



Local authority political control 2009

Through the Local Government Association's [Local Democracy Campaign](#) we want to celebrate local democratic decision making. Working with councils, we aim to raise public awareness about the opportunities to influence decisions through the ballot box and to show people how voting can genuinely influence how the local services they use are provided. We want to create a new politics where citizens positively engage with exciting, relevant and vibrant local democracy. The campaign aims to identify some of the unique features of the local political landscape and suggest what these might tell us about the future of our local democracy.

This factsheet represents a snapshot in time and figures are subject to change with by-elections etc. Figures are accurate as of August 2009.

Authority name	Authority type	Political Control	UK region
Adur	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Allerdale	Shire District	NOC	North West
Amber Valley	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Anglesey	Welsh Unitary	Independent	Wales
Arun	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Ashfield	Shire District	NOC	East Midlands
Ashford	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Aylesbury Vale	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Babergh	Shire District	NOC	East of England
Barking And Dagenham	London Borough	Labour	London
Barnet	London Borough	Conservative	London
Barnsley	Metropolitan District	Labour	Yorkshire and the Humber
Barrow In Furness	Shire District	NOC	North West
Basildon	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Basingstoke And Deane	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Bassetlaw	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Bath & North East Somerset	English Unitary	NOC	South West
Bedford	English Unitary	NOC	East of England
Bexley	London Borough	Conservative	London
Birmingham	Metropolitan District	NOC	West Midlands
Blaby	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Blackburn With Darwen	English Unitary	NOC	North West
Blackpool	English Unitary	Conservative	North West
Blaenau Gwent	Welsh Unitary	Independent	Wales
Bolsover	Shire District	Labour	East Midlands
Bolton	Metropolitan District	NOC	North West
Boston	Shire District	Independent	East Midlands
Bournemouth	English Unitary	Conservative	South West
Bracknell Forest	English Unitary	Conservative	South East
Bradford	Metropolitan District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Braintree	Shire District	Conservative	East of England

Authority name	Authority type	Political Control	UK region
Breckland	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Brent	London Borough	NOC	London
Brentwood	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Bridgend	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Brighton & Hove	English Unitary	NOC	South East
Bristol	English Unitary	Liberal Democrat	South West
Broadland	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Bromley	London Borough	Conservative	London
Bromsgrove	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Broxbourne	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Broxtowe	Shire District	NOC	East Midlands
Buckinghamshire	Shire County	Conservative	South East
Burnley	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	North West
Bury	Metropolitan District	Conservative	North West
Caerphilly	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Calderdale	Metropolitan District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Cambridge	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East of England
Cambridgeshire	Shire County	Conservative	East of England
Camden	London Borough	NOC	London
Cannock Chase	Shire District	NOC	West Midlands
Canterbury	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Cardiff	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Carlisle	Shire District	NOC	North West
Carmarthenshire	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Castle Point	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Central Beds	English Unitary	Conservative	East of England
Ceredigion	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Charnwood	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Chelmsford	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Cheltenham	Shire District	NOC	South West
Cherwell	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Cheshire East	English Unitary	Conservative	North West
Cheshire West And Chester	English Unitary	Conservative	North West
Chesterfield	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East Midlands
Chichester	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Chiltern	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Chorley	Shire District	Conservative	North West
Christchurch	Shire District	Conservative	South West
Colchester	Shire District	NOC	East of England
Conwy	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Copeland	Shire District	Labour	North West
Corby	Shire District	Labour	East Midlands
Cornwall	English Unitary	NOC	South West
Cotswold	Shire District	Conservative	South West
Coventry	Metropolitan District	NOC	West Midlands
Craven	Shire District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Crawley	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Croydon	London Borough	Conservative	London
Cumbria	Shire County	NOC	North West
Dacorum	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Darlington	English Unitary	Labour	North East
Dartford	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Daventry	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Denbighshire	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Derby	English Unitary	NOC	East Midlands
Derbyshire	Shire County	Conservative	East Midlands
Derbyshire Dales	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Devon	Shire County	Conservative	South West
Doncaster	Metropolitan District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Dorset	Shire County	Conservative	South West
Dover	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Dudley	Metropolitan District	Conservative	West Midlands
Durham	English Unitary	Labour	North East

Authority name	Authority type	Political Control	UK region
Ealing	London Borough	Conservative	London
East Cambridgeshire	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
East Devon	Shire District	Conservative	South West
East Dorset	Shire District	Conservative	South West
East Hampshire	Shire District	Conservative	South East
East Hertfordshire	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
East Lindsey	Shire District	NOC	East Midlands
East Northamptonshire	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
East Riding Of Yorkshire	English Unitary	Conservative	Yorkshire and the Humber
East Staffordshire	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
East Sussex	Shire County	Conservative	South East
Eastbourne	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	South East
Eastleigh	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	South East
Eden	Shire District	NOC	North West
Elmbridge	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Enfield	London Borough	Conservative	London
Epping Forest	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Epsom And Ewell	Shire District	Independent	South East
Erewash	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Essex	Shire County	Conservative	East of England
Exeter	Shire District	NOC	South West
Fareham	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Fenland	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Flintshire	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Forest Heath	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Forest Of Dean	Shire District	Conservative	South West
Fylde	Shire District	Conservative	North West
Gateshead	Metropolitan District	Labour	North East
Gedling	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Gloucester	Shire District	NOC	South West
Gloucestershire	Shire County	Conservative	South West
Gosport	Shire District	NOC	South East
Gravesham	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Great Yarmouth	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Greenwich	London Borough	Labour	London
Guildford	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Gwynedd	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Hackney	London Borough	Labour	London
Halton	English Unitary	Labour	North West
Hambleton	Shire District	Conservative	Yorkshire and the Humber
Hammersmith & Fulham	London Borough	Conservative	London
Hampshire	Shire County	Conservative	South East
Harborough	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Haringey	London Borough	Labour	London
Harlow	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Harrogate	Shire District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Harrow	London Borough	Conservative	London
Hart	Shire District	NOC	South East
Hartlepool	English Unitary	NOC	North East
Hastings	Shire District	NOC	South East
Havant	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Havering	London Borough	Conservative	London
Herefordshire	English Unitary	Conservative	West Midlands
Hertfordshire	Shire County	Conservative	East of England
Hertsmere	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
High Peak	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Hillingdon	London Borough	Conservative	London
Hinckley And Bosworth	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East Midlands
Horsham	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Hounslow	London Borough	NOC	London
Huntingdonshire	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Hyndburn	Shire District	Conservative	North West
Ipswich	Shire District	NOC	East of England

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Isle Of Wight	English Unitary	Conservative	South East
Islington	London Borough	NOC	London
Kensington And Chelsea	London Borough	Conservative	London
Kent	Shire County	Conservative	South East
Kettering	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Kings Lynn & W Norfolk	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Kingston Upon Hull	English Unitary	Liberal Democrat	Yorkshire and the Humber
Kingston Upon Thames	London Borough	Liberal Democrat	London
Kirklees	Metropolitan District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Knowsley	Metropolitan District	Labour	North West
Lambeth	London Borough	Labour	London
Lancashire	Shire County	Conservative	North West
Lancaster	Shire District	NOC	North West
Leeds	Metropolitan District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Leicester	English Unitary	Labour	East Midlands
Leicestershire	Shire County	Conservative	East Midlands
Lewes	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	South East
Lewisham	London Borough	NOC	London
Lichfield	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Lincoln	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Lincolnshire	Shire County	Conservative	East Midlands
Liverpool	Metropolitan District	NOC	North West
Luton	English Unitary	Labour	East of England
Maidstone	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Maldon	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Malvern Hills	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Manchester	Metropolitan District	Labour	North West
Mansfield	Shire District	Independent	East Midlands
Medway Towns	English Unitary	Conservative	South East
Melton	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Mendip	Shire District	Conservative	South West
Merthyr Tydfil	Welsh Unitary	Independent	Wales
Merton	London Borough	NOC	London
Mid Devon	Shire District	NOC	South West
Mid Suffolk	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Mid Sussex	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Middlesbrough	English Unitary	Labour	North East
Milton Keynes	English Unitary	NOC	South East
Mole Valley	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Monmouthshire	Welsh Unitary	Conservative	Wales
Neath And Port Talbot	Welsh Unitary	Labour	Wales
New Forest	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Newark & Sherwood	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Newcastle Upon Tyne	Metropolitan District	Liberal Democrat	North East
Newcastle-Under-Lyme	Shire District	NOC	West Midlands
Newham	London Borough	Labour	London
Newport	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Norfolk	Shire County	Conservative	East of England
North Somerset	English Unitary	Conservative	South West
North Devon	Shire District	Conservative	South West
North Dorset	Shire District	Conservative	South West
North East Derbyshire	Shire District	Labour	East Midlands
North East Lincolnshire	English Unitary	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
North Hertfordshire	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
North Kesteven	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
North Lincolnshire	English Unitary	Labour	Yorkshire and the Humber
North Norfolk	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East of England
North Tyneside	Metropolitan District	Conservative	North East
North Warwickshire	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
North West Leicestershire	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
North Yorkshire	Shire County	Conservative	Yorkshire and the Humber
Northampton	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East Midlands
Northamptonshire	Shire County	Conservative	East Midlands

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Northumberland	English Unitary	NOC	North East
Norwich	Shire District	NOC	East of England
Nottingham	English Unitary	Labour	East Midlands
Nottinghamshire	Shire County	Conservative	East Midlands
Nuneaton And Bedworth	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Oadby And Wigston	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East Midlands
Oldham	Metropolitan District	NOC	North West
Oxford	Shire District	NOC	South East
Oxfordshire	Shire County	Conservative	South East
Pembrokeshire	Welsh Unitary	Independent	Wales
Pendle	Shire District	NOC	North West
Peterborough	English Unitary	Conservative	East of England
Plymouth	English Unitary	Conservative	South West
Poole	English Unitary	Conservative	South West
Portsmouth	English Unitary	Liberal Democrat	South East
Powys	Welsh Unitary	Independent	Wales
Preston	Shire District	NOC	North West
Purbeck	Shire District	NOC	South West
Reading	English Unitary	NOC	South East
Redbridge	London Borough	Conservative	London
Redcar And Cleveland	English Unitary	NOC	North East
Redditch	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Reigate And Banstead	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Rhondda/Cynon/Taff	Welsh Unitary	Labour	Wales
Ribble Valley	Shire District	Conservative	North West
Richmond Upon Thames	London Borough	Liberal Democrat	London
Richmondshire	Shire District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Rochdale	Metropolitan District	Liberal Democrat	North West
Rochford	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Rossendale	Shire District	Conservative	North West
Rother	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Rotherham	Metropolitan District	Labour	Yorkshire and the Humber
Rugby	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Runnymede	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Rushcliffe	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Rushmoor	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Rutland	English Unitary	Conservative	East Midlands
Ryedale	Shire District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Salford	Metropolitan District	Labour	North West
Sandwell	Metropolitan District	Labour	West Midlands
Scarborough	Shire District	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber
Sedgemoor	Shire District	Conservative	South West
Sefton	Metropolitan District	NOC	North West
Selby	Shire District	Conservative	Yorkshire and the Humber
Sevenoaks	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Sheffield	Metropolitan District	Liberal Democrat	Yorkshire and the Humber
Shepway	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Shropshire	English Unitary	Conservative	West Midlands
Slough	English Unitary	Labour	South East
Solihull	Metropolitan District	Conservative	West Midlands
Somerset	Shire County	Conservative	South West
South Buckinghamshire	Shire District	Conservative	South East
South Cambridgeshire	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
South Derbyshire	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
South Gloucestershire	English Unitary	NOC	South West
South Hams	Shire District	Conservative	South West
South Holland	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
South Kesteven	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
South Lakeland	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	North West
South Norfolk	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
South Northamptonshire	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
South Oxfordshire	Shire District	Conservative	South East
South Ribble	Shire District	Conservative	North West

Authority name	Authority type	Political Control	UK region
South Somerset	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	South West
South Staffordshire	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
South Tyneside	Metropolitan District	Labour	North East
Southampton	English Unitary	Conservative	South East
Southend On Sea	English Unitary	Conservative	East of England
Southwark	London Borough	NOC	London
Spelthorne	Shire District	Conservative	South East
St Albans	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East of England
St Edmundsbury	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
St Helens	Metropolitan District	NOC	North West
Stafford	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Staffordshire	Shire County	Conservative	West Midlands
Staffs Moorlands	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Stevenage	Shire District	Labour	East of England
Stockport	Metropolitan District	Liberal Democrat	North West
Stockton-On-Tees	English Unitary	NOC	North East
Stoke On Trent	English Unitary	NOC	West Midlands
Stratford On Avon	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Stroud	Shire District	Conservative	South West
Suffolk	Shire County	Conservative	East of England
Suffolk Coastal	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Sunderland	Metropolitan District	Labour	North East
Surrey	Shire County	Conservative	South East
Surrey Heath	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Sutton	London Borough	Liberal Democrat	London
Swale	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Swansea	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Swindon	English Unitary	Conservative	South West
Tameside	Metropolitan District	Labour	North West
Tamworth	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Tandridge	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Taunton Deane	Shire District	NOC	South West
Teignbridge	Shire District	NOC	South West
Telford & Wrekin	English Unitary	NOC	West Midlands
Tendring	Shire District	NOC	East of England
Test Valley	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Tewkesbury	Shire District	NOC	South West
Thanet	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Three Rivers	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East of England
Thurrock	English Unitary	NOC	East of England
Tonbridge And Malling	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Torbay	English Unitary	Conservative	South West
Torfaen	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Torridge	Shire District	NOC	South West
Tower Hamlets	London Borough	Labour	London
Trafford	Metropolitan District	Conservative	North West
Tunbridge Wells	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Uttlesford	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Vale Of Glamorgan	Welsh Unitary	Conservative	Wales
Vale Of White Horse	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	South East
Wakefield	Metropolitan District	Labour	Yorkshire and the Humber
Walsall	Metropolitan District	Conservative	West Midlands
Waltham Forest	London Borough	NOC	London
Wandsworth	London Borough	Conservative	London
Warrington	English Unitary	NOC	North West
Warwick	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Warwickshire	Shire County	Conservative	West Midlands
Watford	Shire District	Liberal Democrat	East of England
Waveney	Shire District	Conservative	East of England
Waverley	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Wealden	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Wellingborough	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
Welwyn Hatfield	Shire District	Conservative	East of England

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West Berkshire	English Unitary	Conservative	South East
West Devon	Shire District	NOC	South West
West Dorset	Shire District	Conservative	South West
West Lancashire	Shire District	Conservative	North West
West Lindsey	Shire District	Conservative	East Midlands
West Oxfordshire	Shire District	Conservative	South East
West Somerset	Shire District	Independent	South West
West Sussex	Shire County	Conservative	South East
Westminster	London Borough	Conservative	London
Weymouth & Portland	Shire District	NOC	South West
Wigan	Metropolitan District	Labour	North West
Wiltshire	English Unitary	Conservative	South West
Winchester	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Windsor & Maidenhead	English Unitary	Conservative	South East
Wirral	Metropolitan District	NOC	North West
Woking	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Wokingham	English Unitary	Conservative	South East
Wolverhampton	Metropolitan District	NOC	West Midlands
Worcester	Shire District	NOC	West Midlands
Worcestershire	Shire County	Conservative	West Midlands
Worthing	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Wrexham	Welsh Unitary	NOC	Wales
Wychavon	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
Wycombe	Shire District	Conservative	South East
Wyre	Shire District	Conservative	North West
Wyre Forest	Shire District	Conservative	West Midlands
York	English Unitary	NOC	Yorkshire and the Humber

**LGA, Analysis and Research
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