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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.

Bruce Taylor Electoral Commissioner February 2010

Report on the 2009 Dorset Council Election

Elections were held for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2 year terms, and 6 Councillors, 5 of which for 4 year terms, and 1 casual position for 2 years.

5 529 Dorset electors were enrolled for the 2009 elections, comprising 5 253 (95.01%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 276 (4.99%) from the General Manager's roll. 70.03% of Dorset electors returned their ballot papers in comparison with 55.54% statewide.

Candidates at the 2009 elections

	Mayor			Councillors		
★	JARVIS, Barry	arry Bridport		BESWICK, John	Deviot	
	McLENNAN, Roger	Bridport		CASHION, Graham	Branxholm	
	PARTRIDGE, Peter	Scottsdale		CUTHBERTSON, Wayne John	Bridport	
	William*			DONALDSON, Kerrie	Telita	
				EADIE, Tom	Branxholm	
	_		*	McLENNAN, Roger*	Bridport	
	Deputy Mayor		*	MARTIN, Sheryl*	Jetsonville	
	ARNOLD, Steven Bridport		*	PARTRIDGE, Peter William*	Scottsdale	
	RANSOM, Thomas	Bridport		POWELL, Michael	Springfield	
★	THORNE, Yvonne R*	Derby		PROBERT, Jill	Gladstone	
			^*	STEIN, Leonie	Bridport	
	★ denotes elected candid			TERRY, Jodie	Gladstone	
	* denotes seeking re-elec ^ denotes filled casual va		*	THORNE, Yvonne R*	Derby	

Dorset Councillors following the 2009 elections

Mayor	9 Councillors					
term ends 2011	term ends 2013	term ends 2011				
JARVIS, Barry	BESWICK, John	ARNOLD, Steven John				
Deputy Mayor	THORNE, Yvonne R	RANSOM, Thomas				
term ends 2011	McLENNAN, Roger	JARVIS, Barry				
THORNE, Yvonne R	MARTIN, Sheryl	STEIN, Leonie				
	PARTRIDGE, Peter William					

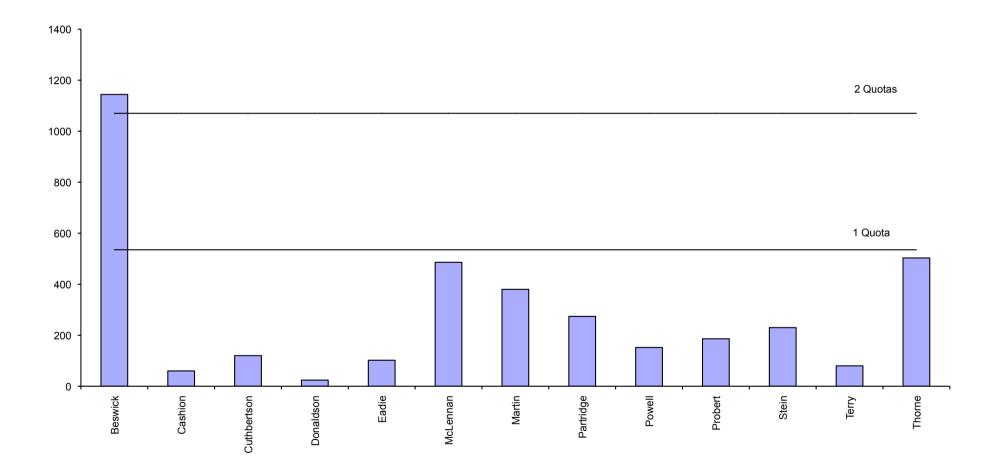
Dorset Council - 2009 Councillor election

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Number to be elected: 6 Returning Officer: Mrs Suzie Rogers Electors enrolled: 5529 Declarations returned: 3872 Response: 70.03% Declarations rejected: 58 Declarations admitted: 3814 Rejection rate: 1.50% Ballot paper adjustment: 3 Total ballot papers: 3811 Formal Votes: 3741 Informal ballot papers: 70 Informality rate: 1.84%

Quota = 535

Count	Beswick	Cashion	Cuthbertson	Donaldson	Eadie	McLennan	Martin	Partridge	Powell	Probert	Stein	Terry	Thorne	Votes Exhausted	Loss (Gain) by Fraction	Total Votes	Remarks
1	1 144.00	60.00	120.00	24.00	102.00	486.00	380.00	274.00	152.00	186.00	230.00	80.00	503.00			3 741.00	Beswick elected 1
2	- 609.00	17.03	31.94	5.85	22.89	114.45	87.30	40.45	45.78	29.81	30.87	7.98	174.60		0.05		Beswick's surplus distributed
	535.00	77.03	151.94	29.85	124.89	600.45	467.30	314.45	197.78	215.81	260.87	87.98	677.60	- · · ·	0.05	3 741.00	Thorne elected 2, McLennan elected 3
3		3.47	12.60	2.17	7.39		58.69	16.52	7.39	21.73	9.99	2.60	- 142.60		0.05		Thorne's surplus distributed
	535.00	80.50	164.54	32.02	132.28	600.45	525.99	330.97	205.17	237.54	270.86	90.58	535.00		0.10	3 741.00	
4		2.43	9.43	2.13	2.13	- 65.45	19.48	10.35	5.17	8.82	4.87	0.60			0.04		McLennan's surplus distributed
	535.00	82.93	173.97	34.15	134.41	535.00	545.47	341.32	210.34	246.36	275.73	91.18	535.00		0.14	3 741.00	Martin elected 4
5		0.98	1.47	0.32	0.81		- 10.47	1.63	1.63	2.12	1.14	0.32			0.05		Martin's surplus distributed
	535.00	83.91	175.44	34.47	135.22	535.00	535.00	342.95	211.97	248.48	276.87	91.50	535.00		0.19	3 741.00	
6 to 10		4.60	4.52	- 34.47	6.32			1.53	3.06	6.96	3.16	4.26			0.06		Donaldson excluded
	535.00	88.51	179.96	0.00	141.54	535.00	535.00	344.48	215.03	255.44	280.03	95.76	535.00		0.25	3 741.00	
11 to 15		- 88.51	14.69		11.00			9.19	16.26	12.46	16.18	8.66			0.07		Cashion excluded
	535.00	0.00	194.65	-	152.54	535.00	535.00	353.67	231.29	267.90	296.21	104.42	535.00		0.32	3 741.00	
16 to 20			15.15		11.42			11.96	13.75	34.55	17.55	- 104.42			0.04		Terry excluded
	535.00		209.80	-	163.96	535.00	535.00	365.63	245.04	302.45	313.76	0.00	535.00		0.36	3 741.00	
21 to 25			36.67		- 163.96			26.85	20.24	51.79	27.22			1.16	0.03		Eadie excluded
	535.00		246.47	-	0.00	535.00	535.00	392.48	265.28	354.24	340.98		535.00	1.16	0.39	3 741.00	
26 to 30			- 246.47					51.14	61.94	62.95	65.71			4.71	0.02		Cuthbertson excluded
	535.00		0.00	-		535.00	535.00	443.62	327.22	417.19	406.69		535.00	5.87	0.41	3 741.00	
31 to 33								92.67	- 314.26	93.29	104.76			23.55	(0.01)		Powell part excluded
	535.00					535.00	535.00	536.29	12.96	510.48	511.45		535.00	29.42	0.40	3 741.00	Partridge elected 5
34 to 35									- 12.96	4.34	5.40			3.24	(0.02)		Powell excluded
	535.00					535.00	535.00	536.29		514.82	516.85		535.00	32.66	0.38	3 741.00	
36								- 1.29		0.77	0.25			0.25	0.02		Partridge's surplus distributed
	535.00					535.00	535.00	535.00		515.59	517.10		535.00	32.91	0.40	3 741.00	Stein elected 6

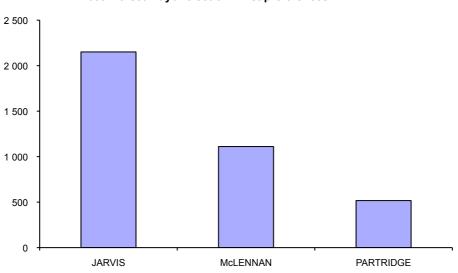
2009 Dorset Councillor election - first preferences



Dorest Council

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Returning Officer: Mrs Suzie Rogers

Mayor		Declarations adm	nitted: 3814			779			
		Ballot paper adju	stment: 3		Informal ballot papers: 32				
		Total ballot paper	rs: 3811		Informality rate: 0.84%				
			Candidates						
		JARVIS	McLENNAN	PARTRIDGE	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks		
Count 1	First preferences	2 151	1 111	517	3 779	1 890	JARVIS elected		

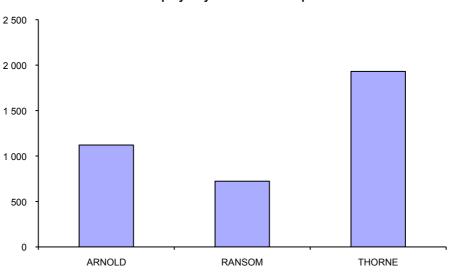


2009 Dorset Mayor election - first preferences

Dorest Council

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Returning Officer: Mrs Suzie Rogers

Deputy	Mayor	Declarations admitte	d: 3814			Formal Votes: 3	s: 3775		
		Ballot paper adjustm	ent: 3		Informal ballot papers: 36				
		Total ballot papers: 3	811		Informality rate: 0.94%				
		_	Candidates						
		ARNOLD	RANSOM	THORNE	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks		
Count 1	First preferences	1 121	723	1 931	3 775	1 888	THORNE Elected		



2009 Dorset Deputy Mayor election - first preferences