



# Flinders Council 2009 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. 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](http://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.

## Report on the 2009 Flinders Council Election

Elections were held for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2 year terms, and 3 Councillors for 4 year terms.

781 Flinders electors were enrolled for the 2009 elections, comprising 677 (86.68%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 104 (13.32%) from the General Manager's roll.

67.61% of Flinders electors returned their ballot papers in comparison with 55.54% statewide.

### Candidates at the 2009 elections

<b>Mayor</b>		<b>Councillors</b>	
★ COX, Carol*	Lady Barron	COLE, Katrina	Memana
		★ ROBERTS, Mary-Anne	Killiecrankie
		★ WHEATLEY, Margaret*	Killiecrankie
		★ WILLIAMS, David*	Lady Barron
<b>Deputy Mayor</b>			
★ GRIMSHAW, Michael	Lackrana		
WHEATLEY, Margaret*	Killiecrankie		

★ denotes elected candidate

\* denotes seeking re-election

### Flinders Councillors following the 2009 elections

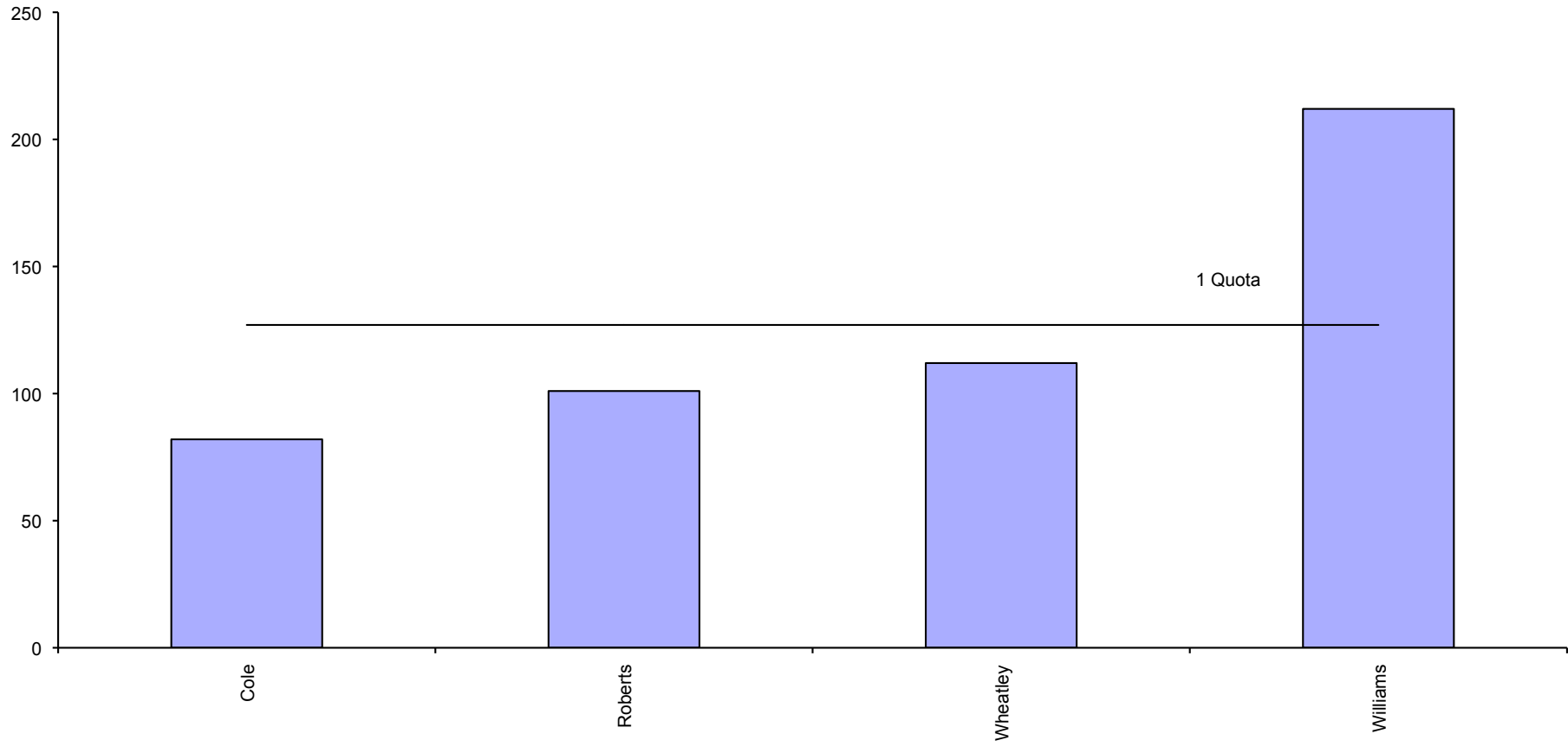
<b>Mayor</b>	<b>7 Councillors</b>	
<i>term ends 2011</i>	<i>term ends 2013</i>	<i>term ends 2011</i>
COX, Carol	WILLIAMS, David	COX, Carol
<b>Deputy Mayor</b>	WHEATLEY, Margaret	GRIMSHAW, Michael
<i>term ends 2011</i>	ROBERTS, Mary-Anne	STACKHOUSE, Alan
GRIMSHAW, Michael		COBHAM, Marc

# Flinders Council - 2009 Councillor election

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009      Electors enrolled: 781      Declarations rejected: 11      Ballot paper adjustment: 0      Formal Votes: 507  
 Number to be elected: 3      Declarations returned: 528      Declarations admitted: 517      Total ballot papers: 517      Informal ballot papers: 10  
 Returning Officer: Mrs Suzie Rogers      Response: 67.61%      Rejection rate: 2.08%      Informality rate: 1.93%  
 Quota = 127

Count	Cole	Roberts	Wheatley	Williams	Loss (Gain) by Fraction	Total Votes	Remarks
1	82.00	101.00	112.00	212.00		507.00	<b>Williams elected 1</b>
2	26.06	24.45	34.48	- 85.00	0.01		Williams' surplus distributed
	108.06	125.45	146.48	127.00	0.01	507.00	<b>Wheatley elected 2</b>
3	11.55	7.92	- 19.48		0.01		Wheatley's surplus distributed
	119.61	133.37	127.00	127.00	0.02	507.00	<b>Roberts elected 3</b>

### 2009 Flinders Councillor election - first preferences



## Flinders Council

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009

Returning Officer: Mrs Suzie Rogers

**Mayor** — Carol Cox (elected unopposed)

### Deputy Mayor

Declarations admitted: 517

Formal Votes: 501

Ballot paper adjustment: 1

Informal ballot papers: 15

Total ballot papers: 516

Informality rate: 2.91%

		Candidates		Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
		GRIMSHAW	WHEATLEY			
Count 1	First Preferences	307	194	501	251	<b>GRIMSHAW elected</b>

**2009 Flinders Deputy Mayor election - first preferences**

