progress Totals | 315.09 | 676.00 | 436.47 | 449.58 | 869.54 | 251.58 | 676.00 | 380.70 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 4055.00 |  |
| Count 4 | Votes Transferred | 19.43 |  | 63.89 | 54.30 | - 193.54 | 23.95 |  | 31.94 | 0.00 | 0.03 |  | Jeffries' surplus distributed |
|  | Progress Totals | 334.52 | 676.00 | 500.36 | 503.88 | 676.00 | 275.53 | 676.00 | 412.64 | 0.00 | 0.07 | 4055.00 | Nasers excluded |
| Count 5 to 8 | Votes Transferred | 51.02 |  | 77.97 | 59.52 |  | -275.53 |  | 86.98 | 0.00 | 0.04 |  | Nasers' votes distributed |
|  | Progress Totals | 385.54 | 676.00 | 578.33 | 563.40 | 676.00 | 0.00 | 676.00 | 499.62 | 0.00 | 0.11 | 4055.00 | Nasers fully excluded, Broderick excluded |
| Count 9 to 10 | Votes Transferred | - 325.49 |  | 50.01 | 84.62 |  |  |  | 190.25 | 0.60 | 0.01 |  |  |
|  | Progress Totals | 60.05 | 676.00 | 628.34 | 648.02 | 676.00 |  | 676.00 | 689.87 | 0.60 | 0.12 | 4055.00 | Williams elected 4, Broderick partially excluded |
| Count 11 to 12 | Votes Transferred | -60.05 |  | 29.75 | 29.56 |  |  |  |  | 0.74 | 0.00 |  | Broderick's votes distributed |
|  | Progress Totals | 0.00 | 676.00 | 658.09 | 677.58 | 676.00 |  | 676.00 | 689.87 | 1.34 | 0.12 | 4055.00 | Gray elected 5 |

Brighton Mayor 2005 First Preferences


## Brighton Council

| Polling closed at 10am 25 October 2005 | Declarations admitted: 4152 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Returning Officer: Mr Damian Read | Ballot paper adjustment: 5 |
| Mayor | Total ballot papers: 4147 |
|  | Formal Votes: 4045 |
|  | Informal ballot papers: 102 |
|  | Informality rate: $2.46 \%$ |


|  |  | Candidates |  | Exhausted | Total Votes | Absolute Majority | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TO } \\ & 00 \\ & \text { n } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\sum_{\text {N }}^{\text {O }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Count 1 | Total | 2592 | 1453 | 0 |  |  |  |
|  | Progress Totals | 2592 | 1453 | 0 | 4045 |  | lected |

Deputy Mayor- Ted Jeffries

## Brighton Council recount



## Brighton Council recount

Recount due to death of Councillor Cris Fitzpatrick
9 January 2004

Frances Mowling elected unopposed

