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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 Brighton Council Election**

Elections were held for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2 year terms, and 5 Councillors for 4 year terms.

9837 Brighton electors were enrolled for the 2009 elections, comprising 9767 (99.29%) from the State House of Assembly roll and 70 (0.71%) from the General Manager's roll.

53.18% of Brighton electors returned their ballot papers in comparison with 55.54% statewide.

### Candidates at the 2009 elections

	Mayor			Councillors	
*	FOSTER, Tony*	Pontville	*	FOSTER, Tony*	Pontville
	OWEN, Philip John	Old Beach	*	GARLICK, Wayne*	Bridgewater
			*	GRAY, Leigh*	Brighton
				JOSEPH, Roger L	Old Beach
	<b>Deputy Mayor</b>		*	OWEN, Philip John*	Old Beach
	JEFFRIES, Moya	Brighton		READ, Kelly	Bridgewater
*	TAYLOR, Geoff*	Brighton	*	WILLIAMS, Sonya*	Gagebrook

<sup>★</sup> denotes elected candidate

# **Brighton Councillors following the 2009 elections**

Mayor	9 Councillors				
term ends 2011	term ends 2013	term ends 2011			
FOSTER, Tony	FOSTER, Tony	TAYLOR, Geoff			
Deputy Mayor	OWEN, Philip John	CURRAN, Barbara			
term ends 2011	GRAY, Leigh	GEARD, Peter			
TAYLOR, Geoff	GARLICK, Wayne	JEFFRIES, Moya			
	WILLIAMS, Sonya				

<sup>\*</sup> denotes seeking re-election

# **Brighton Council - 2009 Councillor election**

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009

Electors enrolled: 9837

Declarations rejected: 48

Declarations admitted: 5183

Formal Votes: 5047

Number to be elected: 5

Declarations returned: 5231

Total ballot papers: 5173

Ballot paper adjustment: 10

Informal ballot papers: 126

Returning Officer: Ms Maree Ward

Response: 53.18%

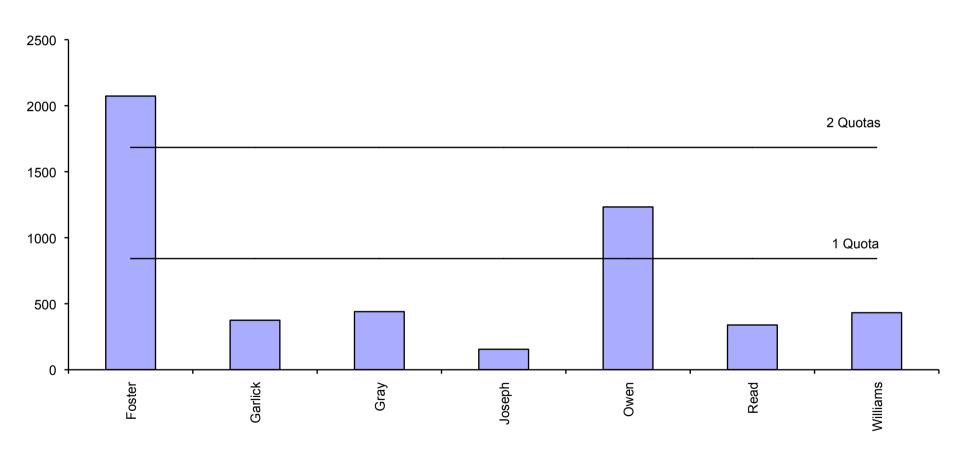
Rejection rate: 0.92%

Informality rate: 2.44%

Quota = 842

Count	Foster	Garlick	Gray	Joseph	Owen	Read	Williams	Votes Exhausted	Loss (Gain) by Fraction	Total Votes	Remarks
1	2 073.00	375.00	440.00	155.00	1 233.00	339.00	432.00			5 047.00	Foster elected 1, Owen elected 2
2	-1 231.00	313.53	395.48	125.89		149.64	246.43		0.03		Foster's surplus distributed
	842.00	688.53	835.48	280.89	1 233.00	488.64	678.43	•	0.03	5 047.00	
3		102.74	92.27	43.76	- 391.00	65.64	86.57		0.02		Owen's surplus distributed
	842.00	791.27	927.75	324.65	842.00	554.28	765.00	•	0.05	5 047.00	Gray elected 3
4		31.53	- 85.75	17.38		21.51	15.32		0.01		Gray's surplus distributed
	842.00	822.80	842.00	342.03	842.00	575.79	780.32	•	0.06	5 047.00	
5		59.00		- 155.00		59.00	37.00		0.00		Joseph part excluded
	842.00	881.80	842.00	187.03	842.00	634.79	817.32	•	0.06	5 047.00	Garlick elected 4
6				- 125.89		64.13	59.97	1.78	0.01		Joseph excluded
	842.00	881.80	842.00	61.14	842.00	698.92	877.29	1.78	0.07	5 047.00	Williams elected 5

# 2009 Brighton Councillor election - first preferences



# **Brighton Council**

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Returning Officer: Ms Maree Ward

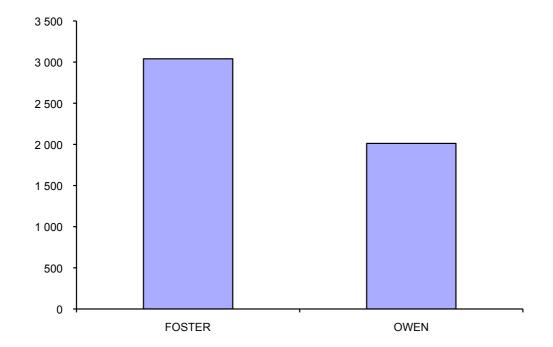
**Mayor** Declarations admitted: 5183 Formal Votes: 5052

Ballot paper adjustment: 10 Informal ballot papers: 121
Total ballot papers: 5173 Informality rate: 2.34%

Candidates

		FOSTER	OWEN	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
Count 1	First Preferences	3 040	2 012	5 052	2 527	FOSTER elected

### 2009 Brighton Mayor election - first preferences



## **Brighton Council**

Polling closed at 10am 27 October 2009 Returning Officer: Ms Maree Ward

**Deputy Mayor** Declarations admitted: 5183 Formal Votes: 5051

Ballot paper adjustment: 10 Informal ballot papers: 122
Total ballot papers: 5173 Informality rate: 2.36%

Candidates

		JEFFRIES	TAYLOR	Total Votes	Absolute Majority	Remarks
Count 1	First Preferences	2338	2 713	5.051	2 526	TAYLOR elected

### 2009 Brighton Deputy Mayor election - first preferences

