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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 Saturday 10 September

Electoral rolls closed 6 pm Thursday 15 September

Nomination period 12 September—12 noon on 26 September

Nominations closed 12 noon Monday 26 September

Nominations announced &

draw for ballot paper positions 12 noon Tuesday 27 September

Ballot material delivered to electors 11–14 October Polling period 11–25 October

Close of poll 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.

Bruce Taylor ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER January 2006

Report on the 2005 Sorell Council Election

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

For the 2005 Local Government elections, 8456 Sorell electors were enrolled, comprising 8276 (97.87%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 180 (2.13%) from the General Manager's roll.

The percentage of Sorell electors returning their ballot papers was 59.39%, in comparison with 58.52% statewide.

Candidates at the 2005 elections

	Mayor			Councillors	
	DEGRASSI, Kerry	Dodges Ferry	*	DEGRASSI, Kerry*	Dodges Ferry
	PURDON, Mike	Sorell		JOHNSON, Howard	Boomer Bay
*	TORENIUS, Carmel*	Forcett		KELLEY, Alan	Lewisham
				MILLAR, Glenn	Forcett
				PEREY, Frederika	Boomer Bay
	Deputy Mayor		*	PURDON, Mike*	Sorell
	EVANS, Graeme*	Sorell	*	RHEINBERGER, Jack*	Sorell
*	2.111.6, Graenie	001011	*	TORENIUS, Carmel*	Forcett

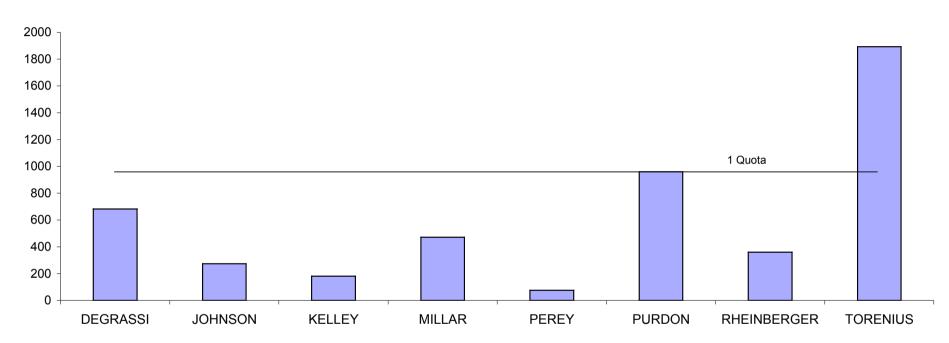
[★] denotes elected candidate

Sorell Councillors following the 2005 elections

Mayor	9 Councillors						
term ends 2007	term ends 2009	term ends 2007					
TORENIUS, Carmel	TORENIUS, Carmel	EVANS, Graeme					
Deputy Mayor	PURDON, Mike	CURTAIN, Barry					
term ends 2007	DEGRASSI, Kerry	McDERMOTT, Tony					
EVANS, Graeme	RHEINBERGER, Jack	PRIOR, Sharon					
		WARD, Keith					

^{*} denotes seeking re-election

Sorell Councillor 2005 First Preferences



Sorell Council

Polling closed at 10am 25 October 2005

Returning Officer: Mr Peter Weldon

Electors enrolled: 8456 Declarations returned: 5022 Declarations rejected: 43 Declarations admitted: 4979

Formal Votes: 4896

Number to be elected: 4

Response: 59.39%

Rejection rate: 0.86%

Ballot paper adjustment: 4 Total ballot papers: 4975

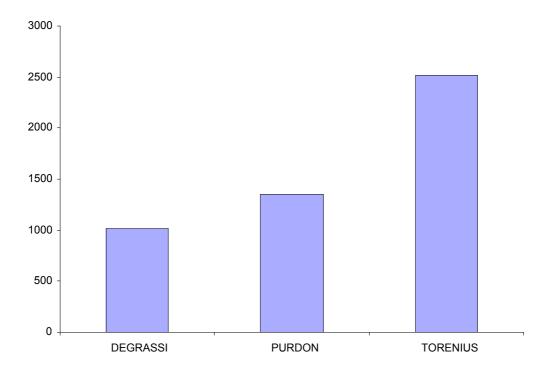
Informal ballot papers: 79

Informality rate: 1.59%

Quota = 980

		Candidates								_			
		DEGRASSI	JOHNSON	KELLEY	MILLAR	PEREY	PURDON	RHEINBERGE	TORENIUS	Exhausted	Loss (Gain) by Fraction	Total Votes	Remarks
Count 1	Total	683.00	274.00	181.00	471.00	76.00	959.00	360.00	1892.00	0.00	0.00		
	Progress Totals	683.00	274.00	181.00	471.00	76.00	959.00	360.00	1892.00	0.00	0.00	4896.00	TORENIUS elected 1
Count 2	Votes Transferred	244.87	87.24	63.14	65.07	26.99	180.76	243.90	- 912.00	0.00	0.03		TORENIUS' surplus distributed
	Progress Totals	927.87	361.24	244.14	536.07	102.99	1139.76	603.90	980.00	0.00	0.03	4896.00	PURDON elected 2
Count 3	Votes Transferred	53.67	23.85	15.76	17.89	4.26	- 159.76	44.30		0.00	0.03		PURDON's surplus distributed
	Progress Totals	981.54	385.09	259.90	553.96	107.25	980.00	648.20	980.00	0.00	0.06	4896.00	DEGRASSI elected 3
Count 4	Votes Transferred	- 1.54	0.20	0.24	0.42	0.10		0.54		0.00	0.04		DEGRASSI's surplus distributed
	Progress Totals	980.00	385.29	260.14	554.38	107.35	980.00	648.74	980.00	0.00	0.10	4896.00	PEREY excluded
Count 5 to 8	Votes Transferred		19.77	19.01	53.98	- 107.35		14.05		0.49	0.05		PEREY's votes distributed
	Progress Totals	980.00	405.06	279.15	608.36	0.00	980.00	662.79	980.00	0.49	0.15	4896.00	PEREY fully excluded, KELLEY excluded
Count 9 to 12	Votes Transferred		77.58	- 279.15	96.68			99.58		5.28	0.03		KELLEY's votes distributed
	Progress Totals	980.00	482.64	0.00	705.04		980.00	762.37	980.00	5.77	0.18	4896.00	KELLEY fully excluded, JOHNSON excluded
Count 13 to 14	Votes Transferred		- 451.67	_	134.88			290.26		26.53	0.00		JOHNSON's votes distributed
	Progress Totals	980.00	30.97		839.92		980.00	1052.63	980.00	32.30	0.18	4896.00	RHEINBERGER elected 4, JOHNSON partially excluded

Sorell Mayor 2005 First Preferences



Sorell Council

Polling closed at 10am 25 October 2005 Returning Officer: Mr Peter Weldon Declarations admitted: 4979
Ballot paper adjustment: 4
Total ballot papers: 4975
Formal Votes: 4876

Mayor

Informal ballot papers: 99
Informality rate: 1.99%

		Candidates						
		DEGRASSI	PURDON	TORENIUS	Exhausted	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
Count 1	Total	1014	1350	2512	0			
	Progress Totals	1014	1350	2512	0	4876	2439	TORENIUS elected

Sorell Deputy Mayor— Graeme Evans Elected unopposed