

NEWS YOU CAN USE ON THE DOORSTEP - Election Special

From the Leader of the Council

In what one local newspaper described as “a landslide,” the Conservatives retained control of Staffordshire County Council at the local elections on May 4 after securing 51 seats of the 62 seats. This is an increase of 17 seats on the 2013 results, giving us confirmation and endorsement that we are focusing on and doing the right things with an overall majority of 41.

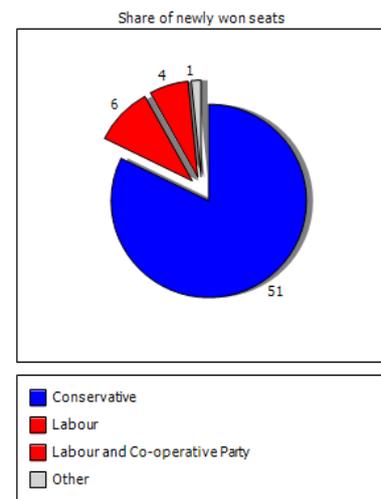


This stunning result gives the Conservatives under Leader Philip Atkins and his administration an historic third term of office having taken control in 2009 for the first time in 28 years. A result of this kind has not been achieved by the Conservatives since before the Second World War.

All 62 Staffordshire County Council seats were contested on May 4. After the overnight count in Tamworth, counting took place in the remaining district and borough council areas. Tamworth proved an early harbinger of Conservative success—the party took all six seats that were up for election.

In Newcastle-under-Lyme Conservatives took 3 more making 6 of the 9 Divisions, a key pointer to what is now a marginal Labour constituency. If the Conservatives take the constituency at the General Election it would be the first time Labour have lost there since 1919 and make Staffordshire completely blue.

The final 2017 results in Staffordshire were: Conservative 51 seats, Labour 10 and Independent 1. The outcome was a huge reverse for Labour compared to 2013 when the outcome was Conservative 34, Labour 24, UKIP 2 and Independent 2. Liberal Democrats won no seats. Labour heartland Divisions fell such as Kidsgrove, taken with a majority of 90 and Stonydelph in Tamworth with a majority of just 15. Brereton and Ravenhill in Rugeley nearly fell too with only 103 votes in it.



Of the total votes cast Conservatives took 54%, Labour 28%, UKIP 6%, Liberals 5% and Greens 5%.

Staffordshire County Council Leader Philip Atkins said after the count:

“We are delighted to be given this massive vote of confidence and mandate to lead Staffordshire County Council for the next four years and I would like to thank all those who voted in this year’s election.

“I would also like to thank all those who stood for office in the elections and, in particular, all those councillors who will not be re-joining us in the council chamber this year for all their hard work for the council and for the communities they represented.

“There are challenging times ahead of us and our priority over the coming four years will be to continue to grow the Staffordshire economy, create better jobs and opportunities for skills and learning. We want to support more people to lead healthier, more independent lives for as long as possible. In so doing we will work closely with our statutory partners over the next four years especially to improve the co-operation between the NHS and social care. Our aim is to support not only our elderly residents but also looked after children and people with mental health issues.”

The new Cabinet will be confirmed at a meeting of the Full Council on May 25.

This is clear endorsement that only Staffordshire Conservatives will help secure Staffordshire’s people’s brighter future together.

Thank you for voting Conservative on the 4th May, 2017

Philip Atkins

Conservative Leader - Staffordshire County Council

