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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 Hobart City Council Election

Elections were held for the positions of Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor for 2 year terms, and 6 Councillors (Aldermen) for 4 year terms.

36 552 Hobart City electors were enrolled for the 2009 elections, comprising 35 009 (95.78%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 1543 (4.22%) from the General Manager's roll.

51.60% of Hobart City electors returned their ballot papers in comparison with 55.54% statewide.

Candidates at the 2009 elections

	Lord Mayor		Councillors (Aldermen)				
☆	VALENTINE, Rob*	New Town		ALEXOPOULOS, Dina	Sandy Bay		
	ZUCCO, Marti	North Hobart		BROWNSCOMBE, Peter	Sandy Bay		
			*	BURNET, Helen*	North Hobart		
				FOLEY, Leo	Lenah Valley		
	Deputy Lord Mayor			FREEMAN, John*	Sandy Bay		
*	BURNET, Helen	North Hobart Lenah Valley Battery Point	*	HAIGH, Darlene A*	Lenah Valley		
	HAIGH, Darlene A			HEATLEY, Wendy	Glebe		
	SEXTON, Peter			PETERSON, Corey	West Hobart		
	SERIER, Feter	Duttery Fonte		ROWALLAN, Toby	Mount Nelson		
	★ denotes elected cand	idate	☆	SEXTON, Peter*	Battery Point		
	* denotes seeking re-election			THOMAS, Damon	Sandy Bay		
				VALENTINE, Rob*	New Town		
			*	ZUCCO, Marti*	North Hobart		

Hobart City Councillors (Aldermen) following the 2009 elections

Lord Mayor	12 Councillors (Aldermen)					
term ends 2011	term ends 2013	term ends 2011				
VALENTINE, Rob	VALENTINE, Rob	COCKER, Philip				
Deputy Lord Mayor	BURNET, Helen	RUZICKA, Eva				
term ends 2011	SEXTON, Peter	BRISCOE, Jeff				
BURNET, Helen	THOMAS, Damon	ARCHER, Elise				
	ZUCCO, Marti	HARVEY, Bill				
	HAIGH, Darlene A	CHRISTIE, Ron				

Hobart City Council - 2009 Councillor election

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Number to be elected: 6 Returning Officer: Mr Greg Richardson Electors enrolled: 36 552 Declarations returned: 18 861 Response: 51.60%

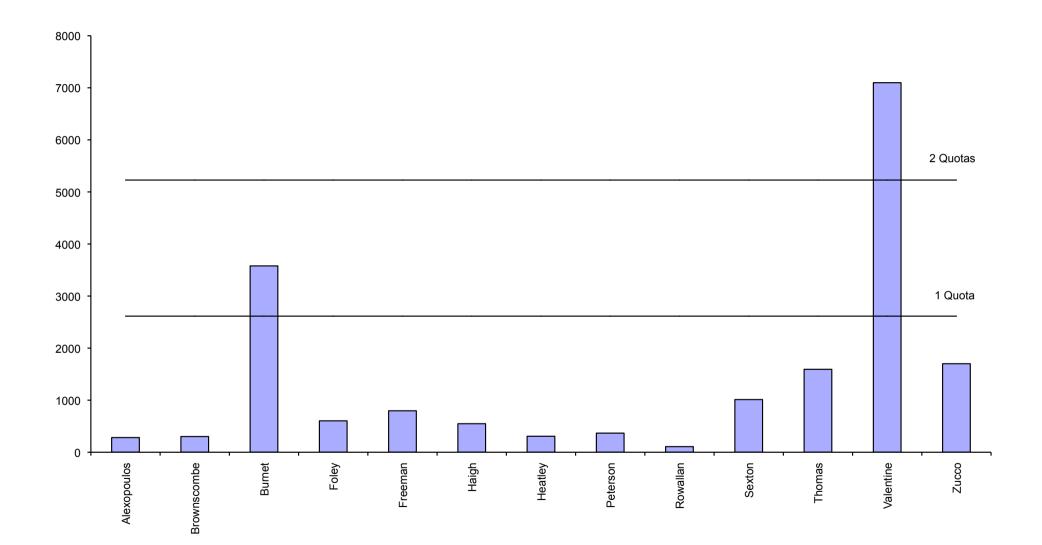
Count	Alexopoulos	Brownscombe	Burnet	Foley	Freeman	Haigh	Heatley	Peterson	Rowallan
1	282.00	302.00	3 579.00	603.00	796.00	548.00	307.00	367.00	108.00
2	116.23	104.86		277.32	423.25	771.97	224.89	362.61	65.06
	398.23	406.86	3 579.00	880.32	1 219.25	1 319.97	531.89	729.61	173.06
3	11.86	12.94	- 965.00	19.95	14.29	30.73	95.44	687.82	26.96
	410.09	419.80	2 614.00	900.27	1 233.54	1 350.70	627.33	1 417.43	200.02
4 to 6	12.05	11.48		10.86	7.68	14.37	42.88	54.83	- 200.02
	422.14	431.28	2 614.00	911.13	1 241.22	1 365.07	670.21	1 472.26	0.00
7 to 9	- 422.14	59.48		50.80	28.12	58.26	57.05	26.38	
	0.00	490.76	2 614.00	961.93	1 269.34	1 423.33	727.26	1 498.64	
10 to 12		- 490.76		55.15	64.11	35.90	37.90	53.00	
		0.00	2 614.00	1 017.08	1 333.45	1 459.23	765.16	1 551.64	
13 to 15				50.31	44.00	116.30	- 765.16	350.95	
			2 614.00	1 067.39	1 377.45	1 575.53	0.00	1 902.59	
16				- 724.00	87.00	110.00		126.00	
			2 614.00	343.39	1 464.45	1 685.53		2 028.59	
17 to 18				- 343.39	55.12	90.67		76.92	
			2 614.00		1 519.57	1 776.20		2 105.51	
19					25.48	26.90		14.86	
			2 614.00		1 545.05	1 803.10		2 120.37	
20					- 976.00	234.00		114.00	
			2 614.00		569.05	2 037.10		2 234.37	
21 to 23					- 569.05	347.81		172.02	
			2 614.00			2 384.91		2 406.39	
24						117.29		48.92	
			2 614.00			2 502.20		2 455.31	
25						106.20		37.81	
			2 614.00			2 608.40		2 493.12	

Declarations rejected: 162 Declarations admitted: 18 699 Rejection rate: 0.86% Ballot paper adjustment: 24 Total ballot papers: 18 675 Formal Votes: 18 295 Informal ballot papers: 380 Informality rate: 2.03%

Quota = 2 614

Sexton	Thomas	Valentine	Zucco	Votes Exhausted	Loss (Gain) by Fraction	Total Votes	Remarks
1 012.00	1 593.00	7 098.00	1 700.00			18 295.00	Valentine elected 1, Burnet elected 2
1 188.27	466.21	-4 484.00	483.27		0.06		Valentine's surplus distributed
2 200.27	2 059.21	2 614.00	2 183.27	-	0.06	18 295.00	
32.62	14.02		18.33		0.04		Burnet's surplus distributed
2 232.89	2 073.23	2 614.00	2 201.60	-	0.10	18 295.00	
20.92	14.68		10.16		0.11		Rowallan excluded
2 253.81	2 087.91	2 614.00	2 211.76	-	0.21	18 295.00	
55.27	35.91		50.79		0.08		Alexopoulos excluded
2 309.08	2 123.82	2 614.00	2 262.55	-	0.29	18 295.00	
142.12	67.42		35.10		0.06		Brownscombe excluded
2 451.20	2 191.24	2 614.00	2 297.65	-	0.35	18 295.00	
112.27	53.82		35.40	2.06	0.05		Heatley excluded
2 563.47	2 245.06	2 614.00	2 333.05	2.06	0.40	18 295.00	
173.00	130.00		96.00	2.00	0.00		Foley part excluded
2 736.47	2 375.06	2 614.00	2 429.05	4.06	0.40	18 295.00	Sexton elected 3
	72.99		37.79	9.91	- 0.01		Foley excluded
2 736.47	2 448.05	2 614.00	2 466.84	13.97	0.39	18 295.00	
- 122.47	35.39		14.86	4.95	0.03		Sexton's surplus distributed
2 614.00	2 483.44	2 614.00	2 481.70	18.92	0.42	18 295.00	
	318.00		298.00	12.00	0.00		Freeman part excluded
2 614.00	2 801.44	2 614.00	2 779.70	30.92	0.42	18 295.00	Thomas elected 4, Zucco elected 5
				49.24	- 0.02		Freeman excluded
2 614.00	2 801.44	2 614.00	2 779.70	80.16	0.40	18 295.00	
	- 187.44			21.21	0.02		Thomas' surplus distributed
2 614.00	2 614.00	2 614.00	2 779.70	101.37	0.42	18 295.00	
			- 165.70	21.68	0.01		Zucco's surplus distributed
2 614.00	2 614.00	2 614.00	2 614.00	123.05	0.43	18 295.00	Haigh elected 6

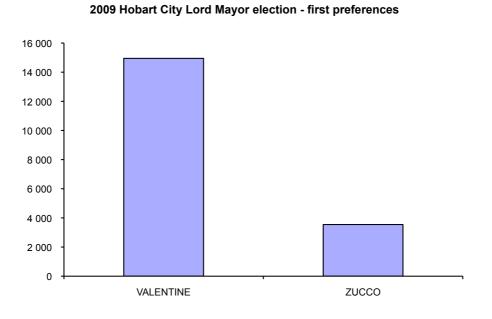
2009 Hobart City Councillor election - first preferences



Hobart City Council

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Returning Officer: Mr Greg Richardson

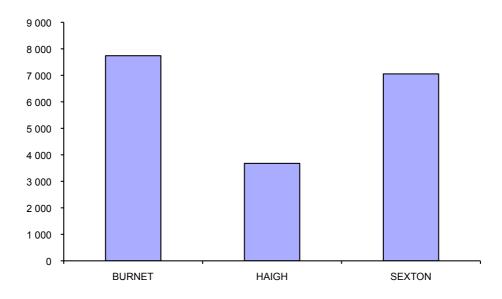
Lord Mayor		Declarations adm	nitted: 18699	Formal Votes: 18493			
		Ballot paper adju	stment: 27	Informal ballot papers: 179			
		Total ballot paper	rs: 18672		Informality rate: 0.96%		
		Candi	dates				
		VALENTINE	ZUCCO	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks	
Count 1	First Preferences	14 949	3 544	18 493	9 247	VALENTINE elected	



Hobart City Council

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Returning Officer: Mr Greg Richardson

Deputy Lo	ord Mayor	Declarations admitted: 18699 Ballot paper adjustment: 26 Total ballot papers: 18673					Formal Votes: 18472 Informal ballot papers: 201 Informality rate: 1.08%	
		BURNET	HAIGH	SEXTON	Exhausted	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
Count 1	Progress Total	7 740	3 678	7 054		18 472	9 237	First Preferences
	Votes transferred	1 353	-3 678	1 963	362			
Count 2	Progress Total	9 093	0	9 017	362	18 472	9 056	BURNET elected



2009 Hobart City Deputy Lord Mayor election - first preferences