



Southern Midlands Council

2007 election report

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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.

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), and 2007 with the next elections due in October 2009.

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.electoral.tas.gov.au.

2007 Election timetable

Notice of election published	Saturday 15 September
Electoral rolls closed	6 pm Thursday 20 September
Nomination period	17 September— 12 noon on 1 October
Nominations closed	12 noon Monday 1 October
Nominations announced & draw for ballot paper positions	12 noon Tuesday 2 October
Ballot material delivered to electors	16–19 October
Polling period	16–30 October
Close of poll	10 am Tuesday 30 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.

Report on the 2007 Southern Midlands Council Election

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

4191 Southern Midlands electors were enrolled for the 2007 elections, comprising 4116 (98.21%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 75 (1.79%) from the General Manager's roll.

63.49% of Southern Midlands electors returned their ballot papers in comparison with 57.43% statewide.

Candidates at the 2007 elections

Mayor		Councillors	
★ BISDEE, Tony*	Melton Mowbray	★ BEVEN, Colin John*	Campania
		CAMPBELL, Bob	Andover
		★ FISH, Donald Frank*	Andover
		★ JONES, Mark	Oatlands
Deputy Mayor		★ SCOTT, Helen Margaret*	Woodsdale
★ SCOTT, Helen Margaret*	Woodsdale	WILLIAMS, Russell	Mangalore

★ denotes elected candidate

* denotes seeking re-election

Southern Midlands Councillors following the 2007 elections

Mayor	9 Councillors	
<i>term ends 2009</i>	<i>term ends 2011</i>	<i>term ends 2009</i>
BISDEE, Tony	JONES, Mark	BISDEE, Tony
	SCOTT, Helen Margaret	JONES, John
Deputy Mayor	FISH, Donald Frank	GREEN, Alex
<i>term ends 2009</i>	BEVEN, Colin John	CONNORS, Marie
SCOTT, Helen Margaret		THOMPSON, Delia

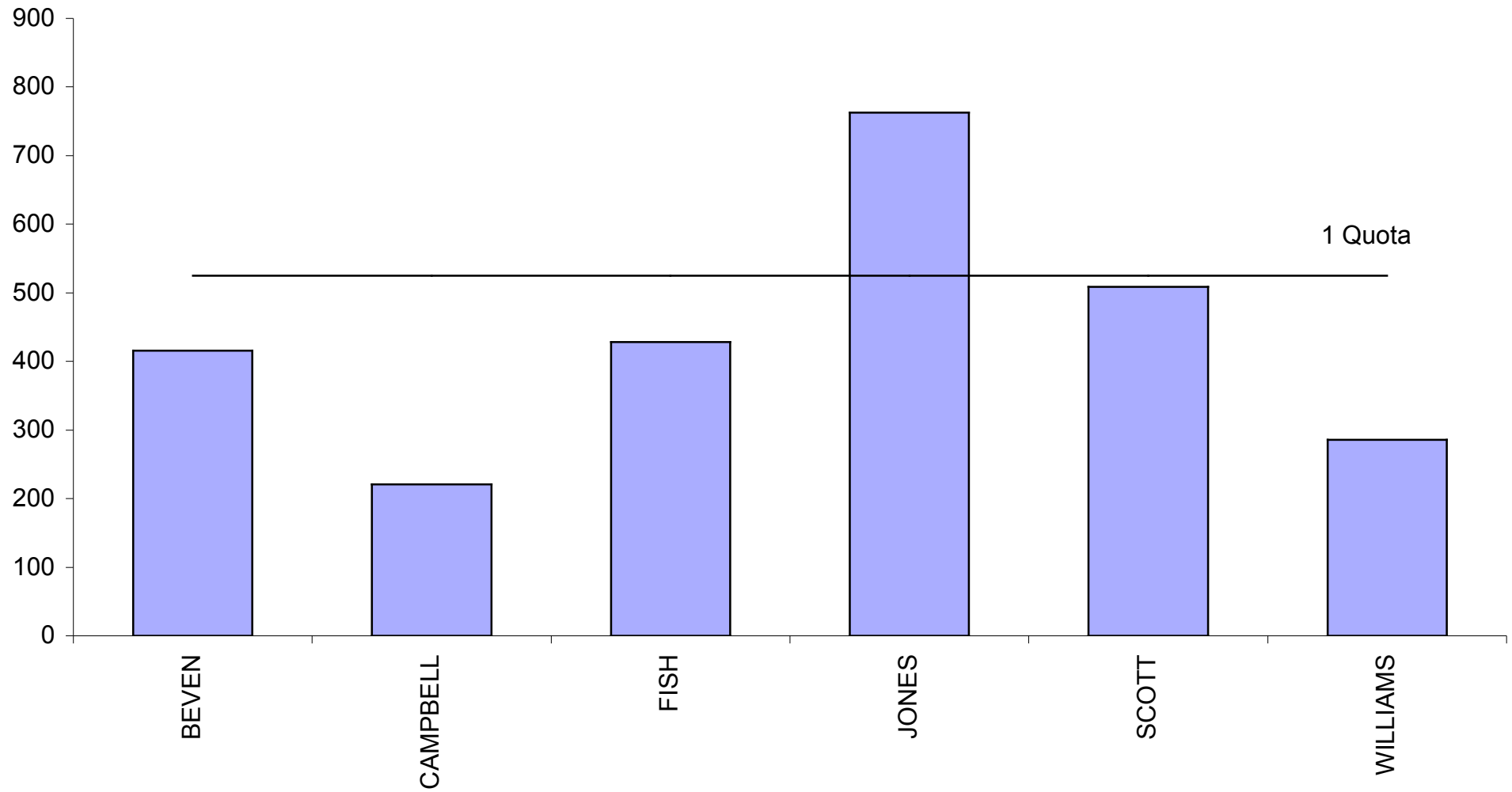
Southern Midlands Council - 2007 Councillor election

Polling closed at 10am 30 October 2007 Electors enrolled: 4191 Declarations rejected: 14 Ballot paper adjustment: 2 Formal Votes: 2623
 Number to be elected: 4 Declarations returned: 2661 Declarations admitted: 2647 Total ballot papers: 2645 Informal ballot papers: 22
 Returning Officer: Mr David Molnar Response: 63.49% Rejection rate: 0.53% Informality rate: 0.83%

Quota = 525

Count	BEVEN	CAMPBELL	FISH	JONES	SCOTT	WILLIAMS	Votes Exhausted	Loss (Gain) by Fraction	Total Votes	Remarks
1	416.00	221.00	428.00	763.00	509.00	286.00				
	416.00	221.00	428.00	763.00	509.00	286.00			2 623.00	JONES elected 1
2	33.06	15.59	104.80	- 238.00	65.50	19.02		0.03		JONES' surplus distributed
	449.06	236.59	532.80	525.00	574.50	305.02		0.03	2 623.00	SCOTT elected 2, FISH elected 3
3	29.22	9.42			- 49.50	10.84		0.02		SCOTT's surplus distributed
	478.28	246.01	532.80	525.00	525.00	315.86		0.05	2 623.00	
4	5.01	1.27	- 7.80			1.50		0.02		FISH's surplus distributed
	483.29	247.28	525.00	525.00	525.00	317.36		0.07	2 623.00	
5	128.00	- 221.00				88.00	5.00	0.00		CAMPBELL part excluded
	611.29	26.28	525.00	525.00	525.00	405.36	5.00	0.07	2 623.00	BEVEN elected 4

2007 Southern Midlands Councillor election - first preferences



Southern Midlands Council

Polling closed at 10am 30 October 2007

Returning Officer: Mr David Molnar

Mayor – Tony Bisdee (elected unopposed)

Deputy Mayor – Helen Margaret Scott (elected unopposed)