

WEST OF ENGLAND

Combined Authority

BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET

BRISTOL

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

West of England Combined Authority

Mayoral Election

Thursday 4 May 2017



- Voting information
- The candidates – who they are, what they say

wevote.org.uk #WEvote

West of England Combined Authority Mayoral Election

The Mayoral Candidates

The West of England Combined Authority covers the area of Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire. On Thursday 4 May 2017 electors from these areas will have the opportunity to vote for the person they want to be Mayor for the West of England Combined Authority until 2021.

The West of England devolution deal brings powers and money from national Government and the ability to make more decisions locally. The West of England Combined Authority Mayor will work alongside the Bristol Mayor and Council Leaders of Bath & North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire to create a strategy for the combined area.

About this booklet

This booklet must be sent to you by law*. It includes:

- information about the election
- an election address (i.e. a statement) from each of the Mayoral candidates
- information on how to fill in your ballot paper and how the result will be calculated
- frequently asked questions

Your vote is important in deciding who the future West of England Combined Authority Mayor will be.

Stephen Hughes
Combined Authority Returning Officer

*One booklet must be distributed to each person entitled to vote at the election. This booklet has been produced in accordance with The Combined Authorities (Mayoral Elections) order 2017.

There are six candidates standing as Mayor for the West of England Combined Authority. Their statements appear in this booklet.

Candidates are listed in alphabetical order below. This is the order in which they will appear on the ballot paper.

- **BOWLES, Tim**
The Conservative Party Candidate
.....
- **FOOT, Aaron Warren**
UK Independence Party (UKIP)
.....
- **HALL, Darren Edward**
Green Party
.....
- **MANSELL, Lesley Ann**
Labour and Co-operative Party
.....
- **SAVAGE, John Christopher**
Independent
.....
- **WILLIAMS, Stephen**
Liberal Democrats
.....

The order in which the statements of candidates appear in this booklet has been determined by the drawing of lots by the Deputy Combined Authority Returning Officer, in accordance with The Combined Authorities (Mayoral Elections) order 2017.

Voting information

Every registered eligible elector will be sent an official poll card which will explain when, where and how to vote.

For details of your polling station you can also call your local council:

Bath & North East Somerset 01225 477 333
Bristol 0117 922 3400
South Gloucestershire 01454 863 030

Poll card

Election of the Mayor for West of England Combined Authority

Date of election Thursday 4th May 2017

Your details:

Number on register: ABCD 1234

You do not need to take this card with you in order to vote.

Please turn over >

Voting information	
Polling day	Thursday 4th May 2017
Voting hours	7am to 10pm
Your polling station will be:	

How to cast your vote

When you get to your polling station, you will receive a ballot paper for the Mayoral election. Postal voters will have this ballot paper in their pack.

This election uses the supplementary voting system. You will have two votes – one for your first choice candidate and one, if you wish, for your second choice candidate.

The ballot paper will list all the candidates standing. Next to the list of candidates there will be two columns.

1. Vote by putting an **X** in **column A**, next to the name of the candidate who is your first choice. You must vote in this column for your first choice to be counted.

2. Vote by putting an **X** in **column B**, next to the name of the candidate who is your second choice. If you do not vote in this column, your first choice vote will still be counted.

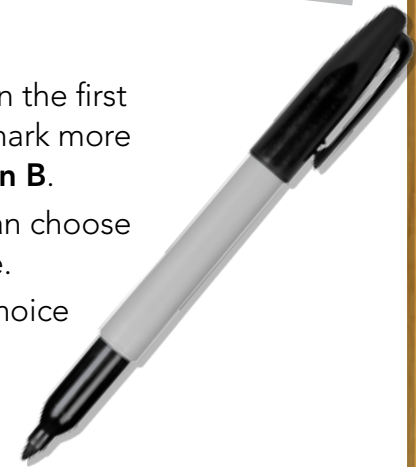
3. If you vote twice for the same candidate, your second vote will not be counted.

4. You should not mark more than one **X** in the first choice **column A**, and you should not mark more than one **X** in the second choice **column B**. If you have marked a first choice, you can choose whether or not to mark a second choice. If you only mark a cross in the second choice column, your vote will not be counted.

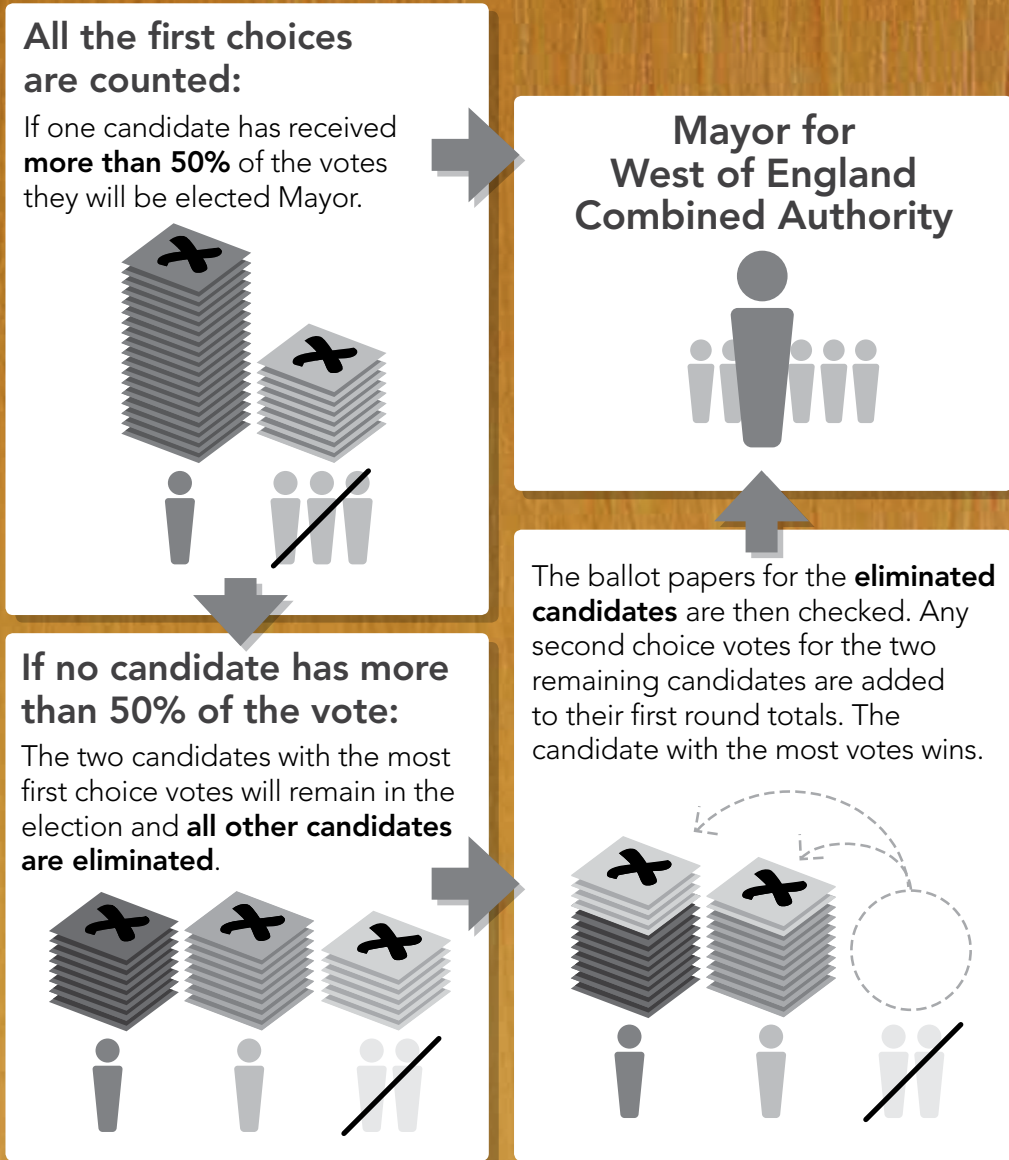
Election of the Mayor for West of England Combined Authority

Vote once in Column A for your first choice, and
Vote once in Column B for your second choice

	Column A first choice	Column B second choice
CANDIDATE SURNAME, First name Address Party name/Independent <small>Party logo</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CANDIDATE SURNAME, First name Address Party name/Independent <small>Party logo</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CANDIDATE SURNAME, First name Address Party name/Independent <small>Party logo</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CANDIDATE SURNAME, First name Address Party name/Independent <small>Party logo</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CANDIDATE SURNAME, First name Address Party name/Independent <small>Party logo</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CANDIDATE SURNAME, First name Address Party name/Independent <small>Party logo</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Who is elected?



Frequently asked questions

- **What is devolution?**

West of England devolution is a deal with national Government to transfer some of its funding and decision making powers to the West of England region (Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire). As part of the deal we need to have a regional authority and an elected regional Mayor.

- **What powers does the West of England Combined Authority have?**

It will have the ability to make local decisions about spatial planning for the region (including where new homes are planned and where investment in new services is needed to support their development), adult education and skills, employment and regional transport.

- **What is the difference between the West of England Combined Authority Mayor, Council Leaders and the Bristol Mayor?**

The West of England Combined Authority Mayor will be responsible for the additional powers and money devolved to the West of England Combined Authority. The Bristol Mayor and Council Leaders of Bath & North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire will continue to be responsible for all of their current council services, except where they choose (or have chosen) to transfer some of their powers to the Combined Authority.

• What happens to the existing local councils?

Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire councils will still exist. The West of England Combined Authority powers are in addition to and complement the existing powers within the local councils.

• Why two votes for one Mayor?

The law states the voting process for the Mayoral elections must be done this way. It also allows you to say who would be your second choice for Mayor if your first choice is not in the top two after the first round of counting, and if there is not an outright majority winner at that stage.

• I have lost my poll card, can I get another one?

If you are on the electoral register, you don't need a poll card to vote. You can attend the polling station and staff there will help you. The poll card is just to inform you that there is an election and explain where your polling station is.

• Why has every voter in my household been sent a booklet?

The law says that every registered voter must be sent their own copy, so they get a chance to see who the candidates are.

Election helplines:

Bath & North East Somerset	01225 477 333
Bristol	0117 922 3400
South Gloucestershire	01454 863 030

For more information visit wevote.org.uk

The candidates

The following pages contain statements from the candidates.

The content of these statements is the responsibility of the candidates themselves. The views expressed are theirs, and cannot be attributed to the Combined Authority Returning Officer, Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bristol City Council, South Gloucestershire Council or the West of England Combined Authority.

The order in which the statements appear in this booklet has been determined by the drawing of lots by the Deputy Combined Authority Returning Officer.



VOTE DARREN HALL, THE POSITIVE CHOICE

Leadership for the long term



This is the best opportunity in a generation to tackle some of our biggest challenges: jobs that can support you and your family, decent homes that will reduce your bills, and efficient, clean transport to get us all moving again.

With my background in the forces, government and the private sector, I have the leadership skills, management experience and creative thinking needed to make the West of England a global leader of the future.

Thank you for your support

darren@metromayor.org.uk
www.metromayor.org.uk

DARREN'S CAREER TO DATE:

RAF Engineering Officer and Aerospace systems safety project manager

Regional & local government inc Home Office Regional Crime & Drugs Manager, Bristol City Council Partnerships Manager and Gloucestershire Locality Manager

Environmental Project Manager & Communications Consultant

Published and promoted by Robert Triggs on behalf of Darren Hall, both at 91 North Road, Bristol, BS6 5AQ

JOBS FOR LIFE

I will work with businesses to set up a Regional Business Investment Fund to focus and strengthen our local economy so more money stays here. I'll set up training for skills we'll need in the future and promote the value of diversity. I want the West of England to lead the way in creating well paid jobs for local people.

TRANSPORT FOR LIFE

Imagine being able to get where you need to go, easily, cheaply and reliably. I will put in place a joined up public transport strategy, with not for profit community bus companies, promote rail electrification, and support Clean Air Zones for Bristol & Bath. I will invest more in walking & cycling, especially on school routes.

HOUSING FOR LIFE

We have to tackle the housing crisis in a generation, building homes people can afford to live in. Let's show the UK how to use local talent to design, build and rent good value, sustainable, cheap to run homes. I'll support shared ownership and self-build, improve energy efficiency in existing homes and roll out a Renter's Charter across the region.

FUTURE FOR LIFE

Our children are depending on us. It's within our power to make the West of England a world leading economy, where prosperity is renewably powered, healthy for all and truly sustainable. I'll take every opportunity to protect and revive our natural world for future generations. We already have the right skills and expertise to make this vision real if we have the collective will to make it happen.

For more information, please go to: metromayor.org.uk



Green Party

The experienced choice

Stephen Williams has the experience to lead and the vision to deliver for the people of the West of England. As a former MP and minister in government he knows how to deliver the best deal for everyone.

1 - Transport

Bristol and Bath have dreadfully bad public transport. As Metro Mayor I would use my new powers aggressively on behalf of passengers.

Buses will have cashless payment, capped prices and new late night services to North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire. I will open four new rail stations at Ashley Hill, Charfield, Portway and Saltford.

2 - Homes

I will work with local councils to build 100,000 energy efficient and affordable homes over the next 20 years.

New development will go ahead only with good public transport links. Priority will be given to land in existing urban areas. I will safeguard the special character of the countryside, important to city and village dwellers alike.

3 - Brexit

I believe that our prosperity depends on keeping links with our closest trading partners.

I oppose a job-destroying Hard Brexit. We should stay in the Single Market, vital for all of our local businesses. I will press the government to allow EU workers to be allowed to stay, supporting the NHS and key local industries.

4 - Skills

The region's strong and vibrant economy needs to attract and develop a talented workforce.

I will increase the number of options for local young people to choose an apprenticeship and get them into work.

Training will support our strong and growing industries such as engineering, digital & media and tourism.

Stephen WILLIAMS



- **New railway stations and night bus services**
- **Build new energy efficient, affordable homes**
- **Resisting a job-destroying Hard Brexit**
- **Increase apprenticeship options for young people**

www.stephenwilliams.org.uk



THE ONLY SERIOUS CHOICE FOR MAYOR OF THE WEST OF ENGLAND REGION

VOTE
JOHN SAVAGE ON
THURSDAY 4TH MAY!

I have lived in this region for nearly forty years and have experience of running an award winning NHS Trust, an educational funding body, a cross party leadership group, a regional transport body and many businesses. I will bring a new approach to how local government is run in the West of England.

I am standing as **the independent candidate for Metro Mayor**. This devolution deal represents a shift in power from Westminster to us. We now decide how our region is managed.

You need to know what I've done

- **Appointed in 1989 to run the Bristol Initiative & Chamber of Commerce.**
- **Delivered Cabot Circus and Harbourside Regeneration.**
- **Chairman of the Bristol Royal Infirmary.**
- **Supported education for young people through leading the South West Learning and Skills Council.**
- **Working together with everyone in over 30 different partnership organisations in our region.**
- **Published my vision for the West of England - 2050: High In Hope - setting out a ambitious plan for the region over the next 40 years.**

JOHN SAVAGE WILL DELIVER ON FIVE GREAT TASKS

'We can't afford to waste this opportunity by electing just a politician or a bureaucrat to be mayor of the region. We need someone who will get on with the job. With my experience, I will provide leadership to get great things done that will last for decades and not just a few years.'

As Mayor, I pledge to work with everyone in our region to deliver Five Great Tasks:



1. Sort out our transport nightmare; fixing our roads, trains and buses to create decent and sustainable public transport.



2. Build more homes and ensure that new plans are laid to build complete new communities for current and future generations.



3. Secure a great new deal from London so that government gives us yet more money and the powers we need to build our own future.



4. Keep our region open to the world - despite Brexit - and leave no one behind.



5. Develop skilled people for skilled jobs across the region and make sure that all of our young people have the chance to acquire the skills they need to thrive themselves.

Please make your vote count - for the region and for all the people that live here - and support me on 4th May.

John Savage

If you would like to hear more about my plans, then visit
www.johnsavage4metromayor.co.uk
and read my vision for 2050.

Read his vision for the region at www.johnsavage4metromayor.co.uk

TIM BOWLES

– A STRONG VOICE, AND A MAYOR FOR THE WHOLE OF THE WEST OF ENGLAND

Our area faces big challenges, but for too many years there has been tinkering and indecision around the edges. Tim Bowles is determined to change all this as our first ever West of England Mayor.

The West of England Mayor is a big new job to meet these challenges and get things done for the whole region, not just Central Bristol.

- Responsible for nearly £1 billion of investment.
- Control over major transport schemes.
- Power over housing and development.
- To promote the local economy and to create jobs.

That's why it matters who we choose to do the job.



Only the Conservatives represent each part of the West of England, so only Tim Bowles can work for every community.

Prime Minister Theresa May supports
Tim Bowles for West of England Mayor



And Tim Bowles is the only candidate to back the Prime Minister's plan to make a success of Brexit for every community

Tim Bowles is an experienced local Councillor and local businessman, with the plan and determination to ensure this important new role benefits the whole of our region and every local community.

TIM'S WEST OF ENGLAND PLAN INCLUDES:

- ✓ Working with the Conservative Government to make a success of Brexit for our economy, and be a strong voice nationally.
- ✓ Backing major transport infrastructure, particularly the Avon Ring Road/M4 J18a and the A36/46 Link Road.
- ✓ Transforming our local rail network by re-opening stations and increasing local services.
- ✓ Protecting more of our green fields by promoting urban regeneration sites instead to build more affordable homes.

 **Conservatives**

I am standing for West of England Metro Mayor to help improve all our daily lives and because **I want to make a difference.**



Devolution presents an opportunity for us to tackle the inequalities of our housing market, the insecurity of our jobs market, and to end the frustrations of our daily commutes. It also gives us a chance to change the way things are done, to put people first.

The West of England is one of the richest areas of the UK – a net contributor to our national economy – but that wealth is not shared equally.

Too many people are struggling to get their foot on the housing ladder or juggling low-paid jobs in the gig economy. **I want to ensure we can all share in our region's success.**



Promoted by Pete Daw (Agent) on behalf of Lesley Mansell, both of Tony Benn House, Victoria Street, Bristol BS1 6AY.

My key pledges are:

- ✓ To build more social housing and affordable homes
- ✓ Create better jobs, training opportunities and apprenticeships
- ✓ Provide reliable, green and accessible transport
- ✓ Secure the best business deal for the region, including rolling out high speed internet
- ✓ Promote green energy policies and protect our beautiful countryside

But it's not just **what** I plan to do that's important. It's **how** I plan to do it. I will do things differently.

I will use my skills, knowledge and experience as a negotiator to bring together the leaders of the three local authorities. Working collaboratively, sharing best practice, I will put the best interests of the West of England at heart, making sure no-one is left behind.

And above all, I will provide leadership. The West of England needs someone who can take a strategic overview of the region, someone who delivers for business and for people.

The parties who have led the three local authorities over the last decade have failed to deliver our housing, transport and education needs. A Labour mayor and council in Bristol is already delivering new houses.

If you want this good work to continue, if you want the best for the West, then this is an election we must win. Please vote Labour either first or second preference on May 4th.



 @MansellForMayor

 www.facebook.com/MansellForMayor

www.mansell4mayor.org



THE UKIP CANDIDATE

AARON FOOT

FOR WEST OF ENGLAND MAYOR

As a local farmer, I have a passion for protecting the local countryside which is renowned for its natural beauty, being rich in wildlife and studies show beneficial to peoples' mental health. I am putting protecting our green spaces at the heart of my policy making. We need more houses, however we must look to brownfield sites first. Being a lifelong resident of the area, makes me only want to do what is right. For too long we have had people talking the talk, but not walking the walk. I work hard every day as a farmer, and I want to put this dedication into bringing a voice back to the people, which would be achieved with an online direct democracy platform.

Aaron Foot

PROTECT GREENBELT | DIRECT DEMOCRACY | END ANTI-CAR POLICIES | LOCAL PEOPLE FIRST
MENTAL HEALTH FIRST | SOCIAL HOUSING ON BROWNFIELD | STOP WASTEFUL SPENDING | HELP BUSINESS

WEST OF ENGLAND

AARON FOOT

#LOCALPEOPLEFIRST

It is time we put the people who built the community first. Local people have suffered at the hands of bad decision making.

For too long local families have been left at the back of the queue when looking for a place to call home. It will be my aim to build social housing on disused sites. These social houses will be prioritised for local people, including our forgotten military veterans.

It is a tragedy that we have so many homeless, we must do better at finding a home for them. Not making them feel like criminals. Public Service Protection Orders (PSPOs) should not be used to attack the homeless.

#PROTECTGREENBELT

Did you know that our current politicians are trying to build a city the size of Bath on our greenbelt between Bristol and Bath?

I will fight this outrageous policy decision, and make sure we are looking to disused (brownfield) sites first.

Our green-land is vital for farming, wildlife, cultural heritage and helping people improve their mental well-being. I will always oppose any development on our precious greenbelt, including the Bathampton meadows park and ride idea.

#STOPTHEWASTE

Our elected representatives consistently waste your tax money. I would rather reduce your council tax than spend on vanity projects.

Our focus should be on making your lives easier and bringing you more services. Imagine a politician that gave you a reduction in taxes, not an increase. This is possible if we stop the waste. For example: Bathampton Meadows park and ride would cost £12,000,000 with little benefit to people, it is likely to only reduce traffic on London Rd by 5%.

#DIRECTDEMOCRACY

After our success helping the UK leave the EU, we now feel that we must continue to bring politics back to the people. For too long, decisions made by our elected politicians have felt out of reach from the voters.

With my plan to bring an online direct democracy platform to the public, we will give the people a real place to bring their policies forward, and give meaningful comments on our future decisions.

The platform will be built as part of my first 100 days in the role as metro mayor, utilising open source software.

Transparency has to be the new normal in our UK politics, and I will lead by example. Every registered voter will get the ability to be part of the decision making.

Let's bring politics back to where it belongs, with you, the people!

#ENDWARONCARS

We need a coherent and ingegrated transport network, not one that just attacks the motorist. Yes, air pollution is getting worse, however this has only been made worse by favouring anti-car policies.

Let's end the 20MPH zones, open blocked roads, reduce traffic lights to increase traffic flow and look at opening satellite rail stations (For example: In Saltford).



facebook.com/aaronfootukip

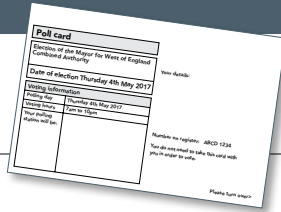


@aaronfoot119

Key dates

early
April

Polling cards arrive



5

April

Mayoral candidates confirmed
Details available at wevote.org.uk

13

April

Deadline for registering to vote (midnight)

18

April

Deadline for applying for a postal vote (5pm)
From 18 April – Mayoral candidate booklets start arriving

Coming up:

19

April

From 19 April – Postal votes start arriving

25

April

Deadline for applying for a proxy vote (5pm)

4

May

Election day



5

May

Election count takes place overnight
Thursday 4/Friday 5 May: **Mayor elected**

8

May

West of England Combined Authority Mayor takes office

West of England Combined Authority area



Map shows land boundaries only

Need more help?

Your polling station is listed on your poll card. For help finding or identifying your polling station, or if you require this information in a different format because you are disabled, you can call your local council:

Bath and North East Somerset 01225 477 333
Bristol 0117 922 3400
South Gloucestershire 01454 863 030

For more information visit:
wevote.org.uk

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