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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 King Island Council Election

Elections were held for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2 year terms, and 8 Councillors, 5 of which are for 4 year terms and 3 casual positions for 2 years.

1300 King Island electors were enrolled for the 2009 elections, comprising 1166 (89.69%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 134 (10.31%) from the General Manager's roll.

72.46% of King Island electors returned their ballot papers in comparison with 55.54% statewide.

Recounts

A recount was conducted on 26 March 2008 to fill a vacancy for Councillor on the King Island Council following the resignation of Peter Castleton on 6 March 2008. Both unelected candidates from the 2007 King Island Council election contested the recount. Full details are provided on the back page.

Candidates at the 2009 elections

	Mayor			Councillors	
*	ARNOLD, Charles*	Nugara	^*	ARNOLD, Charles*	Nugara
	BARRATT, Greg	Naracoopa	^ ★	BARRATT, Greg*	Naracoopa
	BREWSTER, David	Currie	*	BECKMANN, Jacqueline Vanessa	Grassy
			*	BREWSTER, David*	Currie
			*	McFIE, Duncan*	Currie
	Deputy Mayor		*	PHILBEY, Vernon*	Lymwood
*	CONLEY, Royce	Lymwood Currie	*	WEITJENS, Joris	Naracoopa
	YOUD, Peter		^ ★	YOUD, Peter*	Currie

[★] denotes elected candidate

King Island Councillors following the 2009 elections

Mayor	9 Councillors				
term ends 2011	term ends 2013	term ends 2011			
ARNOLD, Charles	PHILBEY, Vernon	CONLEY, Royce			
Deputy Mayor	BREWSTER, David	YOUD, Peter			
term ends 2011	McFIE, Duncan	ARNOLD, Charles			
CONLEY, Royce	WEITJENS, Joris	BARRATT, Greg			
Ž	BECKMANN, Jacqueline Vanessa				

^{*} denotes seeking re-election

[^] denotes filled casual vacancy

King Island Council - 2009 Councillor election

Number to be elected: 8

Returning Officer: Mr Andy Brockbank

No ballot required

Councillors (elected unopposed) —

Vernon PHILBEY

David BREWSTER

Duncan McFIE

Joris WEITJENS

Jacqueline Vanessa BECKMANN

Peter YOUD*

Charles ARNOLD*

Greg BARRATT*

^{*} denotes filled casual vacancy

King Island Council

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Returning Officer: Mr Andy Brockbank

Mayor Declarations admitted: 929

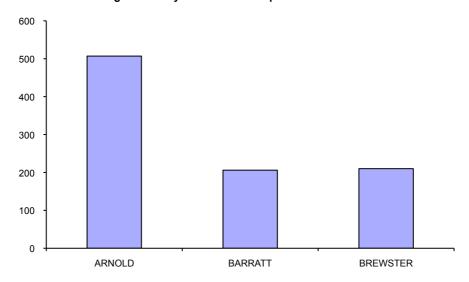
Ballot paper adjustment: 0
Total ballot papers: 929

Formal Votes: 923

Informal ballot papers: 6
Informality rate: 0.65%

	•	ARNOLD	BARRATT	BREWSTER	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
Count 1	First Preferences	507	206	210	923	462	Arnold elected

2009 King Island Mayor election - first preferences



King Island Council

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Returning Officer: Mr Andy Brockbank

Deputy Mayor Declarations admitted: 929 Formal Votes: 888

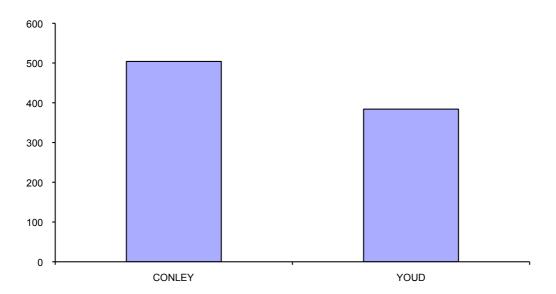
Ballot paper adjustment: 0 Informal ballot papers: 41

Total ballot papers: 929 Informality rate: 4.41%

Candidates

	-	CONLEY	YOUD	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
Count 1	First Preferences	504	384	888	445	CONLEY elected

2009 King Island Deputy Mayor election - first preferences



King Island Council Recount

Recount due to resignation of Peter Castleton

26 March 2008

		Cai	ndidates					
		BANFIELD Roger	YOUD Peter	Exhausted Votes	Lost by fraction	Total Votes	Absolute majority	Remarks
Counts 1 to 2	Total	77.00	104.00	3.00	0.00	184.00	90.51	Distribution of CASTLETON, YOUD elected