

2025 Local election results Update: as of 3pm Friday 2 May

Overview

- The 2025 UK local elections were held on 1 May 2025 for over 1,600 council seats across 23 local authorities. All seats on 14 county councils and eight unitary authorities in England were up for election.
 - There were also six mayoral positions for election and a by-election in Runcorn and Helsby for a new MP.
 - These were the first local elections to follow the 2024 General Election.
 - Results, which are still coming in, show gains for Reform UK and move away from traditional Labour/Conservative duopoly.
 - The below briefing note highlights the results in seats of relevance for CCUS deployment.
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Councils

Yesterday, elections were held for 1,600 council seats across 23 English councils - the first since 2021. While final vote share figures are still pending (*as of 3pm Friday 2 May*), with only 10 of the 23 councils declared so far, early results suggest a significant shift in voting: for the first time in decades, the Conservatives and Labour are expected to secure less than half of the total vote combined. Reform UK has made significant gains, winning control of Durham, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, and Derbyshire county councils. According to polling expert Sir John Curtice, with 900 wards declared, Reform has won over half and could end up with some 800 seats across these elections as a whole.

Runcorn and Helsby by-election



Reform won the Runcorn and Helsby by-election by just six votes - a constituency of importance to the HyNet Cluster. Sarah Pochin overturned a 14,696 majority, becoming Reform's fifth MP on a 17.4% swing from Labour in what was one of the Party's safest seats.

Sarah Pochin MP Biography

- Prior to entering politics, Pochin worked in the energy sector for Shell and Novar, and also sat as a magistrate for 20 years.
- Pochin first entered politics as a Conservative, being elected to Cheshire East Council in 2015 in the Willaston and Rope ward.
- In 2019 Pochin stood in the Bunbury ward in Cheshire East, and was elected again, but after accepting the position of the Mayor of Cheshire East, which was offered by the governing Labour-Independent council, she was suspended and expelled from the Conservative Party as this was said to be breaking their rules. She decided to serve as mayor and stand as an independent councillor from then on in.
- In 2022 Pochin was expelled from the Independent Group for rejoining the Conservative Party to vote in the 2022 leadership election after Boris Johnson resigned as prime minister.
- Reform UK opposes the UK's net zero target and related policies. The Party advocated for increased fossil fuel extraction and nuclear energy. Reform claim scrapping net zero subsidies would save the public sector £30 billion per year. The Party criticised the £21.7 billion

funding commitment for CCUS announced in October 2024, noting that pensioners will see the spend as “absolutely extraordinary”.

Metro mayors



Greater Lincolnshire (REFORM WIN) - former Conservative MP and minister Dame Andrea Jenkyns, who defected to Reform last year and is a news and current affairs journalist for GB News, became the region's first mayor. She won with a majority of almost 40,000 over the Conservatives. The combined authority covers nine areas. These are North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, Boston, Lincoln, East Lindsey, West Lindsey, North Kesteven, South Kesteven, and South Holland local council areas.

Hull and East Yorkshire (*Announcement is pending*) - new mayoralty, being elected for the first time in 2025. The combined authority area covers both Hull City and East Riding of Yorkshire local council areas.



West of England (LABOUR HOLD) – Helen Godwin has held the Labour seat but their margin has been cut in half to just under 6,000 votes. Labour won 25% of the votes, Reform claimed 22.1%, while the Green party secured 20%. The combined authority covers three areas: Bristol City, South Gloucestershire, and Bath and North East Somerset local council areas. The authority was established in 2017.

City mayors



Doncaster (LABOUR HOLD) - Labour's Ros Jones, who has been the Mayor of Doncaster since 2013, has been re-elected, but came just 698 votes ahead of the Reform candidate. Jones was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2017 New Year Honours for services to local government. In the 2018 World Mayor prize, Jones came runner up.



North Tyneside (LABOUR HOLD) – Labour's Karen Clark has held onto the mayoralty of North Tyneside with a thin majority of 444 votes, with Reform coming in second place. Clark succeeds Dame Norma Redfearn, who had held the post since 2013. In her mayoral campaign, Clark campaigned on economic investment, employment and continuity with Redfearn's administration, stating she would focus on introducing "good quality jobs", attracting additional government funding for North Tyneside and cooperating with local businesses to attract economic growth. Clark has been a North Tyneside councillor since 2015.
