



A directory of councils with elections on 2nd May 2024

Elections will take place on Thursday 2nd May 2024 for the Greater London Authority (Mayor and Assembly) and for 105 local authorities in England. Also on the same day will be a city Mayoral election in Salford and 'Metro-Mayor' elections for the combined authorities of Greater Manchester, the Liverpool City Region, the new North East Mayoral Combined Authority, Tees Valley, West Midlands and West Yorkshire.

This directory, an annual production of the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition (TUSC), provides a breakdown by region of the councils being contested, with the number of councillors up for election and the current political control in each council listed. Of the 105 councils, 49 are Labour-led, 27 have a Conservative majority, nine are led by the Liberal Democrats, and 20 are under no overall control.

Most councillors will be elected in single-seat wards except in Bristol, Gloucester, Rotherham, Stroud and Warrington, which have a four-yearly electoral cycle; North Hertfordshire, which is moving to quadrennial elections from 2024; and Stevenage, with ward boundary changes.

The BBC sets a 'one-sixth' threshold for 'fair media coverage' from the broadcasting authorities so, it argues, 'a significant proportion of those watching or listening should have the opportunity to vote for the party concerned'.

There are still ongoing boundary reviews and re-organisation proposals to be factored but a current estimate is that around 2,040 councillors will be elected in May 2024. On that basis, to meet the BBC's 'fair coverage' criterion as applied to the total number of seats contested, would mean a minimum of 340 TUSC candidates would have to stand.

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The 2024 elections: The council battlegrounds

Below is a breakdown of the councils being contested in May 2024, with the number of councillors up for election in each council and the current political control.

Eastern

Number of councils with elections: 24 Total number of seats up for election: 370

Basildon

Conservative-controlled – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Brentwood

No overall control – 12 seats (one-third) up for election

Broxbourne

Conservative-controlled – 10 seats (one-third) up for election

Cambridge

Labour-controlled – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Castle Point

Conservative-controlled – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

Colchester

No overall control – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Epping Forest

Conservative-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

Harlow

Conservative-controlled – 11 seats (one-third) up for election

Ipswich

Labour-controlled – 16 seats (one-third) up for election

Milton Keynes

No overall control – 19 seats (one-third) up for election

North Hertfordshire

Conservative-controlled – All 45 seats up for election – moving to four-yearly elections

Norwich

Labour-controlled – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

Peterborough

Conservative-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

Rochford

No overall control – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

St Albans

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 18 seats (one-third) up for election

Southend

No overall control – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Stevenage

Labour-controlled – All 39 seats up for election in 13 wards – boundary re-organisation

Three Rivers

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

Thurrock

Conservative-controlled – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Watford

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 12 seats (one-third) up for election

Welwyn Hatfield

Conservative-controlled – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

East Midlands

Number of councils with elections: 1 Total number of seats up for election: 11

Lincoln

Labour-controlled – 11 seats (one-third) up for election

Northern

Number of councils with elections: 6 Total number of seats up for election: 123

Gateshead

Labour-controlled – 22 seats (one-third) up for election

Hartlepool

Conservative-controlled – 12 seats (one-third) up for election

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Labour-controlled – 26 seats (one-third) up for election

North Tyneside

Labour-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

South Tyneside

Labour-controlled – 18 seats (one-third) up for election

Sunderland

Labour-controlled – 25 seats (one-third) up for election

North West

Number of councils with elections: 22 Total number of seats up for election: 446

Blackburn-with-Darwen

Labour-controlled – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Bolton

Labour-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

Burnley

Labour-controlled – 15 seats (one-third) up for election

Bury

Labour-controlled – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Chorley

Labour-controlled – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Halton

Labour-controlled – 18 seats (one-third) up for election

Hyndburn

Labour-controlled – 12 seats (one-third) up for election

Knowsley

Labour-controlled – 15 seats (one-third) up for election

Manchester

Labour-controlled – 32 seats (one-third) up for election

Oldham

Labour-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

Pendle

No overall control – 11 seats (one-third) up for election

Preston

Labour-controlled – 16 seats (one-third) up for election

Rochdale

Labour-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

Rossendale

Labour-controlled – 12 seats (one-third) up for election

Salford

Labour-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

Sefton

Labour-controlled – 22 seats (one-third) up for election

Stockport

No overall control – 21 seats (one-third) up for election

Tameside

Labour-controlled – 19 seats (one-third) up for election

Trafford

Labour-controlled – 21 seats (one-third) up for election

Warrington

Labour-controlled – All 58 seats all-up for election in 22 wards

West Lancashire

Labour-controlled – 18 seats (one-third) up for election

Wigan

Labour-controlled – 25 seats (one-third) up for election

South East

Number of councils with elections: 26 Total number of seats up for election: 393

Adur

Conservative-controlled – 14 seats (one-half) up for election

Basingstoke and Deane

Conservative-controlled – 18 seats (one-third) up for election

Cherwell

No overall control – 16 seats (one-third) up for election

Crawley

Conservative-controlled – 12 seats (one-third) up for election

Eastleigh

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

Elmbridge

Conservative-controlled – 16 seats (one-third) up for election

Fareham

Conservative-controlled – 15 seats (one-half) up for election

Hart

No overall control – 11 seats (one-third) up for election

Hastings

Labour-controlled – 16 seats (one-half) up for election

Havant

Conservative-controlled – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Maidstone

No overall control – 19 seats (one-third) up for election

Mole Valley

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

Oxford

Labour-controlled – 24 seats (one-half) up for election

Portsmouth

No overall control – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Reading

Labour-controlled – 16 seats (one-third) up for election

Reigate and Banstead

Conservative-controlled – 15 seats (one-third) up for election

Runnymede

Conservative-controlled – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Rushmoor

Conservative-controlled – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

Southampton

Labour-controlled – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Tandridge

No overall control – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Tunbridge Wells

No overall control – 16 seats (one-third) up for election

West Oxfordshire

No overall control – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Winchester

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 15 seats (one-third) up for election

Woking

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 10 seats (one-third) up for election

Wokingham

No overall control – 18 seats (one-third) up for election

Worthing

Labour-controlled – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

South West

Number of councils with elections: 7 Total number of seats up for election: 231

Bristol

No overall control – All 70 seats (in 34 wards) up for election

Cheltenham

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 20 seats (one-half) up for election

Exeter

Labour-controlled – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

Gloucester

Conservative-controlled – All 39 seats (in 18 wards) up for election

Plymouth

Labour-controlled – 19 seats (one-third) up for election

Stroud

No overall control – All 51 seats (in 17 wards) up for election

Swindon

Labour-controlled – 19 seats (one-third) up for election

West Midlands

Number of councils with elections: 12 Total number of seats up for election: 198

Cannock Chase

No overall control – 13 seats (one-third) up for election

Coventry

Labour-controlled – 18 seats (one-third) up for election

Dudley

Conservative-controlled – 24 seats (one-third) up for election

Nuneaton & Bedworth

Conservative-controlled – 17 seats (one-half) up for election

Redditch

Conservative-controlled – 9 seats (one-third) up for election

Rugby

Conservative-controlled – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Sandwell

Labour-controlled – 24 seats (one-third) up for election

Solihull

Conservative-controlled – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Tamworth

No overall control – 10 seats (one-third) up for election

Walsall

Conservative-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

Wolverhampton

Labour-controlled – 20 seats (one-third) up for election

Worcester

No overall control – 12 seats (one-third) up for election

Yorkshire

Number of councils with elections: 10 Total number of seats up for election: 268

Barnsley

Labour-controlled – 21 seats (one-third) up for election

Bradford

Labour-controlled – 30 seats (one-third) up for election

Calderdale

Labour-controlled – 17 seats (one-third) up for election

Hull

Liberal Democrat-controlled – 19 seats (one-third) up for election

Kirklees

Labour-controlled – 23 seats (one-third) up for election

Leeds

Labour-controlled – 33 seats (one-third) up for election

North East Lincolnshire

Conservative-controlled – 14 seats (one-third) up for election

Rotherham

Labour-controlled – All 59 seats (in 21 wards) up for election

Sheffield

Labour-controlled – 28 seats (one-third) up for election

Wakefield

Labour-controlled – 21 seats (one-third) up for election