



Central Highlands Council

2014 election report

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Local Government Elections in Tasmania

Tasmania's local government elections were held in September-October 2014. These were the first all-in, all-out elections conducted since the enactment on 20 June 2013 of the *Local Government Amendment (Elections) Act 2013* and the making of the *Local Government (Number of Councillors) Order 2013*, the *Local Government (Number of Councillors) Order 2014* and the *Local Government (Elections) Order 2013*.

The effect of these was to defer the elections, originally scheduled for 2013, until 2014 when all councillors and aldermen, and mayors and deputy mayors, would be elected for a four year term ending in 2018. The terms of office of councillors elected in both 2009 and 2011 ended in 2014.

There was also a reduction in the number of councillors or aldermen to be elected to nine councils in 2014 (see statewide *Local government election report 2014* for further details).

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 approximately biennially since 1994, with the next quadrennial elections due in October 2018.

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.

2014 Election timetable

Notice of election published	Saturday 13 September
Nominations opened	9am Monday 15 September
Electoral rolls closed	6 pm Thursday 18 September
Nominations closed	12 noon Monday 29 September
Nominations announced	12 noon Tuesday 30 September
Ballot material received by electors	14–17 October
Polling period	14–28 October
Close of poll	10 am Tuesday 28 October

Casual vacancies for councillor/alderman

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. If a recount is not possible, a by-election is held. A candidate elected at a recount or by-election serves until the next council election.

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 2014 Central Highlands Council Election

Elections were held for the positions of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and 9 Councillors, all for 4 year terms.

2 530 Central Highlands electors were enrolled for the 2014 elections, comprising 1 680 (66.40%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 850 (33.60%) from the General Manager's roll.

62.81% of Central Highlands electors returned their ballot papers in comparison with 54.58% statewide.

Recounts

A recount was conducted on 12 February 2014, to fill a vacancy for Councillor on the Central Highlands Council following the resignation of Geoffrey L Herbert on 3 February 2014. Two unelected candidates from the 2009 Central Highlands Council election contested the recount. An abstract of the count is at the back of this report.

Central Highlands Councillors following the 2014 elections

Mayor

FLINT, Deirdre

Deputy Mayor

DOWNIE, Andrew

9 Councillors

ALLWRIGHT, Jim

BAILEY, Tony

BOWDEN, Richard George

CASSIDY, Robert

DOWNIE, Andrew

EVANS, Evan

FLINT, Deirdre

McRAE, Erika Michelle

TRIFFITT, Loueen (Lou)

The candidates

Central Highlands Council

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Councillor	9 candidates (9 to be elected) – no ballot required
ALLWRIGHT, Jim *^	Ellendale
BAILEY, Tony *^	Hamilton
BOWDEN, Richard George *^	Bothwell
CASSIDY, Robert *	Bothwell
DOWNIE, Andrew *^	Richmond
EVANS, Evan *	Ellendale
FLINT, Deirdre *^	Hollow Tree
McRAE, Erika Michelle *	Bothwell
TRIFFITT, Loueen (Lou) *^	Hamilton

Mayor	1 candidate – no ballot required
FLINT, Deirdre *^	Hollow Tree

Deputy Mayor	2 candidates
DOWNIE, Andrew *^	Richmond
TRIFFITT, Loueen (Lou)	Hamilton

* denotes elected candidate

^ denotes seeking re-election

Central Highlands Council - 2014 Councillor election

Returning Officer: Dale Emery

Number to be elected: 9

Number of candidates: 9 (elected unopposed)

ALLWRIGHT, Jim

BAILEY, Tony

BOWDEN, Richard George

CASSIDY, Robert

DOWNIE, Andrew

EVANS, Evan

FLINT, Deirdre

McRAE, Erika Michelle

TRIFFITT, Loueen (Lou)

Central Highlands Council

Polling closed at 10am 28 October 2014

Returning Officer: Dale Emery

Mayor — Deirdre Flint (elected unopposed)

Deputy Mayor

Declarations admitted: 1 570

Ballot paper adjustment: 6

Total ballot papers: 1 564

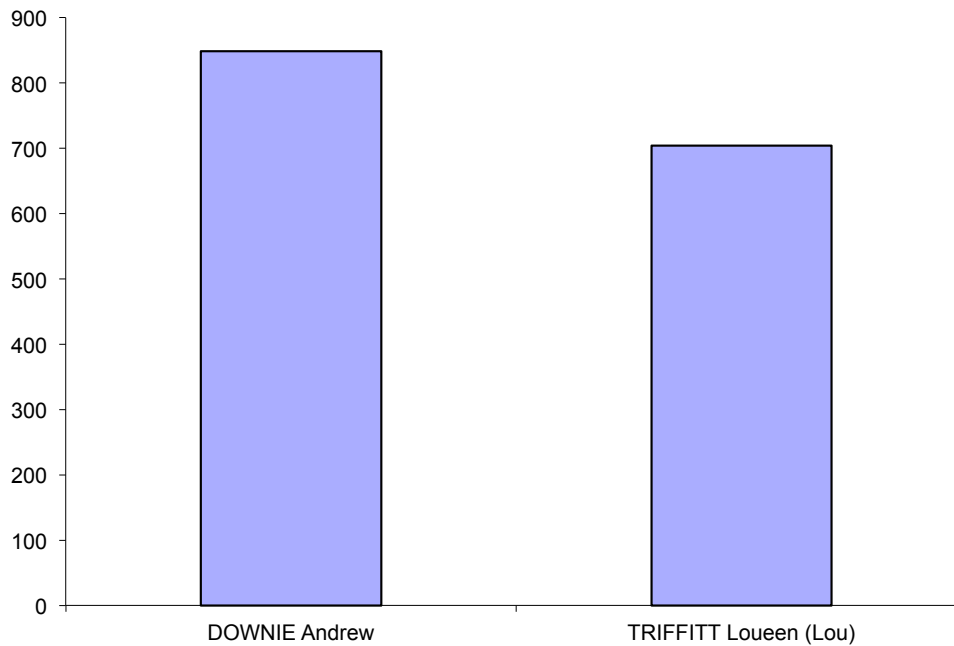
Formal Votes: 1 553

Informal ballot papers: 11

Informality rate: 0.70%

		DOWNIE Andrew	TRIFFITT Loueen (Lou)	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
Count 1	First preferences	849	704	1553	777	DOWNIE elected

2014 Central Highlands Deputy Mayor election - first preferences



Central Highlands Council Councillor Recount

Recount due to resignation of Geoffrey L Herbert

12 February 2014

	McMILLAN David	POULTON Debra	Exhausted Votes	Lost by fraction	Total Votes	Absolute majority	Remarks
Count 1	155.08	124.37	6.50	0.05	286.00	139.73	McMILLAN elected