

COMMITTEE:	COUNCIL
DATE:	15 MAY 2002
SUBJECT:	BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS HELD ON 2 MAY 2002
REPORT OF:	RETURNING OFFICER
Ward(s):	All
Purpose:	To formally advise the Council of the results of the elections held on 2 May 2002 and the names of the elected candidates and their terms of office.
Contact:	Martin Ray, Chief Executive. Telephone 01323 415002 or internally on extension 5102. David Robinson, Member Services Manager. Telephone 01323 415022 or internally on extension 5022.
Recommendation:	To note the report.

1.0	<u>Introduction</u>	
1.1	This report deals with the elections held on Thursday 2 May 2002. Details of the results and of the candidates elected are given together with other related information.	

1.2	These elections were held following a periodic electoral review conducted by the Local Government Commission for England. The review which was commenced in 2000 was completed last year. At the conclusion of the review the Local Government Commission submitted a report to the Secretary of State for Transport, Local Government and the Regions in August 2001. On the 20 December 2001 the Secretary of State made the Borough of Eastbourne (Electoral Changes) Order 2001.		
1.3	The Order provided for the Borough to be divided into nine wards. Each ward to have three Councillors. Elections for all Councillors for all wards were to be held in May 2002. The Councillor in each ward elected with the highest number of votes would be given a term of office of four years. The Councillor with the second highest number of votes the term of two years and the Councillor elected with the third highest vote given a term of one year. Thereafter elections would be by thirds with Councillors having a four year term of office.		
2.0	<u>Results</u>		
2.1	A copy of the full election results is attached at Appendix 1.		
2.2	The candidates elected and their terms of office (see note below) are as follows:-		
	Ward:	Councillor's full name:	Term of office:
	Devonshire	Beryl Anne HEALY	2006
		Beryl Josephine TESO	2004
		Neil David Aloysius STANLEY	2003
	Hampden Park	Mary Anne POOLEY	2006
		Michael John THOMPSON	2004
		Olive Marian Mary WOODALL	2003
	Langney	Christopher John BERRY	2006

	Irene SIMS	2004
	Robert Mark SLATER	2003
Meads	David Guy STEVENS	2006
	Barry Edward TAYLOR	2004
	David Walter ELKIN	2003
Old Town	Albert Edward LEGGETT	2006
	Maurice SKILTON	2004
	John Brendan CREAVER	2003
Ratton	Colin Sidney BELSEY	2006
	Barbara Mary Verene GOODALL	2004
	Sandie Mary HOWLETT	2003
St Anthony's	David Owen TUTT	2006
	John Paul HARRIS	2004
	Norman James MARSH	2003
Sovereign	Patrick John BOWKER	2006
	Christopher Robin John WILLIAMS	2004

		Patrick Hugh Daniel WARNER	2003
	Upperton	Graham Harvey MARSDEN	2006
		Robert Macleod LACEY	2004
		Ann Patricia MURRAY	2003
	Note regarding term of office. The term of office will expire on the 4 th day after the ordinary day of election (i.e. the first Thursday in May) in the year given above for the councillor.		
3.0	<u>Electoral Turnout Figures</u>		
3.1	The total electorate was 70,596. Overall the electoral turnout was 33.9%. This compared with 30.9% when local elections were last held in the Borough on the 4 May 2000. The turnout ranged from 25.8% in Langney Ward to 45.0% in Old Town Ward.		
4.0	<u>Poll Cards</u>		
4.1	This year for the first time they were printed in a larger format with additional information given drawing voter's attention to ward and polling stations changes and encouraging applications for postal votes. The poll cards were despatched some three and a half weeks prior to election day.		
5.0	<u>Absent Voting</u>		
5.1	A total of 3404 postal votes were sent out. Of these 2368 were returned (69.5%). A total of 50 postal votes had to be rejected (these comprised 32 with incomplete declarations of identity, 17 without the declaration of identity and one where the voter did not return the ballot paper).		

5.2	The number of postal votes sent out in May 2000 was 1872 of which 1249 (66.7%) were returned and of these 30 were rejected. This was before the rule changes (brought in just before the last General Election) which extended the deadline for applications and removed the need to give a reason for having a postal vote.	
5.3	A total of 204 proxy votes were granted. This compared with 163 in 2000.	
6.0	<u>Polling Stations</u>	
6.1	30 polling stations were opened between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 9.00 p.m. on the 2 May and a total of 114 people staff were employed for the day to staff the stations.	
7.0	<u>Counting Arrangements</u>	
7.1	A total of 100 staff were engaged for the purposes of the count which commenced at 9.00 p.m. on the 2 May. Other Council staff assisted, including Democratic Services staff, Town Hall reception and support staff and I.T. staff. The election count was broadcast on the Council's Internet site via a webcam and results were posted on the site immediately following declaration.	
7.2	The first result (Sovereign Ward) was declared at 11.50 p.m. with the final result (Upperton Ward) being declared shortly after at 12.25 a.m.	
7.3	The main feature of this year's elections was the fact that three Councillors were being elected in each ward rather than the normal one. A combination of counting methods were used. A large proportion of voters cast their votes by party and such ballots were sorted accordingly. Those ballots where voters had chosen to vote for less than two candidates or to vote for candidates of different parties were separately dealt with by means of special counting sheets.	
8.0	<u>De-briefing</u>	
8.1	As is now the usual practice, party election agents will be invited to a de-brief meeting with the objective of improving upon the arrangements for future years. This has yet to be arranged but I would anticipate that it will take place in late June or July. It would be helpful if any Members who wish to raise any issues or make suggestions for the future could draw these to my attention or raise direct them with their party agent.	
9.0	<u>Conclusion</u>	

9.1	In conclusion I would like to thank all the Council's staff and in particular the Democratic Services team for their efforts in the arrangements and successful conduct of the election process. I would also wish to thank the Party Agents for their co-operation and understanding.	
Martin Ray		
Returning Officer and Chief Executive		
Background Papers:		
None.		
(der\P:council\15.05.10\returning officer report)		

RESULTS OF ELECTIONS HELD ON THURSDAY 2 MAY 2002

Devonshire Ward	Electorate:	8496	Turnout:	27.9%
------------------------	-------------	------	----------	-------

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	Martin Kingsley CHARLTON		515
	Sandra Margaret ELKIN		500
	Diane Susan LEAGAS		453
Green	Daniel John RICHARDSON		269
Labour	Peter Louis TUCKER		223
Liberal Democrats	Beryl Anne HEALY	E	1600

	Neil David Aloysius STANLEY	E	1462
	Beryl Josephine TESO	E	1480

Hampden Park Ward	Electorate:	7645	Turnout:	29.2%
--------------------------	-------------	------	----------	-------

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	Pamela Evelyn COOK		321
	Russell RISELEY		312
	Jeanie Elizabeth SOWERBY		328
Green	Leslie DALTON		114
	Richard Irvine LUXFORD		79
	Finbar O'SHEA		112
Labour	David Charles BRINSON		514
	Martin John FALKNER		451
	Nora Ann RING		523
Liberal Democrats	Mary Anne POOLEY	E	1278
	Michael John THOMPSON	E	1149

	Olive Marian Mary WOODALL	E	1145
--	-------------------------------------	----------	------

Langney Ward	Electorate:	7752	Turnout:	25.8%
---------------------	-------------	------	----------	-------

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	Iain Charles ANDREWS		574
	Alexander Richard RICHARDS		596
	Thomas John WALTERS		554
Green	Christine May QUARRINGTON		86
Labour	John MORRISON		139
	Jonathan Stephen PETTIGREW		109
Liberal Democrats	Christopher John BERRY	E	1255
	Irene SIMS	E	1178
	Robert Mark SLATER	E	1118

Meads Ward	Electorate:	8216	Turnout:	38.9%
-------------------	-------------	------	----------	-------

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	David Walter ELKIN	E	1949

	David Guy STEVENS	E	2001
	Barry Edward TAYLOR	E	1967
Green	Clive Samuel GROSS		351
Labour	John Alan PETTIGREW		280
Liberal Democrats	Kevin David AYLOTT		662
	Beverley Mary BERRY		731
	Margaret Diane TICEHURST		686
UK Independence	Kenneth Stanley ALDERTON		174
	Royston John MARYAN		129

Old Town Ward	Electorate:	8244	Turnout:	45%
----------------------	-------------	------	----------	-----

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	Simon David HERBERT		1166
	Ian James LUCAS		1252
	John Ross STANBURY		1156
Green	Liam Anthony STEVENS		408
Independent	Michael Scott PHIPP		146

Labour	Robert David ROSSETTER		216
Liberal Democrats	John Brendan CREAVEN	E	1942
	Albert Edward LEGGETT	E	2161
	Maurice SKILTON	E	2153

Ratton Ward	Electorate:	7944	Turnout:	35.4%
--------------------	-------------	------	----------	-------

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	Colin Sidney BELSEY	E	1641
	Barbara Mary Verene GOODALL	E	1628
	Sandie Mary HOWLETT	E	1564
Green	Nancy Jane DALTON		242
Labour	David Robert BUCK		295
Liberal Democrats	Penelope Susan CUNLIFFE-LISTER		793
	Jacqueline Lesley HARRIS		806
	Mary Theresa SCHMOLLER		661

St Anthony's Ward	Electorate:	8488	Turnout:	35.8%
--------------------------	-------------	------	----------	-------

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	Sheila CHARLTON		827
	John Joseph Stanley DAVIDSON		762
	John Paul WILTON		705
Green	Robert SIER		164
Labour	Helen SEDEWICK		221
Liberal Democrats	John Paul HARRIS	E	1987
	Norman James MARSH	E	1907
	David Owen TUTT	E	2005

Sovereign Ward	Electorate:	5949	Turnout:	31.8%
-----------------------	-------------	------	----------	-------

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	Patrick John BOWKER	E	1001
	Patrick Hugh Daniel WARNER	E	925
	Christopher Robin John WILLIAMS	E	970

Green	Jocelyn MCCARTHY		124
Independent	Linus GUNNING		175
Labour	Jacqueline Anne PILKINGTON		172
Liberal Democrats	Michael Robert BLOOM		638
	Alan Robert CARROLL		648
	Richard William ELLIS		632

Upperton Ward	Electorate:	7862	Turnout:	34%
----------------------	-------------	------	----------	-----

Party:	Candidate:	E if elected	Votes
Conservative	Robert Macleod LACEY	E	1332
	Graham Harvey MARSDEN	E	1390
	Ann Patricia MURRAY	E	1311
Green	Susan MONTAGUE		292
Labour	Michael Arthur TUCKER		213
Liberal Democrats	Stuart James PRITCHER		964
	Troy Aiden TESTER		989
	Brian John WHITBY		966

Old Council: 18 Conservative and 12 Liberal Democrats

New Council: 15 Liberal Democrats and 12 Conservative